



IRISH STAMPS

THE COLLECTOR

03/10

The Irish Wheelchair Association

Marking 50 years making lives better

Irish Fashion Designers

Celebrating six of the best

Czeslaw Slania

Commemorating the world's most prominent stamp engraver

Stamps on a Roll

The roll out of a stamp revolution

Fauna & Flora – Birds of Prey

Watching these magnificent hunting machines

Legendary Showbands

Paying tribute to the original Irish popstars

www.irishstamps.ie

A beautiful start to your beautiful day

Wedding Stamps from An Post

Give your invitations the perfect finishing touch. You can get An Post wedding stamps in convenient booklets of 10 for just €5.50 from irishstamps.ie, by calling +353 (1) 705 7400 or from the Philatelic Shop in the GPO, Dublin.



 **post**

Do more.

CONTENTS

News and Information	4
Irish Fashion Designers – Paul Costelloe, Louise Kennedy, Lainey Keogh John Rocha, Philip Treacy, Orla Kiely	6
Stamps on a Roll	10
Fauna & Flora – Birds of Prey	12
Czeslaw Slania (Joint issue with Sweden Post Office)	14
50th Anniversary of the Irish Wheelchair Association	16
Legendary Showbands	18
Report from London	22
Maritime Festival	24
Last Chance Saloon	26

DEAR COLLECTOR...

We're into our third Collector issue of 2010 and as ever it's jam-packed full of philatelic delights.

To start, we celebrate the achievements and talents of six of Ireland's top fashion designers on page 6. Whether it's must-have hats, beautiful bags or dresses to die for, we have some of the best designers in the business. And speaking of best in the business, on page 14 we commemorate the world's most prominent stamp engraver, Czeslaw Slania.

We take a trip back to the 60s to pay tribute to the original Irish popstars – the Showbands. Page 18 looks back at four of the favourites from the era. The 60s also saw the emergence of a small group committed to improving the lives of people with physical disabilities in Ireland. Page 16 celebrates 50 years of the Irish Wheelchair Association.

Back to 2010 and a revolution in stamps has recently been unveiled by An Post. Page 10 has information on the recent trial release of Stamps On A Roll. 2010's Fauna and Flora theme is Birds of Prey. Page 12 has all you need to know about four of these magnificent creatures that have been chosen to front a set of stamps. There are also details of the International Philatelic Exhibition London 2010 on page 22.

Our regular feature 'Last Chance Saloon' lets you add some rare stamps to your collection that you may have missed out on last year. Check it out on Page 26.

Ciaran Donnelly
Irish Stamps

Stampania 2010

Hundreds of fans descended on the 18 coin and 12 stamp stands at the Spring Coin & Stamp Fair held on Sunday, 11 April. The great weather encouraged a steady flow of customers and the free valuations that were a feature of the show, ensured plenty of new material showed up.

An Post Irish Stamps had a full range of their stamps, booklets, first day covers and special offers on show. A postmark, unique to the show, was also available and the Federation of Stamp Societies stand had a serviced cover for collectors.

A great day was had by all and the dealers that attended, mainly Irish and Northern Irish coin and banknote dealers, were busy right up until the Fair finished at 5pm!

Revised Issue Date

Collectors, please note that the Fauna & Flora – Birds of Prey issue date has changed to 29 July and the 50th Anniversary of the Irish Wheelchair Association issue date is now 8 September.

New Stamp Issue - Ireland/Chile

A joint issue with Chile will be released on 28 October. It will represent the Irish role in Chilean Independence.



IRISH COUNTRYWOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

An Post's new stamp celebrating the Centenary of the Irish Countrywomen's Association (ICA), was unveiled at the GPO on 24 March.

According to Chief Executive Mr. Donal Connell "There is no aspect of Ireland's economic or social development with which the ICA has not been connected; be that as leaders, drivers, influencers, facilitators and educators and this stamp issue is a fitting tribute to their wonderful work over generations."

Anne Maria Dennison, the ICA National President, spoke of the ICA's pride at having its centenary recognised through the issue of a postage stamp. "This is one of the key highlights of our centenary calendar and our members are looking forward to seeing it adorn their letters and parcels in celebration of the ICA's many achievements."

The ICA is now by far the largest women's organisation in Ireland, with more than 15,000 members linked to local guilds in every Irish town and village. As well as continuing to promote Irish language and culture, the ICA work towards making life better for women and families all over the country. They also actively encourage support and friendship between members through involvement in activities such as drama, sport, arts and crafts.

Almost 300,000 stamps have been produced by An Post. There is a strong demand from ICA members and their many supporters across the country.

Allianz Business to Arts Awards

The An Post Stamp Programme won the Jim McNaughton Perpetual Award for Best Commissioning Practice at the Allianz Business to Arts Awards. The awards, which bring business and arts organisations together, are highly recognised for developing innovative creative awareness of products and services.

Europa Stamp Competition - vote online

The Gulliver's Travels stamp from our Europa - Children's Books issue has been entered in the PostEurop - Europa Stamp Issue of 2010 competition. Viewers of their website posteurop.org can vote for their favourite stamp from 9 May until 8 August. The winning stamp will be announced on 8 October during PostEurop's Assembly, which will be held in Liechtenstein.



Irish Stamps Website Update

The new Irish Stamps website is now live. Don't forget to look out for the new "Collector's Corner" feature! We look forward to hearing your feedback on the new site - www.irishstamps.ie

Legendary Showbands Stamps

The issue date for the Legendary Showbands Stamps has been brought forward to 23 September.



Philatelic Shop

Your new Philatelic Shop and exhibition area at the GPO is coming soon – check www.irishstamps.ie for news and updates on when the new Philatelic Shop will be opening.

Irish Philatelic Circle on DVD

Collectors, don't forget that you can now purchase the Irish Philatelic Circle DVD! Price for IPC members is €22 (Stg£20/US\$33) and for non-members the price is €30 (Stg£27/US\$45), postage and packing is not included. Subscribers who mention

that they saw this in "The Collector" can have the DVD sent to them with no postage and packing fee. To order your copy please contact Philip Kane at pkane@ireland.com. For further details about the work of the Irish Philatelic Circle, visit www.irishphil.com

New Definitive Issue

Collectors, the next Definitive Series, which will be issued on 8 September is titled Irish Animals and Marine Life. For more information, see page 10.



IRISH FASHION DESIGNERS

PAUL COSTELLOE, LOUISE KENNEDY, LAINEY KEOGH

“ When it comes to styling the rich and famous, Ireland is a cut above the rest ”

Some of the best designers in the world come not from Paris, New York, London or Milan but from right here in Ireland. We are blessed with several of the most talented and brightest minds in international couture.

They work under their own name. They have their own labels. They hold both a national and an international reputation for the excellence of their work. They are:

Paul Costelloe

Born in Dublin, the youngest of seven children, his father ran a successful rainwear business. After working in Paris, Italy and New York, he set up his own independent fashion label in Dublin in 1979. He hit worldwide fame when Princess Diana began wearing his clothes. He shows his collections twice a year at London Fashion Week.



Technical details

Date of Issue:	15 July, 2010
Values & Quantities:	55c se-tenant strip of 3 (.414m) 82c se-tenant strip of 3 (.348m)
Design:	Ger Garland
Stamp size:	30mm x 51.46mm
Colour:	Multicolour with embossing on phosphor stamp paper
Make-up:	Sheetlets of 12
Perforations:	13 x 13
Printing Process:	Lithography
Printer:	Irish Security Stamp Printing Ltd.



PRODUCT CODE 1013FDC1 Price €2.65

Louise Kennedy

Louise Kennedy has won worldwide acclaim for her exquisitely tailored suits and opulent eveningwear for women. Her name is synonymous with modern sophistication, elegant design and luxurious fabrics. In 1990, President Mary Robinson donned one of her creations for her inauguration.

Lainey Keogh

Lainey Keogh is a Dublin-based fashion designer who began knitting in 1984. Her cashmere pieces for men, women and children have continued to be sought after internationally ever since. Supermodels Naomi Campbell and Helena Christensen wore Keogh's designs at her groundbreaking 1997 London catwalk debut.



IRISH FASHION DESIGNERS

JOHN ROCHA, PHILIP TREACY, ORLA KIELY

“ These are some of the most famous names in fashion ”

John Rocha

John Rocha is a Hong Kong born, Irish based designer best known for his distinctive style experimenting with fabric and technique. As well as making a name for himself as a world-class designer for both men and women, he has since expanded his portfolio to include work in interiors, architecture, crystal and jewellery.

Philip Treacy

Long before the iconic milliner studied in NCAD and The Royal College of Art, Philip Treacy started sewing aged five, after falling in love with the clothing he saw at the weddings in his village in Galway. He would go on to create the hat worn by The Duchess of Cornwall on the day of her wedding to Prince Charles in 2005. Among his many A-List followers are Sarah Jessica Parker and Lady Gaga.



PRODUCT CODE 1013PBK Price €13.00



PRODUCT CODE 1013FDC2 Price €3.46

Orla Kiely

Orla Kiely's style is one immersed in colour, pattern, graphic control and texture. Born in Ireland, she is now based in London, where she graduated from the Royal College of Art in 1993. Shops bearing her name opened in London and Tokyo in 2002 after she was named Best Accessory Designer at the British Style Awards two years earlier.

The collection of six stamps was designed by Ger Garland and resembles the covers of Vogue and Elle. Also available are 2 FDC's and a Prestige Booklet.

Designed by Ger Garland and containing text supplied by Irish Times Fashion Editor Deirdre McQuillan, the booklet contains stamps depicting the work of the six award-winning contemporary designers as well as further information on each of them.

These products are available to purchase by using the order form attached, by calling +353 (1) 705 7400 or by logging onto www.irishstamps.ie from date of issue.



STAMPS ON A ROLL

“ Customers will be able to buy single or multiple Stamps On A Roll to add to their stamp collections or to use as postage when mailing items ”

An Post has recently commenced the roll-out of printing stamps at point of purchase in Post Offices. It is currently in pilot and will be expanded to more Post Offices in the next few weeks. Please log on to www.anpost.ie/SOAR to see a full list of the Post Offices that will go live with the new service.

The stamps will be on rolls of 600 and will only be given a denomination at the time of purchase. To distinguish them from other stamp products, they are being given the name Stamps On A Roll or SOAR for short. Customers will be able to buy single or multiple Stamps On A Roll to add to their stamp collections or to use as postage when mailing items. In the future, it is intended that the images to

appear on Stamps On A Roll will be from the next Definitive series, which is scheduled to issue on 8 September 2010. This new Definitive series, the seventh since the foundation of the State, is titled Irish Animals and Marine Life. In all, there will be approximately 50 stamps in the series and the initial issue will comprise of 8 photographic images depicting the incredible variety of animal and marine life in this country. Initially these new Definitives will only be available in the SOAR format. Boxes of self-adhesive stamps will be introduced early next year.

Prior to this imagery appearing, four images from our current Definitive series of Irish Wild Flower



Technical details

Date of Issue:	22 July, 2010
Values:	4 x 55c
Illustration:	Susan Sex
Design:	Zinc Design Consultants
Stamp Size:	56mm x 25mm
Colour:	Multicolour with phosphor tagging
Make-up:	Strips of 4
Perforations:	11 x 11.25 approx
Printing Process:	Digital Print
Printer:	Label Art



PRODUCT CODE 10FDCDL Price €3.20

stamps will be used as interim designs on the SOAR. The four featured stamps are: Bloody crane's-bill, Spring gentian, Common knapweed and Mountain avens. As with all of our other Irish Wild Flowers Definitive stamps, original illustration is by Susan Sex. Layout for SOAR is by Zinc Design who also designed the First Day Cover.

A special First Day Cover will be produced to mark the issue of SOAR and will be available from the Philatelic Bureau only, from 22 July and will feature the four stamps denominated at 55c each. In addition, a strip of four x 55c Stamps On A Roll will be available for purchase by collectors. These will also only be available from the Philatelic Bureau

denominated at 55c and featuring only the Julian date for first day of issue, 22 July, as part of the data. No other dates or rates will be available from the Bureau.

Please note that these Stamps On A Roll will not appear in the Annual Collections – Year Book, Year Pack and First Day Cover Collection. Neither will they be supplied automatically to standing-order customers.

If you are interested in adding this issue to your collection please place your order by using the order form attached, by calling +353 (1) 705 7400 or by logging onto www.irishstamps.ie from date of issue.



FAUNA & FLORA BIRDS OF PREY

“ Ireland has fewer breeding birds of prey species than any other country in the European Union ”

The Fauna and Flora theme for 2010 is Birds of Prey. Also known as raptors, birds of prey are hunting machines with incredibly strong hooked beaks, razor-sharp eyesight and powerful talons for lifting small animals from the ground in an instant.

Four of these magnificent creatures have been chosen to front a set of stamps:

The Buzzard

With a short neck, medium-length tail and a compact body, the Buzzard typically measures between 51-57 cm in length. However they

have broad wings that can reach as wide as 100-130 cm. They usually eat rabbit and other small mammals.

The Golden Eagle

One of the most famous birds of prey, the Golden Eagle was re-introduced into Glenveagh National Park in 2001. They have light golden-brown feathers on their heads and necks and a wingspan of over 7 feet.

The Peregrine Falcon

The fastest animal on the planet! Despite its



PRODUCT CODE 1014FDCMS Price €3.87

Technical details

Date of Issue:	29 July, 2010
Value & Quantity:	2 x 55c se-tenant (.374m) 1 x 82c (.210m) 1 x 95c (.210m)
Illustration:	Killian Mullarney
Typography & Layout:	Steve Simpson
Stamp Size:	36mm x 36mm
Miniature Sheet Size:	150mm x 90mm
Colour:	Muticolour with phosphor tagging
Make-up:	Sheetlets of 16
Perforations:	13 x 13
Printing Process:	Lithography
Printer:	Irish Security Stamp Printing Ltd.



PRODUCT CODE 1014FDC Price €3.87

heavy body, its perfect aerodynamic form - medium length tail and wings which are broad, close to the body and pointed at the tip - allows it to reach speeds over 200 mph in a dive.

The Merlin

Compared to the other featured birds of prey, the Merlin is a smallish falcon, about 24-33 cm in length. Its size makes it very nimble in flight, allowing it to pursue its prey for an extended period.

This set of four stamps, with artwork by Killian Mullarney and typography & layout

by Steve Simpson, features striking images of these birds of prey.

These products are available to purchase by using the order form attached, by calling +353 (1) 705 7400 or by logging onto www.irishstamps.ie from date of issue.



CZESLAW SLANIA

(Joint issue with Sweden Post Office)

“ A joint issue with Sweden Post Office to celebrate one of the world’s most prominent stamp engravers ”

Czesław Slania is considered the world’s most famous engraver and stamp designer not only because of the sheer number of items he’s created but also the beauty of his work. He once earned himself a place in the Guinness Book of Records as the world’s most prominent and prolific stamp engraver.

Born in Poland on the 22 October 1921, he was the son of a miner. During the Second World War he forged documents for the Polish resistance and discovered he had a talent for working with his hands. After entering the Kraków School of Fine Arts he learned to

engrave in steel and got a job with the Polish Stamp Printing Works.

By 1950 he was engraving full time for the Polish Post Office and his first stamp was printed a year later. After moving to Sweden he gained employment with the Swedish postal authorities and produced numerous Swedish stamps.

Although he mostly worked for the Swedish Post Office, he has produced stamps for postal authorities in 28 different countries all over the world. By 1974 he was rightly awarded



Slania image courtesy of Vicente G. López, of Spanish Slania Philatelic Group.

Technical details

Date of Issue:	26 August, 2010
Value & Quantity:	55c (.294m)
Designer:	Gustav Mårtensson
Photographer:	Enar Merkel Rydberg
Engraver:	Czeslaw Slania
Typography & Layout:	Steve Simpson
Stamp Size:	28.2mm x 36mm
Colour:	Two colour with intaglio brown and phosphor tagging
Make-up:	Sheetlets of 16
Perforations:	12.7 x 12.7
Printing Process:	Lithography/intaglio combination
Printer:	Sweden Post Stamps



PRODUCT CODE 1015FDC Price €2.55

for his work after the late King Gustaf Adolf VI of Sweden appointed him Court Engraver. And, among the many awards he received in the course of his work, in 1999 he was made a Commander Order of Poland for his 'great service to the Polish nation'. After his death on March 17 2005, Czeslaw Slania was buried in the Rakowicki Cemetery in Kraków, Poland.

The stamp for the joint issue was one of Czeslaw Slania's own favourites and depicts a ballet scene from 'Romeo and Juliet' where the dancers, Anneli Alhanko and Per-Arthur Segerström, appear to almost defy the laws

of gravity. The stamp was originally designed by Gustav Mårtensson with photography by Enar Merkel Rydberg and engraving by Czeslaw Slania. Steve Simpson was responsible for additional typography and layout and also designed the first day cover.

These products are available to purchase by using the order form attached, by calling +353 (1) 705 7400 or by logging onto www.irishstamps.ie from date of issue.



50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE IRISH WHEELCHAIR ASSOCIATION

“ It has become an important provider of quality services to people with limited mobility throughout Ireland ”

The Irish Wheelchair Association (IWA) was founded in 1960 at a time when services for people with physical disabilities were practically non-existent. A small group of wheelchair users set about gradually addressing the variety of needs and injustices facing people with physical disabilities - the lack of legislation, unfair public attitudes and the near total inaccessibility to buildings.

By the 1970s, their membership had grown to over 1,000. In only ten years they had successfully initiated services that included

occupational therapy, holidays, transport, wheelchair sales repair and loans, social activities and a driving school.

During the 80s and 90s the IWA oversaw the development of Day Resource Centres, Independent Living Apartments and provision of Care Attendants. In the last decade, they have developed peer counselling services, improved transport and assisted living services and implemented many community-based projects.



Image courtesy of the Irish Wheelchair Association. Pictured are Oliver Murphy – founder member of the Irish Wheelchair Association with one of their young members, Shane Barker.

Technical details

Date of Issue:	8 September, 2010
Value & Quantity:	55c (.294m)
Stamp Design:	Steve Simpson
Stamp Size:	40.64mm x 29.79mm
Colour:	Multicolour with phosphor tagging
Make-up:	Sheetlets of 16
Perforations:	15 x 14
Printing Process:	Lithography
Printer:	Irish Security Stamp Printing Ltd.



PRODUCT CODE 1016FDC Price €1.55

The IWA has gone from strength to strength in the last 50 years and has become an important provider of quality services to people with limited mobility throughout Ireland.

Today, the association is made up of a vibrant network of 20,000 members and 2,000 staff, as well as many dedicated volunteers. They are responsible for many advances in service delivery and the relative improvements in public facilities, most of which would simply not have happened without them.

This stamp is designed by Steve Simpson and features Shane Barker, an avid sports fan and Oliver Murphy, a founding member of the IWA. Oliver is also the sole surviving member of the first Irish team to participate in the 1960 Paralympic Games in Rome.

These products are available to purchase by using the order form attached, by calling +353 (1) 705 7400 or by logging onto www.irishstamps.ie from date of issue.



LEGENDARY SHOWBANDS

“ For nearly three decades these seven or eight piece musical acts packed out glamorous ballrooms and local dancehalls up and down the land ”

From the late 1950s to the early 1970s one breed of musician captivated the entire island of Ireland more than any other. Their popularity outlived the rise and fall of Elvis. Their female fans out-screamed those who followed the Beatles. They were... the Irish Showband.

The history of most of Ireland's modern music can be traced back to the country's golden 'Showband Era'. For nearly three decades these seven or eight-piece musical acts packed out glamorous ballrooms and local dancehalls up and down the land. With their mix of dance,

pop, country, rock 'n' roll and even a bit of comedy, they bopped, dipped and stepped their way through a repertoire of hugely popular hits.

To honour the stars and the bands from the Irish Showband Era, An Post has released a set of special stamps dedicated to four of the most popular and successful Showbands from across Ireland.



PRODUCT CODE 1018PBK €12.00

Technical details

Date of Issue:	23 September, 2010
Value & Quantity:	2 x 55c separate sheets (180,000 each) 2 x 82c separate sheets (160,000 each)
Design:	Steve Simpson
Stamp size:	27.94mm x 44.45mm
Mini-sheet size:	150mm x 90mm
Colour:	Multicolour with phosphor tagging
Make-up:	Sheetlets of 16
Perforations:	13.75 x 13.75
Printing Process:	Lithography
Printer:	Irish Security Stamp Printing Ltd.



PRODUCT CODE 1018FDC Price €3.74

The Miami Showband

After starting out in Dublin, they went on to become the top Showband in the country. With the charismatic young singer Dickie Rock out in front, they became a smash hit, particularly with their loyal female fans. By the mid 1960s, 'Miami Mania' reached fever pitch and the band enjoyed a string of number one hits. Sadly, in 1975, at the height of The Troubles, Fran O'Toole, Brian McCoy and Tony Geraghty were murdered on their way home from a gig in Northern Ireland.

The Drifters Showband

The Drifters were formed when brothers Joe and Ben Dolan, got together with some friends and won a local talent contest in Mullingar. They went on to produce multiple hit singles and took the Showband circuit by storm. After The Drifters Showband split, Joe Dolan became a successful music star in his own right tasting success both at home and abroad with hits such as "You're Such A Good Looking Woman". He died suddenly in Co. Dublin after suffering a brain hemorrhage on St. Stephen's Day 2007.



LEGENDARY SHOWBANDS

“ These men were the fathers of modern music in Ireland ”

The Royal Showband

‘The Royal’, as they were affectionately known, came from Waterford. During the 1960s, Brendan Bowyer and his band led the way in the rise of the Showband, bringing a generation with them as they emerged out of the dullness of the 1960s. While most bands played for a handful of years and then changed their name or simply split up, The Royal Showband were massively popular and left a lasting legacy. They are widely regarded as the most successful Showband in Irish history.

The Freshmen

Geared more towards pop music than their competitors, each of the boys from Ballymena was a talented singer and musician in their own right. By forming around the same time as the Beatles, they were able to enjoy the surge in pop music in Ireland. After conquering Northern Ireland with a sound that was capturing the imagination of the young people throughout Europe, they began to grow in popularity in the Republic around 1963. They continued to enjoy success nationwide until the early 1970s.



PRODUCT CODE 1018FDCMS Price €3.74

These four stamps were designed by artist Steve Simpson. They show a mix of posed and live performances from Ireland's most popular Showbands. The Royal Showband and The Freshmen are captured doing what they do best - performing live. The members of The Miami Showband and The Drifters Showband gather together for a promotional shot at the height of their fame... and their good looks.

Also available are 2 FDC's, a minisheet and a Prestige Booklet. Designed by Steve Simpson and containing text supplied by well-known

RTÉ Radio & Television presenter Ronan Collins, the booklet contains all four stamps as well as Collins's own nostalgic memories of the Showband Era.

These products are available to purchase by using the order form attached, by calling +353 (1) 705 7400 or by logging onto www.irishstamps.ie from date of issue.



INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION LONDON 2010

From 8 to 15 May, the Business Design Centre in Islington London, became a paradise for many of the world's leading philatelists, stamp dealers, postal administrations and anybody else with an interest in the wonderful hobby of philately. They were there for the International Stamp Exhibition, which is held in London every ten years, always in the year ending in zero.

There were over 150 stand-holders in attendance including nine Postal Administrations headed by Royal Mail, and over 400 competitive exhibits submitted by 60 countries. 1,250 frames of exhibits were on show at any one time. These were changed over after the first four days, resulting in 2,500 frames of 16 sheets on display over the eight days of the exhibition.

Irish work wins award

The Irish Commissioner to the exhibition was Mr. Pat Casey, who is also the Hon. Secretary of the Federation of Philatelic Societies of Ireland. Due to the enormous number of competitive exhibit frames sought by the different countries, Ireland's allocation was restricted to just one exhibit, submitted by Mr. Des Quail from Banbridge. Titled "30 years of Irish Postal History 1951 – 1981", it was awarded a Gold Medal. A UK exhibitor, Ms. Joanna Williamson, was awarded a Large Vermeil medal for her entry "Ireland – the Map Stamp 1922 – 1949" chronicling Ireland's iconic "Map Stamp" from its initial stages up to the establishment of the Republic in 1949.

This was Pat Casey's third time acting as



Commissioner to International Exhibitions in London, having been there previously in 1990 and 2000. On each occasion he has brought back a Gold Medal to Irish Exhibitors, the recipients being Dr. R.P. Towers in 1990 and Dr. Finbar O'Mahony in 2000.

During the exhibition, he made a presentation of a Francis Bacon miniature sheet to each of the other 59 Commissioners. This gesture was deeply appreciated and helped in no small way to keep the popularity of Irish stamps to the forefront in the minds of the philatelic fraternity in many countries throughout the world.

World's most expensive stamp

One of the most interesting items on display at the exhibition was the Sweden 3 Skilling error

of colour - yellow-orange instead of green. It is thought to be the world's most expensive stamp, realising CHF2,875,000 when it was sold in 1996. When it was recently sold on Saturday 22 May in Geneva, it had been expected to fetch up to €2 million. However, the exact sale price was not disclosed when it was bought by a group of mystery buyers.

Also on display was the world's largest envelope, as confirmed by the Guinness Book of Records. It was posted during the period of the German devaluation of the Mark in the 1920s and it took 1,250 stamps to actually pay the postage.

It is estimated that more than 50,000 people attended the International Philatelic Exhibition 2010 over the eight days.



DUBLIN MARITIME FESTIVAL

The June Bank Holiday saw ships, shops and street entertainers line the docks of Dublin for the fantastic Maritime Festival 2010. With the sun splitting the stone, the public came out in their droves to soak up the action. For sheer size and splendour, the tall ships were the highlight of the weekend. However, there was a host of activities and attractions for visitors of all ages to enjoy.

Irish stamp lovers were not overlooked, with a number of the foremost tall ships at the festival providing their own hand stamps.

The Georg Stage is a Danish ship owned and run by The Georg Stage Memorial Foundation ("Georg Stage Minde"). The foundation was established in 1882 by Danish ship owner Mr.

Carl Frederik Stage and his wife Thea. Since then, its aim has continued to be "to give young people wishing to go to sea their first lesson in practical seamanship aboard a purpose-built training ship". The full-rigged training ship had two hand stamps on show during the festival.

Built in Norway in 1926, the **Artemis** (Bark Artemis Nederland) has been restored and refitted into a passenger ship to serve as an elegant reminder of a time before diesel engines transformed boat design. Initially created as a whaling ship, she was then refitted to haul cargo between Asia and South America. She now plies the seas in the form of an imposing three-masted barque and had two hand stamps on display.



Image courtesy of Dublin Docklands Authority

The **Bessie Ellen** was built in Plymouth, in 1904. William Kelly's design is now one of the last surviving West Country trading ketchs, which were immensely popular as cargo vessels around the UK and Europe up until the 1930s. Despite being more than 100 years old, Bessie Ellen now works a busy itinerary around the seas of the UK and Europe as a regular guest at the major maritime festivals. And at Ireland's premier maritime festival, she brought one hand stamp with her.

Not to be outdone, our very own **Jeanie Johnston** was moored in all her glory at her permanent home at North Wall Quay. From 1848 to 1855, Jeanie Johnston made 16 voyages to North America carrying over 2,500 famine-stricken emigrants safely to the New World. The task

of restoring the famous famine ship, the most ambitious of maritime heritage projects ever undertaken in this country, took 9 years to complete. There were two Jeanie Johnston hand stamps at the festival.

Overseeing all the maritime activities were the Irish Coastguard helicopter and the LE Eithne naval ship, who produced a new hand stamp which read "LE EITHNE COMCEN (Communication Centre) P31, date in red, NAVAL SERVICE".

The festival was a resounding success during this bustling bank holiday weekend. And, with the wind in the sails, a course is already plotted towards making next year's festival even better.

LAST CHANCE SALOON

Once they're gone, they won't be coming back!

Collectors, as you may know, Commemorative Stamps are only on sale for one year from the date of issue. We are offering you the chance to add products to your collection that you may not have had the opportunity to obtain during 2009. Please see below, details of stamp issues from 2009 that you may wish to purchase before they are consigned to history.



Centenary of the Birrell Land Act (1909)

Issue Date: 15 July 2009

Expiry Date: 15 July 2010

Brought in by Augustine Birrell, Chief Secretary for Ireland, and also known as the Irish Land Act 1909, this stamp commemorates the Act that was the final stage in a revolution in land ownership in Ireland.



Classical Composers

Issue Date: 14 August 2009

Expiry Date: 14 August 2010

Handel, Mozart, Chopin and Haydn. For centuries, the world has been enriched by the genius of these great composers, each of whom is featured on a set of four stamps that celebrates four of the most important names in music.



250th Anniversary of the Guinness Brewery

Issue Date: 28 August 2009

Expiry Date: 28 August 2010

In 1759 Arthur Guinness signed a 9,000 year lease on what was to become the most famous brewery in the world. Zinc Design has created a stamp featuring a portrait of the father of the black stuff.



400th Anniversary of the Plantation of Ulster

Issue Date: 4 September 2009

Expiry Date: 4 September 2010

One of the most significant events in Irish history, the Plantation of Ulster was the largest of the Plantations of Ireland. Calligrapher Timmy O'Neill and designer Ger Garland have created two stamps to mark its 400th anniversary.



Modern Irish Playwrights

Issue Date: 18 September 2009

Expiry Date: 18 September 2010

Three of the greatest playwrights of modern times Brian Friel, Tom Murphy and Frank McGuinness are honoured for their contribution to Irish life and culture in a set of three stamps designed by James Hanley, RHA.

ORDER FORM

The Collector 03/10

DATE OF ISSUE	PRODUCT/ITEM	PRODUCT CODE	UOM	QUANTITY	PRICE	VALUE
15-Jul	Irish Fashion Designers Stamp Set	1013SET	EA		€ 4.11	
15-Jul	Irish Fashion Designers 55c Se-tenant Stamp (strip of 3)	101355ST	EA		€ 1.65	
15-Jul	Irish Fashion Designers 82c Se-tenant Stamp (strip of 3)	101382ST	EA		€ 2.46	
15-Jul	Irish Fashion Designers Prestige Booklet	1013PBK	EA		€ 13.00	
15-Jul	Irish Fashion Designers FDC1	1013FDC1	EA		€ 2.65	
15-Jul	Irish Fashion Designers FDC2	1013FDC2	EA		€ 3.46	
15-Jul	Irish Fashion Designers Stamp Sheetlet	101355ST	S4		€ 6.60	
15-Jul	Irish Fashion Designers Stamp Sheetlet	101382ST	S4		€ 9.84	
22-Jul	Stamps On A Roll Set of 4 x 55c	10DL	EA		€ 2.20	
22-Jul	Stamps On A Roll FDC	10FDCDL	EA		€ 3.20	
29-Jul	Fauna & Flora (Birds of Prey) Stamp Set	1014SET	EA		€ 2.87	

29-Jul	Fauna & Flora (Birds of Prey) 55c Se-tenant Stamp	101455ST	EA	€ 1.10
29-Jul	Fauna & Flora (Birds of Prey) 82c Stamp Sheetlet	101482	SH	€ 13.12
29-Jul	Fauna & Flora (Birds of Prey) 95c Stamp Sheetlet	101495	SH	€ 15.20
29-Jul	Fauna & Flora (Birds of Prey) Minisheet	1014MS	EA	€ 2.87
29-Jul	Fauna & Flora (Birds of Prey) FDC Serviced	1014FDC	EA	€ 3.87
29-Jul	Fauna & Flora (Birds of Prey) FDC Minisheet	1014FDCMS	EA	€ 3.87
26-Aug	Czeslaw Slania 55c Stamp Sheetlet	101555	SH	€ 8.80
26-Aug	Czeslaw Slania Minisheet (Swedish)	1015MS	EA	€ 4.00
26-Aug	Czeslaw Slania FDC Serviced (Irish & Swedish Stamp)	1015FDC	EA	€ 2.55
09-Sep	50th Anniversary of the Irish Wheelchair Association 55c Stamp	101655	EA	€ 0.55
09-Sep	50th Anniversary of the Irish Wheelchair Association FDC Serviced	1016FDC	EA	€ 1.55
10-Sep	50th Anniversary of the Irish Wheelchair Association 55c Stamp Sheetlet	101655	SH	€ 8.80
23-Sep	Legendary Showbands Stamp Set	1018SET	EA	€ 2.74
23-Sep	Legendary Showbands 55c Stamp (1)	1018551	EA	€ 0.55
23-Sep	Legendary Showbands 55c Stamp (2)	1018552	EA	€ 0.55
23-Sep	Legendary Showbands 82c Stamp (1)	1018821	EA	€ 0.82
23-Sep	Legendary Showbands 82c Stamp (2)	1018822	EA	€ 0.82
23-Sep	Legendary Showbands Minisheet	1018MS	EA	€ 2.74
23-Sep	Legendary Showbands FDC Serviced	1018FDC	EA	€ 3.74
23-Sep	Legendary Showbands FDC Minisheet	1018FDCMS	EA	€ 3.74
23-Sep	Legendary Showbands Prestige Booklet	1018PBK	EA	€ 12.00
21-Jan-10	Weddings 2010 - Self-adhesive Pair	1001SAS	EA	€ 1.10
21-Jan-10	Weddings 2010 - Self-adhesive Booklet	1001BK	EA	€ 5.50
	An Post Van Set	03VANSET	EA	€ 60.00
15-Jul-10	Centenary of the Birrel Land Act of 1909 82c Stamp	091882	EA	€ 0.82
14-Aug-09	Classical Composers Stamp Set	0919SET	EA	€ 2.74
14-Aug-09	Classical Composers Handel & Mozart 55c Se-tenant Stamp	091955ST	EA	€ 1.10
14-Aug-09	Classical Composers Chopin & Haydn 82c Se-tenant Stamp	091982ST	EA	€ 1.64
14-Aug-09	Classical Composers Prestige Booklet	0919PBK	EA	€ 12.00
14-Aug-09	Classical Composers Minisheet	0919MS	SH	€ 2.74

LOT 2

LOT 3

1ST CHANCE

28-Aug-09	250th Anniversary of the Guinness Brewery 55c Stamp	092055	EA	€ 0.55
04-Sep-09	The Plantation of Ulster 55c Se-Tenant Stamp	092155ST	EA	€ 1.10
18-Sep-09	Modern Irish Playwrights Stamp Set	0922SET	EA	€ 1.65
18-Sep-09	Modern Irish Playwrights (Brian Friel) 55c Stamp	092255	EA	€ 0.55
18-Sep-09	Modern Irish Playwrights (Frank McGuinness) 82c Stamp	092282	EA	€ 0.82
18-Sep-09	Modern Irish Playwrights (Tom Murphy) 95c Stamp	092295	EA	€ 0.95

Customers who are happy to receive their orders after the last issue date can do so by ticking this box.

☐

THE FOLLOWING POSTAL CHARGES WILL APPLY:

Ireland = 55c; International (including U.K.) = 82c. Orders over €63.50 in value and coin collection/set will be sent by Registered Post €5.25 for Ireland & €5.85 for Rest of the World (this fee includes Priority Postage). Postage for Framed Items, Prints, Books, Albums or Van Sets are €6.00 (within Ireland) & €7.50 (International including U.K.).

SUB TOTAL

€

POSTAGE

€

TOTAL DUE

€

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY ()Add

Entered by	
Date	
Order Type	
Origin (So)	

()Change

()Delete

Checked by	
Sales Order No	
Customer Po	
(Op)	

Exchange Rate Guidelines:
€1 = US\$1.22: €1 = Stg £0.81

Irish Stamps IBAN No. IE51 BOFI 9000 1770 9738 87.
Irish Stamps BIC Code: BOFIE2D at Bank Of Ireland,
College Green, Dublin 2.

NB

Customers, please be aware that when stamps are ordered for more than one issue the entire order will only be dispatched after the last stamp issue date.

ORDER FORM

Orders should be sent to:
Philatelic Bureau, Order Department,
PO Box 1991, GPO, Dublin 1, Ireland.
Tel: + 353 (1) 705 7400
Fax: + 353 (1) 705 7289
www.irishstamps.ie

Collector Account Holders:

Please note that this order will be treated as additional to your standing orders.

PLEASE SEND MY ORDER TO:

Mr/Mrs/Ms

First Name Surname

Address

Account Number (if any)

Tel: Email:

PAYMENT METHOD:

Cheque/Bank Draft☐

Money Order☐

Eurogiro☐

Postal Order☐

Credit Card☐

From Account☐

Please note Visa Electron and Maestro cards are not acceptable for mail orders.
(These cards must be swiped.)

Credit Card Payments:

Please debit my:

VISA card☐

Mastercard/Eurocard☐

Amount to be debited €

Credit Card Number

Credit Card Expiry Date

Cardholder's Name: (Please Print)

Mr/Mrs/Ms

Cardholder's Signature

Please tick this box if you do not wish to receive further editions of Irish Stamps The Collector ☐

An Post Van Set



*Product Code: 03VANSET
Price: €60.00*

An official limited edition collection of five An Post Model Vehicles is available to purchase from the Philatelic Shop, GPO, Dublin 1. The vehicles featured, which measure 80mm x 30mm approx. are, the Model T Ford, Horse Drawn Vehicle, Anglia Van, Transit Bus and VW Transporter. Each of these vehicles featured in the fleet over the years and has its own legitimate Fleet Number.

The collection is contained in a superb presentation box set. A card showing an illustration of the General Post Office sits on top of a foam underlay. The models are housed in five cut-outs making for a delightful set. The collection is limited to 2,500 sets with each one being certificated and individually numbered.

This limited edition collection costs €60 (postage €6.00 within Ireland and €7.50 rest of the world) and is a must-buy for model enthusiasts and collectors alike. Available now from the Philatelic Shop, GPO, Dublin 1, 00353 (1) 705 7400 or online at www.irishstamps.ie.