

STAMPA 2025

The Irish National Stamp Exhibition

Exhibition Catalogue

Wild Atlantic Way

Sli An Aclancaigh Pháin



WILD ATLANTIC WAY TOURISM TRAIL
Malin Head to Old Head of Kinsale



STAMPA 2025

Stampa 2025 - 10th to 12th October

Grange, Co. Sligo
Landscape in an area
of outstanding
natural beauty
(former Bannadigan
manor and the
Atlantic Coast).



10th to 12th October 2025 (Friday-Sunday)
11am to 5pm (4pm Sunday) Admission Free

Griffith College Conference Centre,
South Circular Road, Dublin 8, D08 V04N

250th Anniversary of the Birth of Daniel O'Connell

Daniel O'Connell was a key figure in Ireland's journey towards parliamentary democracy.



250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF DANIEL O'CONNELL 'N' STRIP OF 2



250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF
DANIEL O'CONNELL FDC

Buy now at
anpost.com/shop

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post

Welcome to STAMPA 2025

Welcome to what is the 53rd Stampa. This year we have an unprecedented and record number of 38 exhibits and in excess of 100+ frames of material. The catalogue has also been expanded to include some additional articles, all relating to the exhibits. At the recent FEPA exhibition in Birmingham the Irish Brigade had a record total of 20 exhibits at an international show, the third largest group at the show. The hobby is definitely alive and well in Ireland and we are well regarded at international level.

We have a very unusual souvenir in the form of a sheet celebrating Charles Rycraft Stamp Designs and the centenary of the introduction of buses by the Dublin United Tramway Company in 1925. The original items reproduced in the sheet can be viewed in a special display by Brian Harmon and Brian Warren and an article on the CIE Leyland Titan Bus appears elsewhere in this catalogue. The sheet can be purchased at the Stampa Sales Stand, as can a SOAR strip which incorporates the self-adhesive stamp.

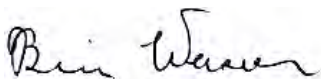
This year we are also showcasing a new Youth section (12 to 18 age group) including some exciting champion of champion winners from the USA. We also have a world class exhibit of material relating to the life of Daniel O'Connell on the 250th anniversary of his birth. O'Connell was imprisoned for a period here in Griffith College when it was a prison (Richmond Prison). Finally, we will have the original artwork for this year's "Mental Health Awareness" cards which have been produced with the collaboration of An Post.

We welcome this year a number of visitors from the USA as the U.S. based Éire Philatelic Association will be celebrating their 75th anniversary. Members of the German based body of Irish stamp collectors (FAI – Germany) will also be present. Drop by their stands and say Hello.

As usual, we wish to thank An Post and the various dealers, exhibitors and members for their continued support of the show. Without you we would not have an exhibition. Finally, a special thanks to Barbara Brennan of Mental Health Matters for providing the Mental Health poster display and postcards.

If you have any questions, please ask at the Stampa Sales Stand. We would also encourage you to join a local society – there are societies in Dublin, Cork, Belfast and Portadown.

I hope you enjoy the exhibition.



Brian Warren – Chairperson & Treasurer



Philip Kane - Vice Chairperson & Editor

Acknowledgements

The Chairman and Council extend their sincere gratitude to all who contributed to the success of this exhibition. Special thanks go to **An Post**, particularly the **Philatelic Bureau**; the **Judges**; **stand holders**, and **advertisers** and to those who prepared the hall and mounted the exhibits.

We are especially grateful to the **Stampa members**, with heartfelt appreciation once again to **Bob Benninghoff** for his unwavering and steadfast support. Our thanks also go to the **volunteers** and to everyone who continues to work tirelessly to ensure the ongoing success of this exhibition.

The Irish National Stamp Exhibition Limited is a non-profit taking company, limited by guarantee, run on a voluntary basis by an elected Council.

Chairman: Brian Warren
Secretary: Brian Harmon
Council Members: J. Lennon
A. Farrell
M. Orsi

Vice-chairman: Philip Kane
Treasurer: Brian Warren
B. Callan
T. Crowley
C. McDonagh
H. Mitchell
M. Burrington
C. Hegarty



Join a Philatelic Society

and discover the social, educational and maybe competitive nature of the hobby. The Stampa stand can provide more information on these societies.



Cumann Sighneachair na hEireann **The Irish Philatelic Society** Founded 1901

Meetings consist of displays and bourses and are held twice a month, on a Wednesday (except for July, August and December) in Ely House, Ely Place, Dublin 2.
They commence at 7.00pm, preceded by bourse viewing from 6.30pm.

PRESIDENT: Dermot Hughes **EMAIL:** irishphilatelicociety@gmail.com

DUBLIN STAMP SOCIETY

Established 1948

Website: www.dublinstampsociety.com

Meetings are held at 7.00pm on the first and third Tuesday of the month (except July, August and December) in Ely House, Ely Place, Dublin 2.

Bourse on view from 6.30pm

Secretary: Chris McDonagh **EMAIL:** dublinstamp@gmail.com



CORK PHILATELIC SOCIETY (founded 1968)

To contact the Society, please write to:

The Secretary, Cork Philatelic Society

% STAMPA, PO Box 12624, Rathfarnham, Dublin 16.



website: <http://www.irishphil.com>

Interested in Irish Stamps? Why not join the IRISH PHILATELIC CIRCLE?

The Society caters for collectors of Irish philatelic material.

Benefits of membership include:

- An annual meeting and display competition, rotating between Dublin, Belfast and London
- Regular Auctions and a journal with the annual TWYTW supplement detailing all Irish stamps, postmarks and souvenirs issued during the previous year
- A dedicated Members section with the largest Irish Philatelic Library, Forums and a USB, with all back issues since 1963, is available to members.

Contact us at the Stampa Sales Stand, mention this advertisement and get a free copy of our Journal.

Stampa Awards Dinner

Sponsored by David Feldman SA

to be held at 7.30pm on **Saturday 11th October 2025** in

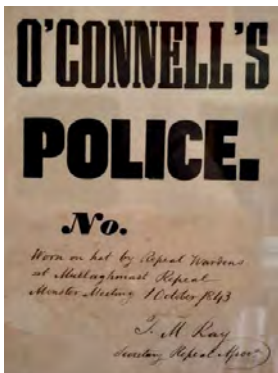
Wynn's Hotel, 39 Abbey Street Lower, Dublin 1

Tickets €50

2

Dress informal

Daniel O'Connell The Liberator - John Mullen



Daniel O'Connell was born into a farming family at Carhan, Cahersiveen, Co. Kerry on the 6th August 1775. He was adopted by his father's wealthy brother Maurice Hunting Cap O' Connell who lived at Derrynane Abbey. Daniel started his education at a Hedge School and was later sent to France to further his education, as being a catholic, education was not available to him at home, due to the Penal Laws. While studying in France, the "French Revolution" took place. Witnessing the murder and bloodshed of the revolution influenced Daniel greatly and he became a pacifist as he believed in Talk, Discussion and Agreement to solve all problems. This would be proven in later life as his many public meetings were overseen by his own police. On returning from France, he was able to continue his studies in London and Ireland as laws were changing. In 1798 he was called to the Irish Bar as a barrister and, four days later, Ireland having been influenced by the French Revolution rose up in the ill-fated Rebellion of 1798. As a result of the Rebellion, the British Government passed the Act of Union. The Act of Union abolished the parliament; Ireland had no government of its own. Daniel at the age of 25 years gave his first speech against the Act of Union as he believed in home rule.

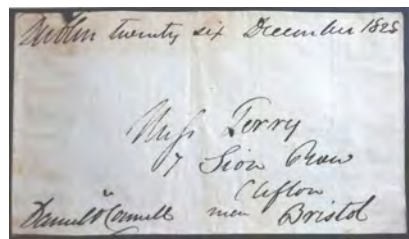
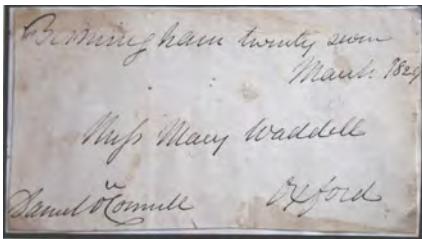


In 1815, he called the Dublin Council "Beggary". This enraged a member of the Council John D'Esterre who challenged Daniel to a duel; John D'Esterre was an experienced retired soldier and was known as a "Crack Shot".

However, Daniel was also an accomplished marksman. They met just west of Uachtar Árd Church, Co. Kildare. John D'Esterre got his shot off first but it hit the ground in front of Daniel. Daniel took aim shot and wounded D'Esterre. However, he was shocked to learn that two days later D'Esterre had passed away from his injuries. This had a great effect on Daniel and resulted in him setting up a pension for D'Esterre's daughter.

In 1823, he founded the Catholic Association with membership costing one penny per month. This enabled his work for Irish Catholics continue.

In 1828, as Catholics had no place to bury their dead, he purchased the first graveyard which was Goldenbridge cemetery and then, shortly after, Glasnevin cemetery. These graveyards were to be the burial place for "All Religions and None."



As an MP he had free franking privilege as evidenced by signing the front of the letters

1828 also saw Daniel run for election in a by-election for Co. Clare, winning a landslide victory. This created major problems for the British Government, as he being a Catholic could not take his seat in parliament due to the Penal Laws.



The Government feared another rebellion and so Catholic Emancipation was granted. Daniel became known as the "Liberator" because he had liberated Catholics from the Penal Laws, In Britain he was known as the Great Agitator.



In 1835, Daniel and a group of M.P.'s founded the National Bank of Ireland to compete with the Bank of Ireland who had a monopoly in Dublin.



In 1840, The Repeal Association was founded by Daniel, it was an Irish Mass Membership Political Movement set up to campaign for a repeal of the Act of Union so Ireland could govern themselves. The rules for the Movement were drawn up by Thomas Davis. During this period there were many Monster Meetings; one was scheduled for Clontarf, Dublin. However, the authorities got word of this meeting and were prepared to move to disband the meeting. Daniel called off the meeting to avoid confrontation. Daniel was arrested, found guilty of sedition and sent to gaol in Richmond Bridewell Prison (**now Griffith College**). The Government came to the conclusion that the conviction was unsafe resulting in the release of Daniel and his son John. On his release, a Triumphal Coach carried Daniel through Dublin celebrating the event.



This is shown on one of the stamps recently issued by An Post.



In 1841, Daniel is elected to the new Dublin Corporation and takes Office as Lord Mayor. He is the first Roman Catholic to be Lord Mayor since 1690.

In 1845, the greatest tragedy in history hit Ireland: “*An Gorta Mór*” “*The Irish Famine*”. The famine carried into the 1850’s and beyond. Daniel travelled to the British Parliament and pleaded for help; 90% of Irish grain was being transported out of Ireland that would have alleviated the famine but his pleading landed on deaf ears. In addition, the Irish were very reliant on the potato as part of their stable diet but blight destroyed all the crops.



*Death
Mask*

*Commemorating
Plaque
Feder Hotel
Genoa*



In 1847, exhausted from the famine and at the age 71 years he embarked on a retreat to Rome. He travelled through Lyon France on to Hotel Feder, Genoa Italy where he was diagnosed with “Softening of the Brain” and passed away on 15th May 1847. His last recorded words were “*My Heart to Rome, My Body to Ireland and My Soul to God.*” As a mark of respect to the passing of a very famous European, the churches of Genoa peeled their bells all night long.



FAI - The German Research and Study Group on Irish Philately, founded in 1982, is one of the biggest Research and Study Groups within the German Philatelic Association (BdPh), having over 200 members. FAI is a member of the FPSI, and membership is open to all Irish Philatelists, offering great benefits for a reasonable membership fee. Our Journal *DIE HARFE* is issued three times a year with a total of up to 200 pages.

Why not join FAI ?

Website: www.fai-germany.de/engl/index.html

Secretary: Wolfgang Fiedler

E-Mail: W.W.Fiedler@web.de

Éire Philatelic Association (International)

America's premier Irish philatelic group, which specializes in all aspects of Irish philately. One of the many benefits of membership is receipt of our quarterly Journal:

The Revealer

WEBSITE: www.eirephilatelicassoc.org

SECRETARY: Tim Carey

E-Mail: careystea@gmail.com

POST: 1730 Commercial St., Irving, NY 14081 USA



The winning designs in the National World Mental Health Day poster competition are also on display. Some of the artists will attend on 11 October including the younger contributors. They will be available to autograph their designs on a set of six postcards produced in association with An Post. The winning designs are:-

- **Workplace category:** Eimear McDonagh
- **Community Category:** Lorna Quinn
- **University Category:** Yevis Gallagher
- **School Category:** Faye O'Sullivan (11yrs)
- **Disability Category:** Samantha Mulligan
- **Highly Commended Design:** Mary Orlova (9yrs)



Special Postmarks available at the An Post stand

STAMPA 2025

SOUVENIRS FOR SALE AT STAMPA SALES STAND



Stampa membership pack plus 32p CIE Titan bus sheet (Sold only as a unit)	€25.00
CIE Titan bus sheet showing 32p Bus Designs	€5.00
Master sheet of two strips – 50 only, all numbered (as above)	€30.00
Set of three exhibition illustrated covers (by post after show €18.00)	€15.00
Wild Atlantic Way (“WAW”) cover with matching two stamps plus Inis Oir and Grange (Streedagh Beach) WAW cachets - limited to 50 covers (as above)	€7.50
Awards Dinner Menu with stamp and cancel (Only available from Sunday – 60 only the EPA card will be overprinted for this event)	€10.00
Éire Philatelic Association (“EPA”) postcard mint or with EPA cancel – postage worldwide included	€5.00
EasyPost SOAR strip of four with 2025 designs	€9.00
EasyPost strip of four with 2025 designs on special FDC	€15.00
EasyPost strip of eight with 2023 designs	€15.00
EasyPost strip of eight with 2023 designs on special FDC	€20.00



The 32p Leyland Titan

Brian Warren



The Cinderella strip included as one of the Stampa 2025 souvenirs (as shown on cover) shows a reduced copy of the original “rough” concept design of the 32p bus stamp by Charles Rycraft through to a facsimile of the self-adhesive SOAR stamp issued in 2023. The original sheet stamp was issued in 1993 as part of a four-stamp set showing Irish Buses. All four designs were by Charles Rycraft. The set was also issued in booklet format as illustrated. As well as the original design concept, the cinderella sheet shows the black and white photograph – again reduced (known as a bromide) as issued to the media at the time of issue. Finally, facsimiles of the sheet and SOAR stamps are shown actual size. Strips of eight stamps which are valid for postage and which includes the bus design complete with STAMPA 2025 imprint are available from the EasyPost machine at the Stampa Sales Stand.



To challenge growing numbers of private buses serving areas not reached by trams, the Dublin United Tramway Company (DUTC) opened its first bus service (Eden Quay to Killester) in July 1925 and, thus, this year marks the centenary of the widespread use of buses in Dublin. Córas Iompair Éireann (CIE), was founded on 1st January 1945 and united the DUTC

and Great Southern Railways (GSR). The GSR operated rail, bus and lorry services. It had come into existence in 1925 when all the railway companies lying wholly within the Irish Free State were amalgamated into one concern. In later years, CIE also absorbed the Grand Canal Company (1950) and the road and rail services of the Great Northern Railway (1958), which lay within the Republic.

The DUTC introduced Leyland buses in 1925 with the opening of its first bus service to Killester. Specifically, they used the Leyland Titan model. Various Titan models continued to be operated over the coming decades by DUTC/CIE. All buses were built in the Spa Works, Inchicore on Leyland chassis until closure of the works in 1977. The particular model shown on the stamp is known as an OPD2/10 which entered service in January 1958. The registration number is OIK 980 which, under magnification, can be seen on the sheet stamp. As well as the vehicle registration number, the buses had a fleet number (R784) which is situated above the headlamp on the cab side of the vehicle. All buses of this type were withdrawn by 1975. The original colour of the bus as shown on the stamps was green but from 1961 onwards the livery changed to blue and cream as shown on a photo of the bus taken in Ringsend garage (photo courtesy: Nigel Bennett and irishretro.com).

Stampa 2025 Members' Souvenirs



**Membership and
Public Souvenirs
Sold as a set - €25**



**Mint card part of
membership set**

**Special Éire Philatelic
Association postcard
complete with imprinted
stamp for worldwide
postage. Available mint or
with cancel €5 each**



Souvenirs Available on Stampa Stand



10th October 2025



11th October 2025

Special cover and
postmark for each day of
the show - €5 each



12th October 2025



EasyPost strip with
STAMPA 2025 inprint
New 2025 designs - €9
FDC - €15

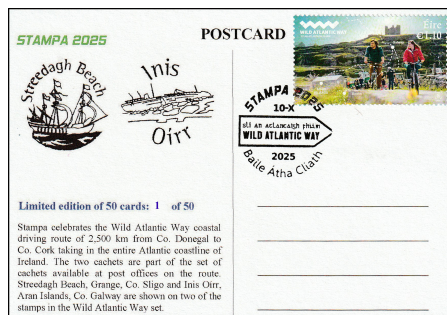


EasyPost strip with STAMPA
2025 inprint - 2023 designs - €15
FDC - €20

Limited Edition Souvenirs on Stampa Stand



**Printer's Master Sheet -
Numbered - 50 only - €30**



**Special Wild Atlantic Way
postcard with local tourism cachets plus
matching stamps and cancel. Limited
number of 50 - €7.50**

**Wild Atlantic Way cover
with local tourism
cachets plus matching
stamps cancelled with
special postmark.
Limited numbered
edition of 50 -
€7.50**

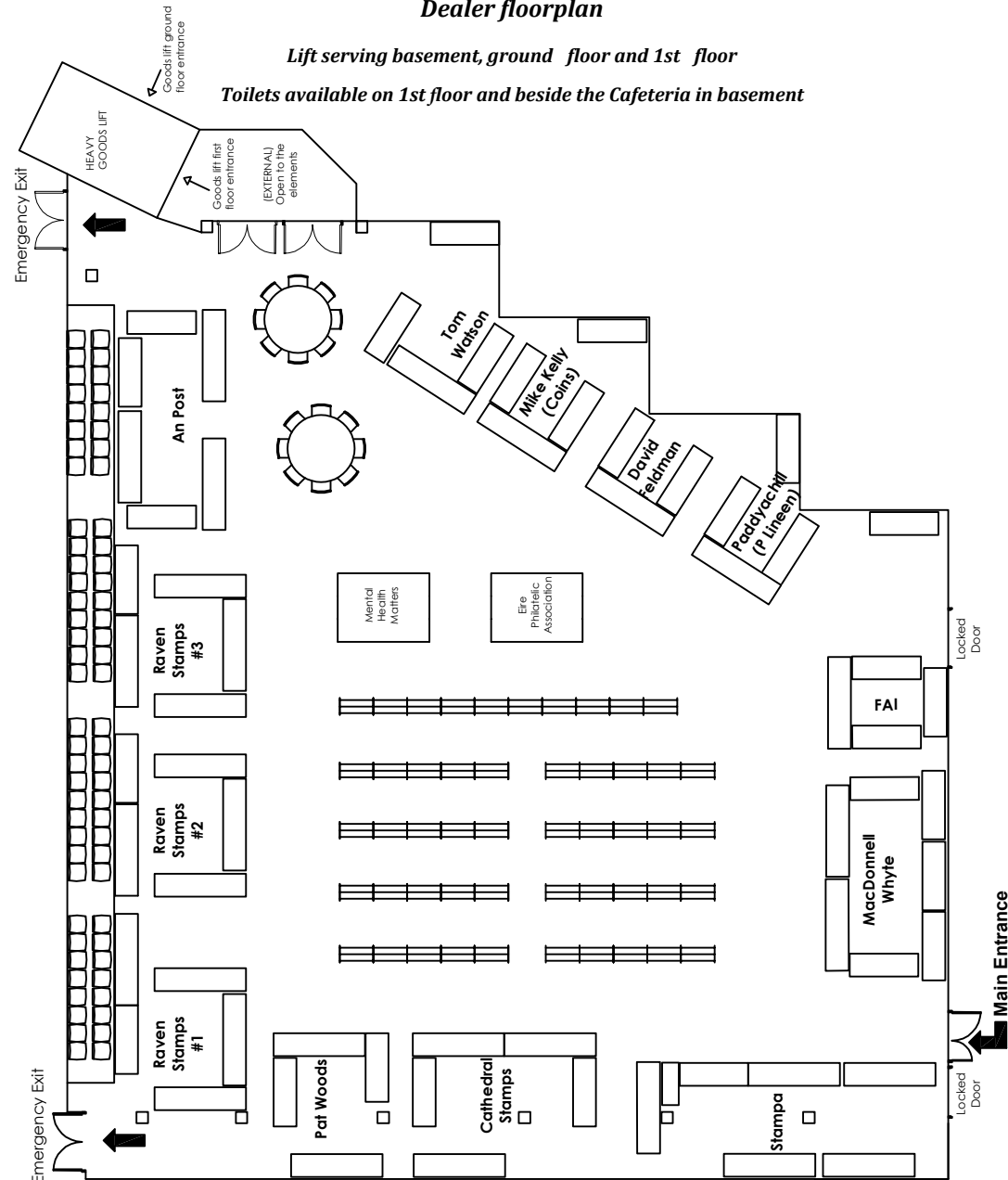


STAMPA 2025

Dealer floorplan

Lift serving basement, ground floor and 1st floor

Toilets available on 1st floor and beside the Cafeteria in basement



Mental Health Matters

National Poster Competition 2025



The Mental Health Matters



Mental Health Matters



World Mental Health Day 2025



Mental Health Matters



World Mental Health Day 2025



Mental Health Matters



World Mental Health Day 2025



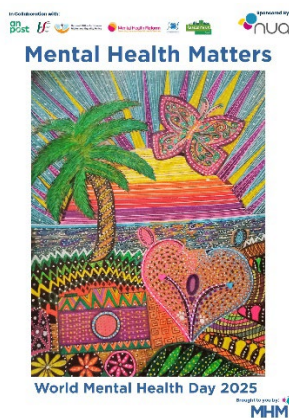
National Poster Competition for World Mental Health Day 2025 once again brings together creativity, community, and conversation – and this year, the designs also take their place in Ireland's philatelic story.

With the generous support of Nua Healthcare Services as headline sponsor, and judged in partnership with leading national organisations, the competition invited people of all ages to express what mental health means to them through art.

Six winning designs were selected, each offering a unique perspective on resilience, connection and hope:

- **Workplace category:** Eimear McDonagh
- **Community Category:** Lorna Quinn
- **University Category:** Yevis Gallagher
- **School Category:** Faye O'Sullivan (11yrs)
- **Disability Category:** Samantha Mulligan
- **Highly Commended Design:** Mary Orlova (9yrs)

The original artwork for each design is included in one of the exhibition displays.



For a second year, An Post has partnered with the campaign to produce a limited-edition series of postcards featuring the winning entries. Like stamps and covers before them, these postcards are both works of art and cultural artefacts – carrying a message far beyond their original print run.

Two of this year's designs are by young people, whose fresh voices highlight the importance of early conversations about mental wellbeing. Their inclusion underlines how creativity can

bridge generations and inspire change.

Collectors attending Stampá 2025 on 11th October will have the rare chance to meet some of the winning artists, including the younger contributors, who will be autographing their designs. For philatelists, these signed cards offer a unique blend of contemporary art, postal tradition, and social impact.

At its heart, this initiative affirms a simple truth: mental health matters to us all – and like the best of philately, its message deserves to be shared and remembered.

STAMPA 2025 – LIST OF EXHIBITS

TRADITIONAL

1. *The Reichpost Hitler Definitives and Postal Stationery, 1941-1945* Alan Farrell
The exhibit examines the 1941-1945 Hitler definitives and pre-paid postal stationery issued by the Deutsche Reichpost, their use on covers and other documents including overprints issued in occupied and liberated territories.
2. *The Irish Gerl Decimal Definitives – 1971 to 1982* Brian Warren
The exhibit shows the development of the series from the initial issues on watermarked paper in 1971, then the changeover to unwatermarked paper in 1974 and finally the move to lithographed printings in 1981.

MODERN

3. *The Genesis of the RSA South African Booklets from 1993-2010* Peter Coetzee
A step-by-step development of the use and design of booklet stamps by the South African Post Office from rough beginnings to sophisticated self-adhesives.

POSTAL HISTORY

4. *Philatelic Railwayana* Stan Challis
A miscellany of railway related items that a student of Irish postal history might discover.
5. *Russia The 1899 Temporary Registration Labels* Greg Todd
First used from January 1, 1899 the labels were issued in Cyrillic primarily for internal use. As postmasters abroad were unable to read same their use ended in 1899.
6. *Irish Postal History – Excerpts from 1922- 1935 – A Period with Postal Challenges* Anders Joergensen
The title refers to the period when the Irish Postal Service was established and had to become independent from the British Post Office. The exhibit has a supplementary focus on the postmarks and their significance.
7. *Free Franks and the Franking Privilege in Ireland* Karen McShane
A display on the evolution of Irish Free Markings from the late 1600's to the introduction of adhesives. The exhibit includes pictorial and special handstamps and some of the notable signatures.
8. *Ireland's Shifting Foundations* Marcus Orsi
The exhibit displays Ireland's shifting foundations from transition to civil war (1922-1925).

AEROPHILATELY

9. *Irish Free State Airmail 1923-1934* Tony Cutchey
The exhibit shows Free State acceptance covers during this period. It includes unusual and seldom seen items. Mainly first flights with transitional, crash, first day and stationery items plus stamp errors.

10. *The First 40 Years of KLM 1919-1959* Clem Hegarty
An exhibit detailing the first forty years of the airline.

THEMATIC

11. *The A-Z of Dhows* Trevor Brock
A thematic journey from Aden to Zanzibar through countries which have issued stamps with dhows in their design.
12. *Bridging the Divide* Brian Harmon
The exhibit displays the evolution of bridges through their form, design and structural arrangement.

OPEN PHILATELY

13. *The Indestructible Irish 1845-1922* Tim Carey
The exhibit tells the story of the Irish struggle from 1845 to 1922.
14. *Presidents of Ireland from the 1900's* Chris McDonagh
Introducing the Government leaders and Presidents of Ireland since the 1916 Easter Rising and the emerging Irish Free State.
15. *The Life and Celebrations of St. Patrick* Laurelei Fox
The exhibit shows the life, legends and celebration of St. Patrick. His life story is based mostly on his own writings.
16. *Waterfalls of the World* Dermot Casey
The display takes a look at waterfalls in different countries and demonstrates how they have been celebrated in stamp form and also on postcards and other media.
17. *Significant Religions of the World* Paul Tattersall
A display comprising text, postcards and stamps explaining some of the main beliefs of the world's most significant religions.

ONE FRAME

- Traditional

18. *Field Revisited 2025* Roy Hamilton-Bowen
A study of the missing accents on the Saorstát overprints and their corrections.
19. *Andrew Restall's Essay and Design for Great Britain Definitives.* Brian Harmon
Restall was one of the artists commissioned by GB's stamp advisory committee in 1965 to produce new definitive designs. Although Machin's iconic stamps were chosen, this exhibit displays Restall's unadopted essays and designs, along with concepts for other definitives.
20. *Andrej Helinka on Postage Stamps Slovakia 1939* Pavol Zusáč
The exhibit presents the development of the first Slovak stamps with the portrait of Andrej Helinka 1939. The exhibit contains data on individual issues and printing plates, points out plate and production errors together with stamp perforations and their errors.

- **Postal History**

21. *Not George Orwell's 1984 – First Year of An Post, the Independent Irish Post Office* Karl Winkelmann
An overview of all the important products produced during the first year of An Post as an independent entity responsible for the Irish postal services.
22. *From Clachan to Coast: The Postal History of County Donegal, Pre-stamp to UPU* Zsolt Bodnar
A postal history of Co. Donegal from the early 18th century to the formation of the UPU in 1875, featuring pre-stamp letters, early postmarks, postal reforms, adhesive usage and Donegal railway letters.
23. *Burma Civil Censor Handstamp Types 1939-1943* Michael Ley
The exhibit presents every Burma civil censorship handstamp type in World War II.

- **Picture Postcards**

24. *The Fire at the Brussels Exhibition 1910* Caroline Barlow
On the night of 14 August 1910, there was a serious fire at the Brussels International exhibition, destroying a large part of it. This exhibit covers the fire and the damage it caused.
25. *Olive Swanzy and her Co. Down Postcards* Karen McShane
The display outlines the life of Olive Swanzy and the production of her hand painted Co. Down postcards.

- **Open Philately**

26. *The History and Legends of Blarney Castle* Tabitha Fox
The exhibit shows the history and legends of one of the most recognised castles in the world.

- **Aerophilately**

27. *Inaugural Airmail Service from San Juan, Puerto Rico to Paramaribo, Dutch Guiana* Norman Finnie
The display covers this airmail service by Pan American Airways on 22 September 1929.

YOUTH

28. *The Roaring Reds* Andrew Ciko
The exhibit shows the two cent red commemorative stamps that were used during the period 1920 to 1929.
29. *Cupcakes* Christina Esbeck
Cupcakes, a topical exhibit incorporating a recipe and their ingredients as shown on stamps.
30. *The Best Way to Own a Cat* Victoria Munoz
The thematic exhibit takes you on a journey to my inner world through cats on postage stamps.
31. *Celebrating 200 Years of Florida's Capital – Tallahassee* Setly Sahitya
The exhibit shows various aspects of the Florida State Capital over the past 200 years.
32. *The Wonderful World of Butterflies* Setly Sahitya
The exhibit shows the life cycle and ecology of butterflies and how we can help them.
33. *Swiftie Stamps: A philatelic tribute to the Eras of Taylor Swift* Ellen Tate
The exhibit celebrates and tells the story of Taylor Swift's albums or Eras through stamps.

34. *Ireland's Transition from the Mesolithic Period to Today* "Hunter Gatherers"
This period is told through its array of wildlife, animals and birds.
35. *Christmas Festivities* "Santa's Little Helpers"
Various stamps and covers on the Christmas theme.
36. *Man's Quest to Study and Conquer Space* "The Space Stampers"
The exhibit explores the world of Astronomy and the study of the planets and celestial objects.

PICTURE POSTCARDS

37. *Tourism Ireland – Land of My Birth* Gerry Byrne
The display traces the many changes in tourism all over Ireland.
38. *The Development and Usage of the Postcard in Ireland 1870-1918* Des Quail
Development from official postcard to court size to undivided back, divided back – events 1902-1918 and usage. The postcards record life in Ireland including peasantry, rural life, occupations and typography.
39. *Insular Gospels of Ireland and the British Isles 650 to 900* Susan Jones
The exhibit shows early medieval handwritten manuscripts produced in Ireland and the British Isles known as the Insular Gospel Books.

LITERATURE

40. *Mail Robbery Postal History from Around the World* Steven Berlin
The book traces mail robberies from the earliest recorded mail theft in 255BC to modern times including IRA robberies in Ireland.
41. *The Irish Times FDC Service 1966-1988 – 2nd Edition* Philip Kane
The illustrated reference book is a unique combination of handbook and catalogue, offering a distinctive exploration of a distinctive era in Irish philatelic history. Published by the German Research and Study Group of Irish Philately (FAI), this is a completely revised and now bilingual reprint of this publication first published by the author in 2023.
42. *The Irish Philatelic Circle Website (Digital website entry)* Philip Kane
The website of the Irish Philatelic Circle holds the largest collection of Irish philatelic literature in the world. The website can be viewed at www.irishphil.com.

NON-COMPETITIVE DISPLAY

43. *Daniel O'Connell* John Mullen
The exhibit traces the life and times of Daniel O'Connell who was hailed in his time as "*The Liberator*". The exhibit includes stamps, covers, postcards, photographs and other items of historical value.

The original sketch relating to the 32p Leyland Titan bus design as included in the Cinderella miniature sheet and related material are included beside the Stampa Sales stand. The winning designs in the National World Mental Health Day competition are beside their stand.



Preserving Irish Philatelic History A Digital Journey

Philip Kane

Stamp collecting is more than a hobby it's a lifelong journey of discovery, history, and connection. Whether you're a seasoned exhibitor or a curious newcomer, the world of philately offers endless surprises. But behind every exhibit and every rare stamp lies a deeper layer: the research, the stories, and the publications that preserve our postal heritage. For many collectors, accessing these resources has long been a challenge - until now.

In 2007, I began what I thought would be a modest project: scanning a few old issues of *Die Harfe*, the FAI-Journal. Those yellowed, fragile pages were the first step in what would become a much larger mission to build the most comprehensive digital archive of Irish philatelic material available anywhere. That first USB, filled with scanned back issues, was shared with members and sparked a wave of interest.

From there, the project grew. I scanned every issue of *The Revealer*, the official journal of the Éire Philatelic Association, from 1951 to 2025, along with all 47 of its supplements. I then added the Irish study group journals (1960-1962) and the Irish Philatelic Circle Journals from 1963 to date.

Each publication brought new avenues of insight and preserved voices that might otherwise have been lost to time.

Restoration, Expansion, and Community Contributions

By 2018, with better technology at hand, I revisited those early scans. Using tools like Adobe and even Paint, I began the

painstaking process of cleaning and enhancing thousands of pages, removing discolouration, correcting typos, and improving image clarity. This wasn't just about aesthetics; it was about making the material accessible and readable for future generations.

One of the most challenging projects was restoring Fred Dixon's Random Notes. These documents, printed on parchment paper and often marked by stains, required forensic-level cleaning. Each note was carefully retyped and enhanced with colour images to preserve its historical value.

Thanks to the generosity of **Dave Feldman and Ian Whyte**, I was able to digitise The David Feldman Newsletters Vol. 2 and both volumes of Irish Stamp News. Their past auction catalogues are also now part of the archive – an invaluable resource for collectors and researchers alike. During the COVID-19 lockdowns, I had time to expand the archive even further. I scanned newsletters from the Irish Philatelic Society, the Mid-Western Philatelic Society, and Q.E. 78 – the Irish Airmail Society's publication. These, along with Barry Cousins Compendia, grew this library and to this day is the one place where researchers reach out to for information. Today, the Irish Philatelic Library has the following sections:

- **The Irish Philatelic Journals (1960-1962) • The Irish Philatelic Circle Journals (1963-2025) • The Eire Philatelic Association - The Revealer (1951 - 2025) • The Revealer Supplements 1–47 (1951-1970) • Winning Exhibit Frames • Brian Warren's TWYTYW Supplements • The FAI-Journal – Die Harfe (1982-2024) • Irish Post Offices and Their Postmarks Since 1600 (The FAI) • Fred Dixon's Random Notes (1956-1972) No's 1-193**
- **Barry Cousins' Compendiums and Award-Winning Overprint Books • The Collector (2005–2020) • Postmarks and Irish Postal History Publications • Irish Stamp News Vol. I & II**
- **Q.E 78 - The Irish Airmail Society Newsletters**

• David Feldman Newsletters Vol 2 • Postmarks • The Irish Philatelic Society Newsletters • The Mid-Western Philatelic Society Newsletters • Auction catalogue's • Irish and UK Philatelic • Stamp catalogues (1972-2024) and finally Booklets.

One of the most exciting sections is Winning Exhibit Frames, which showcases award-winning exhibits from collectors like Brian Warren and Karen McShane. We invite others to contribute their Gold, Vermeil, and other medal-winning exhibits. Sharing these not only celebrates individual achievement but also helps others learn how to build successful exhibits of their own. Looking ahead: A Collective Effort - **The library now spans 23 sections, with over 1,500 publications and more than 60,000 pages** making it the largest Online Irish philatelic archive, and possibly even surpassing the holdings of the National Irish Archive in this specific field. But this is just the beginning. We're always looking to expand. If you have scanned catalogues from the Shanahan era of Emerald Isle Philately, rare publications, or personal exhibits, we'd love to include them. This is a living archive, built by and for the community. If you'd like to contribute, please email me at mr.philipkane@outlook.com. With your help, we can ensure that the rich history of Irish philately is preserved, celebrated, and shared for generations to come. Future additions may include Shanahan Stamp Auction catalogues, Irish Postal History publications, and more.

To join the IPC, please go to the IPC webpage at www.irishphil.com, download and complete the 2025/2026 membership form and return it to us.

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STAMPA 2025 - LIST OF STANDHOLDERS

Stand-holders are listed in the alphabetical order of their surname or trading name. The following gives summary information on the type of stock they hold.

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Members may pay their annual subscription and interested collectors may join the society at the stand where FAI publications will also be on sale.

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PaddyAchill

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Pat Woods

Stamps, FDCs, postal history, postcards and ephemera.

Raven Stamps (P. O'Shea)

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