

the Revealer

QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE ÉIRE PHILATELIC
ASSOCIATION

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SAMRADH
SUMMER 2020



70 Bliain
Years

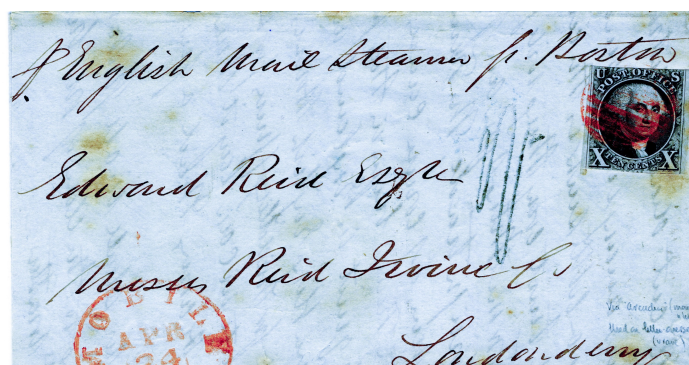
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Eire Philatelic Association

70 Bliain
Years

THE REVEALER

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Vice-President Europe: **BRIAN WARREN**, brian.warren2@upemail.ie

Directors:

DAVID BRENNAN
BARNEY CLANCY
PHILIP KANE

RAYMOND MURPHY
WILLIAM O'CONNOR
TIMOTHY O'SHEA

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Richard Kelly

I write this letter in early June as the world has begun to open up. I hope all of our members are safe and healthy. With the changing advice about the Covid virus from the experts and nonexperts we must remain vigilante our own personal situation and minimize any risk we take.

Continued on page 3

CHAPTER COORDINATORS

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

Commodore John Barry Chapter

Members reside in NJ, NY, PA Coordinator: John B. Sharkey, 1559 Grouse Lane, Mountainside, NJ 07092 jsharkeyepa@me.com

James Hoban Chapter

Members reside in MD, VA, DC Coordinator: Liam Malone liammalonedc@gmail.com

John McCormack Chapter

Members reside in CT & MA Coordinator: Timothy O'Shea 58 Porter St, Granby, MA 01033- 9516 tosheal1@comcast.net

Lone Star Chapter

Members reside in Central TX Chapter is currently inactive, please contact the Secretary if you wish to volunteer for this position.

Northern California Chapter (NORCAL)

Members reside in Northern CA Coordinator: Christopher Palermo 230 Alberta Avenue, San Carlos, CA 94070 CHRIS_PALERMO95125@yahoo.com

Southern California Chapter (SOCAL)

Members reside in Southern CA Coordinator: William A. O'Connor, 3803 Foxglove Lane, Fallbrook, CA 92028 waoconnor@aol.com

DEADLINE FOR ARTICLE SUBMISSION

Fall: September 7; Winter November 1; Spring March 8
Each Issue published about a month after above dates

The Revealer ADVERTISING RATES

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Half Page Vertical	3.6 X 9.7	\$90	\$320
Quarter Page	3.6 X 4.8	\$50	\$180
Eighth Page	3.6 X 2.5	\$30	\$105

Camera ready copy required – Contact Richard Kelly at kellyrd@sbeglobal.net

President's Message (continued from page 2)

What is fortunate about stamp collecting is that it can be both a social hobby and/or solitary one as each of us chooses. The closure of stamp shows has impacted parts of the hobby as we miss the comradery of seeing old friends and going through dealer boxes. My sense is that this will accelerate the movement to more on-line activity. I suggest that if you are not yet operating on the web or in the cloud, get some help to make the transition.

This issue is in tribute to our founding on September 15, 1950, thus our 70th anniversary is this year. Included are some reminiscences from some long-standing members about people who were key in the development of our organization. In addition, we have a collection of past anniversary covers to share with you. We have been blessed with many serious Philatelists over the years and a very dedicated core of individuals who have supported our growth.

There has been some general Irish stamp news in the media. Linn's published a full-page story on Charles Rycraft and his work in designing Irish Stamps. The British Library has published a philatelic research guide. This guide covers many countries in the world and may be of value to researchers. Our own past President Charles J.G. Verge was mentioned in both Linn's and in the American Philatelist, announcing his invitation to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists in London. Please read the article inside.

Three important society business items are in this issue. First, you will see that we are dropping 18 members for non-payment of dues. We have always been slow to do this as our hope is that just some oversight has occurred on the part of the member. If you want to remain a member and you are on this list please contact the Treasurer immediately.

Second, enclosed is a ballot for this year's election of officers and directors. Please vote and make your voices heard for the future of the EPA.

Our annual meeting this year is tentatively scheduled for NOJAX in October. At this time, it is unclear if the show will be held and if so, under what conditions. We will keep you posted.

In the various covers shown in this is the Milcopex AGM cover from 2001. For the first person who e-mails me with why this cover is special we will pay your dues for 2020. BOARD MEMBERS AND OFFICERS CANNOT PARTICIPATE. Good luck!

Be safe and stay healthy.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor of The Revealer

I thought Bill O'Connor's article in the Spring REVEALER "How Not to Store Your Stamps" was very timely. As the premier Irish Philatelic organization, we receive many inquiries about old collections and see many collections and accumulations brought to our table at our AGMs. In addition to Bill's comments, we see many collections where there are too many pages in the album. The result is the pages are compressed so that they can fit into the slip cover. Unfortunately, the results are the same, stamps are stuck to the pages or in the mount.

It is disheartening to have to tell someone that their collection is not of value due to the destruction of the stamps.

Richard Kelly
2622

Membership Report

New Members

- 2981 Nyle C. Monday, PO Box 111055, Campbell, CA 95011
 2982 Fergal Moore, 42 Red Coat Rd, Westport CT 06880
 2983 Stephen Kreha, 16 Beech Ave., Madison, NJ 07940
 2984 Joseph Jones, P.O. Box 6275, Maryville TN 37802

Change of Address

- 1623 Peter J. Wood, 182 Andrewes House, Barbican, London EC2Y 8BA
 2050 Robert Pope, 850 Wixford Way, Sacramento, CA 95864

New Email Address

If you have a new email address or if the address below is not correct, please contact Robert Benninghoff, EPA Treasurer at: eparmb@gmail.com.

- 1018 Clark Douglas McCurdy. 13gears65yer@comcast.net
 2784 Steven Friedenthal. stevefr1@telus.net
 2981 Nyle C. Monday. nmonday1@comcast.net
 2982 Fergal Moore. fergal_moore@yahoo.com
 2983 Stephen Kreha. steve.kreha@gmail.com
 2984 Joseph Jones. jj6275@hotmail.com

2018 members dropped for non-payment of dues - 15

2019 members who will be receiving their last Revealer with this issue - 67

Recollections of the early days of the EPA

By Michael Giffney

I was asked by my old friend, Dave Brennan, to send a few thoughts about the beginnings of the EPA in Ireland. I first met Neil Stack when he flew into Dublin in the early 1950's. We hired a self-drive car and spent a week touring Limerick and Kerry. We spoke about the E.P.A. and I was the founder of the Dublin Stamp Society so I was in a position to promote E.P.A. and its aims. Later the following year I flew over to visit John J. Clark and spent a wonderful time with his family in Matamoras, New York. Many years later Marie and I attended the E.P.A. annual general meeting where a Life Membership was bestowed on me which I truly cherish. I'm so glad that I had a chance to share my memories with you on the 70th anniversary of our grand society. I shall be 90 on July 24th so Dave Brennan and I have seen the EPA growing from strength to strength. God bless and take care of yourselves in these strange times.



The Eire Philatelic Association: A Personal History in Celebration of the EPA's 70th Anniversary

By Bill O'Connor

I am honored to be invited to write down a few memories of my association with the Eire Philatelic Association. It was an invitation by Bill Zellers back in 1976 that began my involvement with the organization. I met Preston Pope and Colonel Zellers, both former presidents of the EPA, at a local stamp show in southern California. Peg Zellers, Bill's wife, was most likely the person that got me to apply for membership as she was always holding fort at the EPA table. What an incredible person, and a lynchpin in those days of our organization.

I look back with many fond memories of our beloved organization. Eugene Labuik, a former president from Canada, was able to stop by my home in Escondido for lunch one pleasant sunny day. I almost had another former president of the EPA stop by for a visit, David Brennan, but he was unfortunately delayed by a round of golf at the Lawrence Welk Resort in Escondido. Other memories come from serendipitously finding letters and/or documents from some of our illustrious past members. I was able to find 12 Airletter sheets, 1963-1973, and other envelopes addressed to Neil Stack, another former president and/or Gil Roberts, a former Secretary of the EPA, at one time living in Stockton, California. The airletters were from Ireland, written by Fred Dixon, a former president, reporting on EPA activities in Ireland. As many of you know, Fred was a noted philatelist and it has been so rewarding to re-read his letters and appreciate his incredible knowledge of all things Irish. Another fond distant relationship was with Major Michael Priestly, one of our Scottish members. I enjoyed his impeccable business acumen, directness, and keeping the communication avenues open during the days prior to the internet.

Joe Foley has had a unique relationship with the EPA. Our only president to have served in nonconsecutive terms, the late 1960s and early 2000s. I believe he was our youngest member at one time. Some of you may remember that Joe was a former president of the American Philatelic Society. Ever direct, and focused, his work ethic and indomitable spirit still resonates with me to this present day. I will always remember being his guest at his home in Annapolis, and having lunch at the U.S. Naval Academy.

Another former president of the EPA was Bill McCaw, 1973-75. I fondly remember his wonderful letters in beautiful green ink. One of the nicest letters that I have ever received was his thankyou concerning his Clark award in 2004. I recently came across another of Bill's letters concerning an order I had placed for some John Clark Irish St. Patrick Day covers over 30 years ago. Bill was helping John's widow to dispose of his estate, and I still believe that these covers are the nicest ever produced for commemorating an Irish event.

It would be possible to include many notable members of the EPA ad infinitum. Garvin Lohman introduced me to the collecting of Irish perfins; Pat Walker's expertise in Irish Postal History is unique to the world; Ronny Vogt was so helpful to me with airmail covers; Peter Foote's interest in the Michael O'Clery stamps, still has me collecting their use on covers. I have enjoyed our regional EPA meetings here in Southern and Northern California these past decades. The annual meetings in many parts of the United States and even Ireland, occasionally, have been most rewarding particularly in meeting members of our EPA family in the many social gatherings in which our organization excels. Thank you all, past, present, and future for the continued fellowship and joy that emanates from the people of our organization.



EPA 70th Anniversary

By David Brennan

Seventy years ago, in 1950, a small group of collectors interested in Irish stamps and postal history organized a collectors' group and named it the Eire Philatelic Association. We started with about 12 members who were not only Irish stamp collectors but interested in Irish history and culture. By the end of the year the ranks grew to 52 members. Today, the association has about 350 members. However, we did have close to 760 members when Bob Jones from Brockton, Mass. was secretary. He was a benevolent person and never had the heart to drop anyone because they didn't pay their dues. Later when Bob retired his position as secretary, and on orders from the president, we sent final notices of dues and our membership dropped to a little over 400 members. The E.P.A. is Affiliate No. 21 of The American Philatelic Society. One of our former presidents, Joseph E. Foley, later became president of the A.P.S.

William (Bill) Hickey from Providence, R.I. was the first president, Neil Stack from Brooklyn, N.Y. was Vice-President and Secretary. Patrick Clancy from Providence, R.I. along with Neil Stack were Advertising Chair. C.J. Carmody from Baltimore, Maryland was the Publicity chair. Our association attorney was Lorin Kay of Richland Center, Wisconsin. So, you can say that we had founding fathers from across the country.

One of the earliest members, Malcolm O'Reilly, #13, was from New Jersey and I had the privilege of knowing him; he helped start an E.P.A. chapter in New Jersey, The Commodore John Barry Chapter. Peter Bugg was president at that time and he and Bob Jones drove down from Boston along with Malcolm O'Reilly and several of the New Jersey members to form the new chapter. John Sharkey is the chapter coordinator.

Our oldest living member was a young lad of 21 when he joined, Michael Patrick Giffney, #105, who ran a stamp shop on Ormond Quay by the Ha'penny Bridge in Dublin. Whatever time of day he would welcome you with, "Would you like a cup of tea?" We didn't know at the time but Michael was a pioneer. Joe Foley, Barney Clancy and myself were thinking of maybe something a wee bit stronger as we had come from across the pond for STAMPA and always stopped in his shop to check his stock.

During the early years there were many articles and publications written by members of our association which still are the standard for research. Also many exhibits were entered into competition and it was not uncommon to have 50 to 60 frames of excellent material which won many awards at the shows. Westpex show held in San Francisco was where marked our 25th anniversary. We now had over 500 members from all over the world. The show officials dedicated the show journal in celebration of our association and incidentally that was the first show that I attended and was wowed by the Irish exhibits. That peaked up my interest in my stamp collections and I sorted out my Irish material. I have enjoyed many years of collecting and mainly the friendships that developed along this journey. Some of my favorite memories include hanging out in the wee hours of the morning discussing stamps with a few unnamed dealers over a pint or two.

Ian Whyte and David MacDonald both were honorary members of the EPA. Their catalogue, "**Stamps of Ireland**" was the bible for collectors of Irish stamps, my first copy was the 1983 edition.

Neil Stack was the first editor of our journal "*The Revealer*". It was written on a typewriter and printed on a mimeograph machine. The 1st issue was January-February 1951. In the beginning Neil invited all persons of Irish ancestry to become members of the association. He stated "Stamp collecting and the history attached thereto is fascinating. Through stamps you will learn of the land of your forefathers". That was the pitch he made to attract new members. I believe that was the reasoning for the many feature articles in *The Revealer* about the counties, life and events in Ireland. We have come a long way in the development of our journal.

Today, our editors, Liam Malone (editor for over ten years and now editor emeritus) and Steven Friedenthal (current editor), have taken us into a new era, both in quality and content. The photography and reproduction of details is amazing. The current issue of *The Revealer* is the 299th issue. The next will be our milestone “300th Issue”.

Our 50th anniversary was a grand affair. We celebrated both here, in the States, and in Dublin in conjunction with STAMPA. AnPost hosted a wine party for all the evening before the opening of STAMPA. Pat Carroll, AnPost, Philatelic manager, along with Gerry Mooney of AnPost prepared overprints on several philatelic items. There were even a few beermats, very rare, which were franked and cancelled with the show cancel. It was a very memorable event and we had over 60 frames of exhibits to help put this anniversary over the top. My fondest memory was of meeting William (Bill) Kane, a legend in philatelic circles. He was kind enough to critique my exhibit on Irish Railway Letter Stamps. He became my friend and mentor after that meeting. Bill passed away in 2004 and is sorely missed by everyone who had the pleasure of meeting him.

The last 20 years seem to flown bye. We have come a long way in a short period of time. I think this occurred because of our use of the internet for communication. Our library has moved five times during this period and now is part of the Cardinal Spellman Library in Regis College. Our auction has gone from a hundred lots to now over 500 lots. A tip of the hat to Bob Kemper who has used his experience in creating a state-of-the-art auction site.

We have had twenty-four presidents since our beginning and now our president, Rich Kelly is stepping down after serving eight years. The longest serving president in the history of the E.P.A. A brilliant job by a grand person. I would be remiss if I didn't mention his wife, Diane, who has been the perfect hostess at all of our A.G.M.s during Rich's term.



The Digital Age – Irish Philately on USB

A number of rare publications on Irish philately have been digitized and are now available to ÉPA members at a reasonable price. The stamp magazines, the *David Feldman Newsletters* (volume #2, issues #1 to #41, winter 1980, 636 pages) and Ian Whyte's *Irish Stamp News* (volume 1, #1 to #35 summer 1990, 1288 pages and volume 2, #1 - #11, spring 1996, 406 pages) are available on a thumb drive for easy word searching and review.

USB prices are shown below, including shipping:

David Feldman Newsletters (volume 2, Nos.1 - 41) - \$24

Irish Stamp News (volume 1, # 1 to 35 and volume 2, # 1 – 11) - \$24

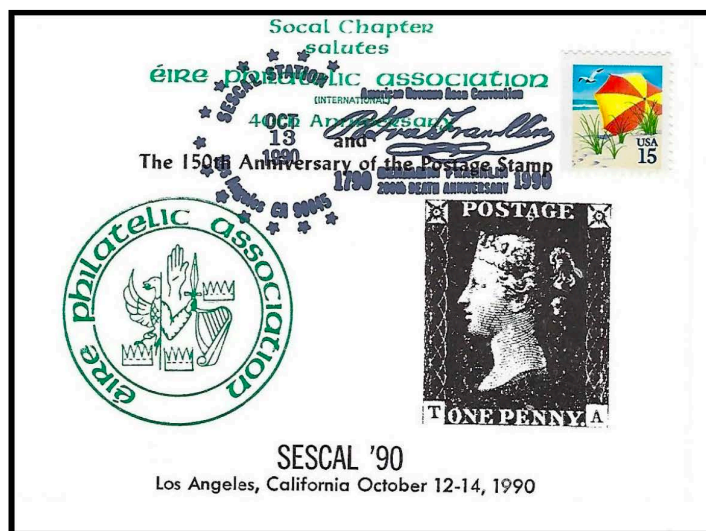
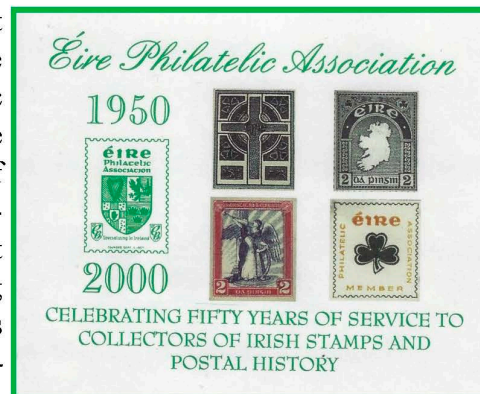
Also available on a searchable digital memory stick are all back issues of *The Revealer* from 1951 through the winter 2017-18 issue, including all supplements. What is great for researchers is that the database is searchable. In order to encourage more articles in *The Revealer*, we are making this great resource available to our members for the nominal price of \$10 plus the cost of shipping.

All of the above items may be ordered through our Special Offers Manager, Tim O'Shea, 58 Porter St., Granby MA 01033-9516. You may contact Tim at tosheal@comcast.net.

Celebrating Ourselves: The Éire Philatelic Association through 70 Years of Souvenirs

By Liam Malone, Emeritus Editor, Washington, DC, James Hoban Chapter

Our Éire Philatelic Association periodically produces souvenirs. Most celebrate an anniversary and generally appear every five years since the Association was founded in 1950. Others were produced for specific stamp shows. The 50th Anniversary souvenir to the right may be the most recognizable. This souvenir includes a political label the Cross of Cong. It's use around the 1916 era was often declared illegal on envelopes. Some tried using it as a postage stamp! Below it a forerunner not approved for a stamp. Instead the 2d Map of Ireland was released along with the Sword of Light and Cross of Cong designs. The final label is just that a label with both Éire on it and the words *Éire Philatelic Association* and was intended to be placed on Association mail along with a US postage stamp. Like a Christmas Seal on your Holiday Mail?

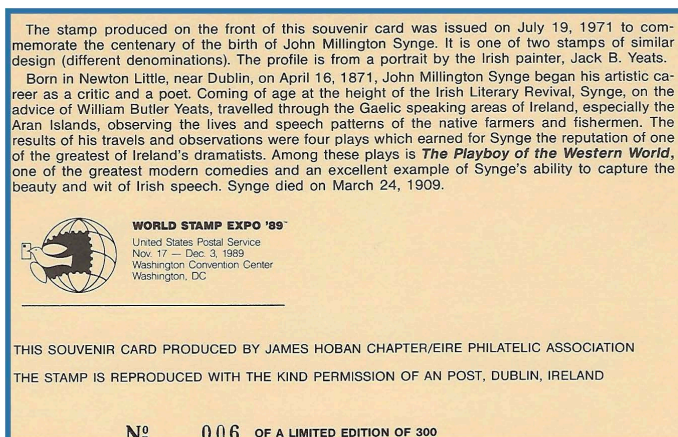


Given the history between Ireland and the United Kingdom, namely England the inclusion of the Penny Black on the 1990 souvenir demonstrates that politics can be put aside in philately. 1990 marked the 150th Anniversary of that first postage stamp. This souvenir was produced by the Southern California Chapter in conjunction with the Southern California Stamp Show (SESCAL) of where the ÉPA held its Annual Meeting. The sheet includes a US definitive with a beach scene so appropriate for the sunny LA region. The cancellation on October 13th is the date of the James Hoban stamp release, which is the anniversary date of laying the White House Cornerstone. The Provincial symbols within the ÉPA medallion: Red Hand of Ulster, Munster harp, Leinster crowns of Ard Ri (High Kings) and symbols of Connaught.

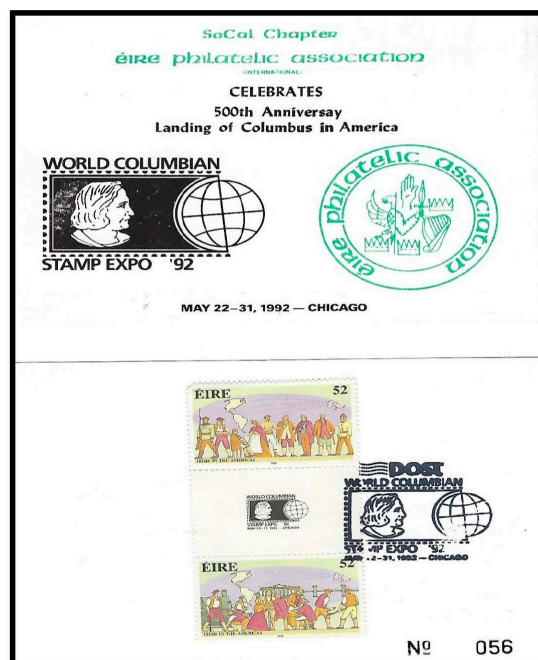
To the right is an all-purpose *Join the ÉPA* souvenir including the Association logo and reminds everyone that this is an Internationally focused group of collectors focusing on Irish stamps and philately. The label was generated around the time of the 30th US National Stamp Show held in NYC in 1986. The cancellation is from An Post announcing their Philatelic Service (Center in Dublin).



The James Hoban Chapter produced the Synge souvenir for the 1989 World Stamp Expo in Washington, DC. The Irish stamps commemorate the 100 Anniversary of the playwright's birth and quotes from his notorious *Playboy of the Western World* met with riots against the play in Dublin. The card captures a lot of literary information by mentioning the Irish Literary Revival, its hero Yeats, and Synge's artist brother, and pointing out the Gaeltacht, the Irish speaking areas.



SoCal souvenir on the 500th Anniversary of Columbus landing in the New World: gutter pair with Expo Overprint and An Post cancelled it with a special mark. As on the back of the Synge card, notice souvenirs are printed in limited quantities making some scarce. In the early days Bill Zellers designed this active Chapter's souvenirs, now Bill O'Connor creates them.

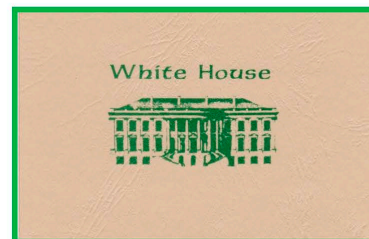
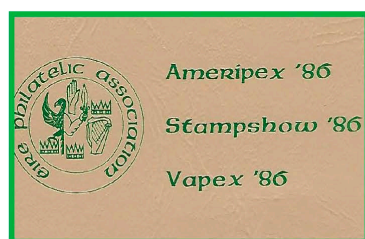


Another informative West Coast card produced by An Post using an image of their own souvenir sheet issued for the show featuring the 2 pound stamp from the Birds Definitive Series. The ÉPA added advertising BALPEX 2001 hosted by the James Hoban Chapter 4 years from 1997! In case you wondered how you can obtain these, this souvenir was handed out compliments of An Post. Notice the Oakland Bay Bridge appears within the Pacific 97 logo.

To the left is a lovely West Coast souvenir for the annual Bay Area Stamp Show in San Francisco. A Gerl is postmarked April 8, 1975 in BAC, then was sent to the US where a Bicentennial era stamp was postmarked and a rubber stamp printed the logo along with the announcement of the ÉPA's Silver Jubilee. So we see another 5 year period anniversary piece.



Booklet below has a different logo. Above also incorporates the 4 Provinces' symbols.



This booklet cover got quadruple use announcing 3 stamp shows! The insides of 2 different booklets, with the selvage used to adhere the 1985 Love stamps. The James Hoban Chapter produced this and added Hoban's White House design on the back. Each of the 300 booklets are individually numbered.



2 50th Anniversary STAMPA 2000 covers. One sent to long time Treasurer Barney Clancy.



An Post promulgated this post card for our 50th! They used the 1950 Holy Year St. Peter's statue stamp. Does anyone own a postally used example?

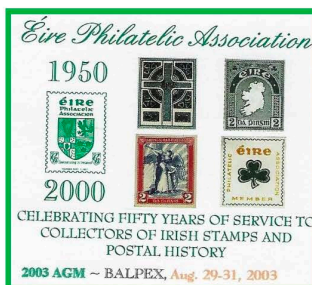
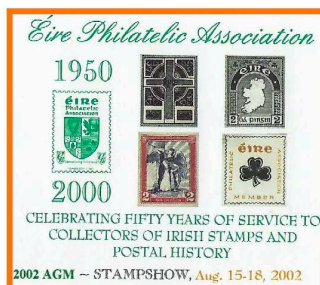
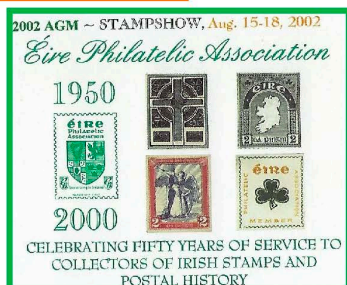


2 nice uses of the Immigration joint issue.

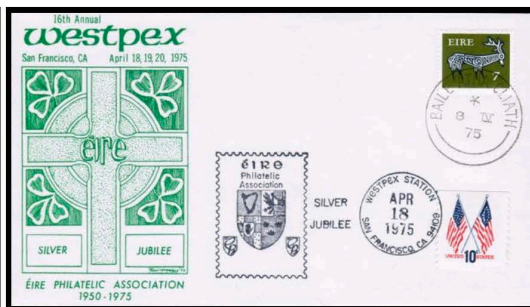
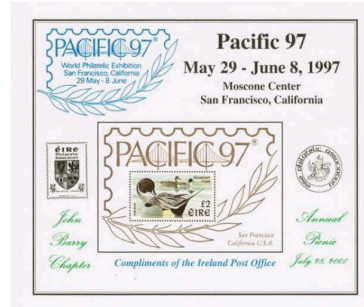
4 cards



produced for AMERIPEX EX in 1986 using the Aer Lingus and Irish Waterways stamps on 2 of them.



Our 50th Anniversary souvenir becomes a new souvenir for subsequent Annual General Meetings at STAMPSHOW 2002 & BALPEX 2003, & for STAMPA 2000. Notice the first 2 are cut differently.

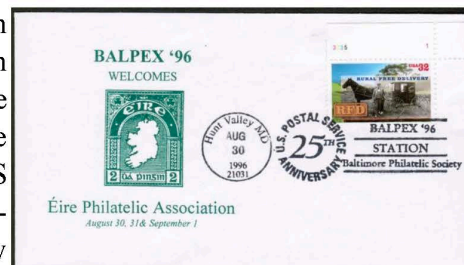


White version with picnic ad!

A version with the Frama Label. Green cachet with Gerl and US Flag stamps.



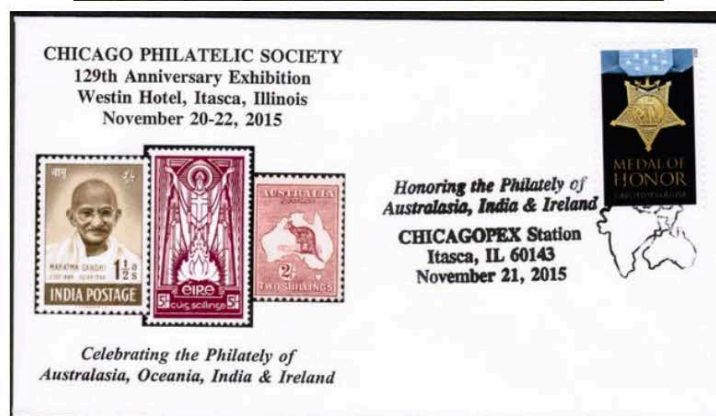
Another PACIFIC 97 card with the US triangle stamp and Irish Viking coin stamp. The BALPEX 96 cover displays the famous 2d Map and a US stamp cancelled at Hunt Valley, Maryland where the lively show is held.



CONTEST: We will pay the dues for 2020 for the first member who emails President Rich Kelly explaining why this Milcopex AGM cover from 2001 is special. Board Members and Officers can respond, but are not eligible to win. Rich's email: kellyrd@sbcglobal.net



WESTPEX 75 coincided with our 25th Anniversary. The gorgeously engraved Holy Year Set is featured for our Silver Jubilee. The card was later stamped by the United Nations, the Royal Swedish Post Office, and franked with a Bicentennial Era US stamp commemorating the 'Shots Heard Round the World!' Good historical information on our own Founding Fathers appears along the bottom of the card.



CHIGAOPEX can hardly be matched as a first class show! In 2015 we vied for Exhibit prizes with the Australasia, Oceania, & India Philatelic Societies. As an exhibitor at several shows I can attest that at the banquet table full of EPA members we hold our own by winning many awards. We are also considered one of the more lively tables with laughter and good cheer. We encourage you to attend an Annual General Meeting, and to exhibit, and celebrate at our banquet table!



SoCal commemorating the first Irish stamp, the most common stamp image on our souvenirs.



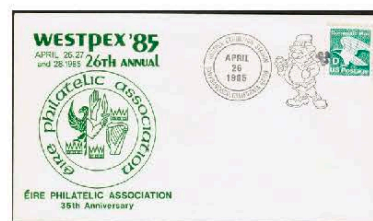
The 1/2p Gerl definitive was affixed & the EPA logo in an unusual color reminiscent of the color of the 3d Mary Aikenhead stamp.



RIPEX, Rhode Island's show appears to be celebrating its 20th Anniversary based on the "XX" in the cancellation. The John McCormick stamp was a joint issue.



WESTPEX always produces a great show and the '85 one was a busy one for us. Naturally a leprechaun had to appear somewhere!



The format of our famous souvenir occurs in sheets of 6 attached sheetlets. We use the white space between the souvenirs to add information about the EPA or a particular show. Look back at the 2 STAMPSHOW 2002 souvenirs to see how the individual souvenirs were cut.

Plans are underway for souvenirs commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the first Irish stamp in 2022. I'm sure the EPA leadership would welcome thoughts and suggestions for such souvenirs. More information will appear in future Revealers.

If you have souvenirs not included here, please share them by sending scans to eparevealer@gmail.com and to liammalonedc@gmail.com. We plan a second article to include material not specifically classified as a souvenir, but related to the EPA such as special covers sent to the leadership and other members. If you have such covers, like the one mailed in 2000 to Barney Clancy, ex Treasurer, please send scans of these as well. Official correspondence from An Post may be of interest too.



The Irish Jewish Museum

By Steven Friedenthal

I found this souvenir cover in one of several boxes of covers in my basement. When and from where I obtained it, I do not remember. This cover, however, has a lot of information and more on the insert within the cover. Further researches yield a great deal of information.

The cover itself has a 22p Architecture definitive stamp; the special cancel from Dublin dated 10 June 1985 has an Irish harp, superimposed on a star of David and the words Irish Jewish Museum on the bottom. The cachet announces the opening of the museum by his excellency Dr. Chaim Herzog, President of Israel.

According to Wikipedia¹:

The **Irish Jewish Museum** (Irish: *Músaem Giúdach na hÉireann*) is a small museum located in the once highly Jewish populated area of Portobello, around the South Circular Road, Dublin 8, dedicated to the history of the Irish Jewish community.

The museum was opened in June 1985 by Chaim Herzog who was then president of Israel and was born in Ireland. The museum is in a former Synagogue built in 1917 in two adjoining terraced houses on Walworth Road, off the South Circular Road. The surrounding area, known as Portobello, was previously a Jewish area, however, the large scale emigration that affected Ireland in the 1950s had a particularly strong effect on the Jewish population; there was also a migration to the suburbs and

Dublin's main synagogue is now in Terenure. The synagogue is preserved, there are also artifacts on display and the museum houses genealogical records.



THE IRISH JEWISH MUSEUM

Jews have lived in Ireland in an organised community since the latter half of the 17th century. By tradition, their first synagogue was in Crane Lane, off Dame Street in Dublin; but with certainty the old cemetery in Ballybough came into use in the first quarter of the 18th century.

The forebears of the majority of the present Jewish community, arrived in this country approximately 80-100 years ago and settled in the warren of streets off Dublin's South Circular Road. Some of these little streets had a Jewish occupancy rate of 80-90%.

The Irish Jewish Museum is housed in this area, in the former Synagogue in Walworth Road. The Irish Jewish Historical Society, founded some 8 years ago has assembled a collection of Irish Jewish memorabilia which is now exhibited in the museum.

This special philatelic cancellation by An Post is to commemorate the opening of the museum on 20th June 1985 by His Excellency Chaim Herzog, President of Israel, who was born and went to school in Ireland.

insert

The insert states² that “Jews have lived in Ireland in an organised community since the latter half of the 17th century.” However, others state that the Jewish Community in Ireland is much older, while a date of circa 1000 is given by some, historical records indicate:

The first trace of a Jewish presence is found in the *Annals of Innisfallen*, which relates the arrival of five Jews, probably from Rouen, in Limerick harbor. But it was not until 1290, and the expulsion of the Jews from England, that a real community took shape³.

The Irish Jewish Community was never very large, estimates that there were around 8,000 persons in the 1940's. Currently there are fewer than 2,000 people. The centres of settlement were around Dublin, Limerick and Cork.

Chaim Herzog was born in Belfast, Ireland, the son of Rabbi Yitzhak HaLevi Herzog, who was Chief Rabbi of Ireland from 1919 to 1937⁴. Chaim Herzog immigrated to Palestine in 1935. Served in the British military in World War II and the Haganah during the 1948 Arab-Israeli War. He emerged from the Army with the rank of Major General. Went on to become a politician, serving in Israel's Knesset. In 1983 he was elected President of Israel, a largely ceremonial role. He died on April 17, 1997.

References:

1. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Irish_Jewish_Museum
2. Cover insert “The Irish Jewish Museum”
3. <https://iguideeurope.org/en/region/ireland/>
4. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chiam_Herzog



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Ireland and Her Wars

By Robert Benninghoff

I have found several Interesting covers and postcards in regard to Ireland's involvement in wars during the past few months which are discussed and illustrated below

The 1848 Young Ireland Rising and the start on the Unionist Party

Figures 1 and 2 show a folded letter, mailed from Mobile Alabama to Londonderry, postmarked April, 24 1848. The cover was sent to Boston where it was put on the Cunard Steamer, Acadia, which sailed on May 3 and arrived in Liverpool on May 16. The letter arrived in Derry on May 18th. The 10 cent George Washington Stamp paid the over 300-mile rate from Mobile to Boston and 1 Shilling paid the ship rate to England payable by the receiver. The 10-cent stamp was the second stamp issued by the USA in 1847 (known as the 1847 issue.)



Figures 1 and 2

Two things are interesting about this mailing. This is only the 3rd recorded cover mailed to Ireland using the US 1847 issued stamps and until recently was unrecorded by the US Classics Society (1). Another cover to Belfast with 3 x 5 cent stamps and 1 x 10 cent stamps sold recently at auction for

\$60,000. The second area of interest is that the letter was written by the brother of Edward Reid (the recipient) and asks about various revolutionary activities in Ireland. The letter also discusses the Irish Famine.

The summer of 1848 saw the outbreak of the Young Ireland Rising. One of the participants was John Mitchell, the son of a Prominent Ulster Presbyterian Minister. In 1840 John Mitchell began writing anti British articles for the pro-nationalist newspaper, *The Nation* and in 1848 he founded his own newspaper *The United Irishmen*. Mitchell was found guilty of Sedition and Treason for “*Inciting Rebellion against Her Majesty’s Government*” and sentenced to 14 years Transportation to Tasmania (2). The Rebellion of 1848 saw the beginning of strong opposition to Home Rule by the Protestants in Ulster and the beginning of Unionist Party in Ireland.

Did Edward Reid and his brother know the Mitchell family? Were they for or against an independent Ireland? And what was the nature of the business of Reid Irvine Co., (the address of the cover)? More research is needed and hopefully material for a follow up article.

Ireland: One Island-Two Countries- Dual Loyalties and Cultures

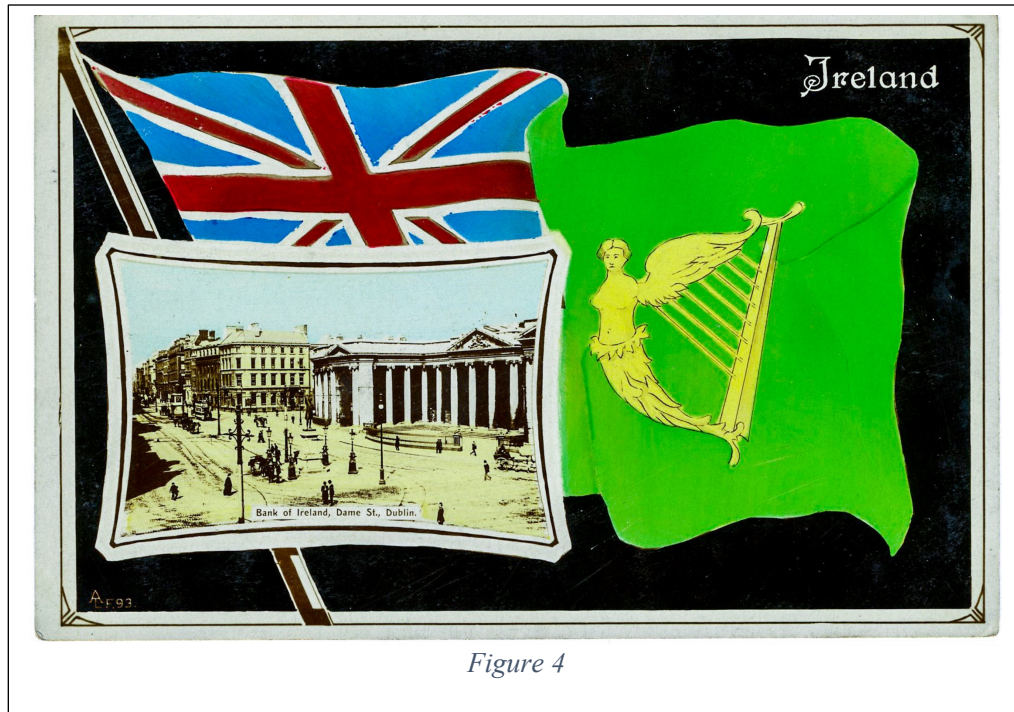
The next two items are a folded letter and postcard that I purchased from a Danish dealer at Stockholmia in June 2019.

Figure 3 is from Derry / Londonderry, a city with a long history of dual personalities and names. The cover was postmarked **Derry**, Nov 26 1869 to Genova Italy with a *Registered at Londonderry* handstamp and an arrival backstamp of 30 Nov 69; 4d paid the postage to Italy, 4d paid the foreign registration fee and 8d paid triple compensation Insurance for a total of 1S 4d in postage. The letter mentions that a cheque was enclosed, hence the extra insurance on the mailing (3).



Figure 3

Figure 4 shows a postcard with a possible flag for *all Ireland*, by combining both British and Irish Emblems. The card also shows the Old Irish Parliament Building (across the street from Trinity College) which is currently owned by the Bank of Ireland. There was talk of moving Dail Eireann back into the building in 1922, but the Provisional Government of Ireland could not afford to purchase the building (4). The postcard was mailed from Dublin to England on August 21 1908.



The Great War, The Royal Munster Fusiliers, and Letters and POW Cards to Mallow.

I recently acquired several World War I cards and letters addressed to my wife, Jean's hometown of Mallow (County Cork).

The Easter Rebellion and the disruption of mail from the Western Front

Figures 5 and 6 show a letter card from a soldier on the Western Front to Mrs. Riddington Rache at Red Haust, Mallow. The soldier is serving in 39th Division British Expeditionary Force and the card is postmarked 11 May 1916 FPO D39. The division was formed in the English Midlands and after training and home service, it deployed to the [Western Front](#) in early 1916, and fought in the [Battle of the Somme](#). The soldier states that he

"wrote two letters- possibly they may have been consumed in Dublin Post Office conflagrations during Irish Rebellion"

Imagine the distress of soldiers fighting in the trenches to learn that their mail was destroyed by a Rebellion back home.

Figure 9 is a British Red Cross postcard from Private L Bourke, held at Giessen camp and dated Sept 10 1917, arriving in London Oct 10 1917. The third card is from Lt. Daniel Duggan held at Munster Camp (ironic) in Westfalen, Germany. The Card is dated 11 June 1917, acknowledging a parcel received on 21 April 1917. The card arrived in London on August 1 1917.

I purchased these cards from various dealers and auction houses this year and I find it very interesting that they

are all addressed to Mallow. I have not found any other material sent to Mallow in the past 6 years and I would be grateful for news from members with mail from the Great War sent to Mallow.

I plan to do some additional research on these soldiers during my next trip to Ireland and possibly a follow up article

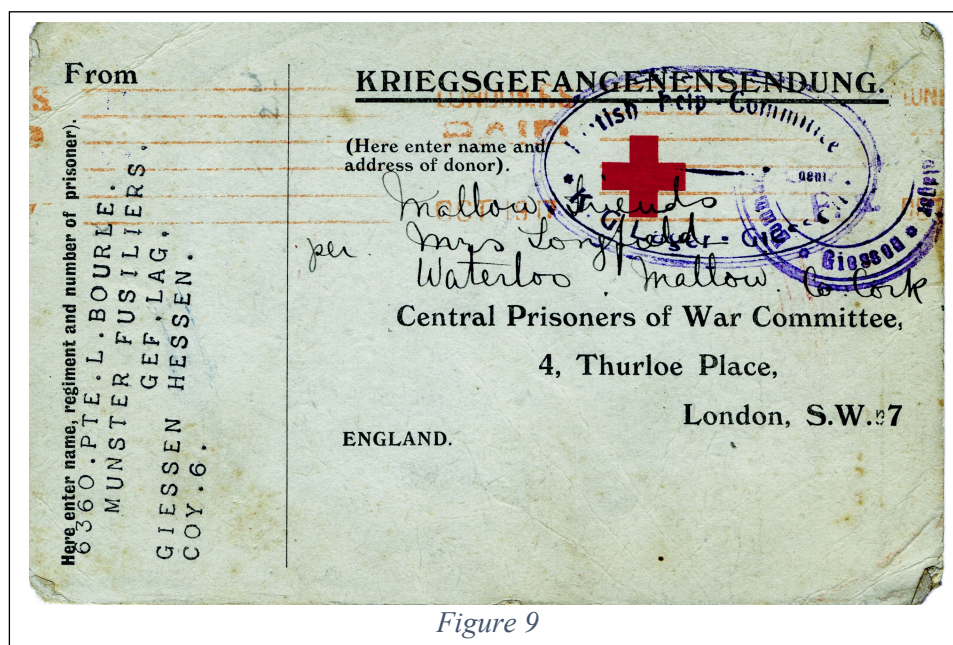


Figure 9

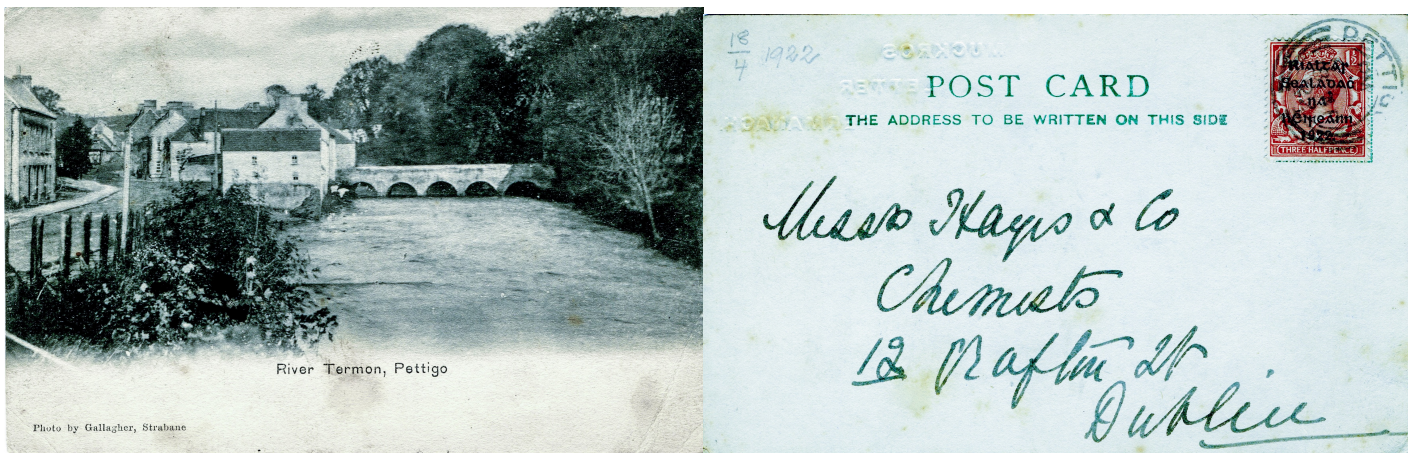
The Irish War for Independence Continues-- May 1922

During August 2019, I was doing research in the Irish National Archives and reading through the daily minutes of the Provisional Government of Ireland. I came across concerns by the Government about border clashes in "North East Ulster" with frequent mention of the towns of Pettigo and Belleek. The Border between Northern Ireland (County Fermanagh) and Southern Ireland (County Donegal) runs through both communities. It appears that the IRA and 2000 British Army Troops fought a series of battles during May and June 1922 across the border, ending only when the British Army brought in artillery (7). The British Army occupied Pettigo and the Irish side of Belleek for most of June 1922. The IRA was planning to use this remote area as a staging barracks to bring relief to the Irish Nationalists in Belfast and Derry that were being attacked by the Unionists. The British Prime Minister Lloyd George ordered the army to put down this "Rebel activity with extreme urgency" (8)

Figures 10 and 11 are postcards from Pettigo. The first shows a view of the town and is postmarked Aug 6 1905 to Dublin, with a note "This is a very pretty place". The second postcard was mailed from Pettigo on the 17 April 1922 to a Chemist in Dublin asking for medicines to be sent to a Mrs. W.A.

Stack. The creation of the border caused communication and shipping difficulties between Donegal and the rest of the Irish Free State.

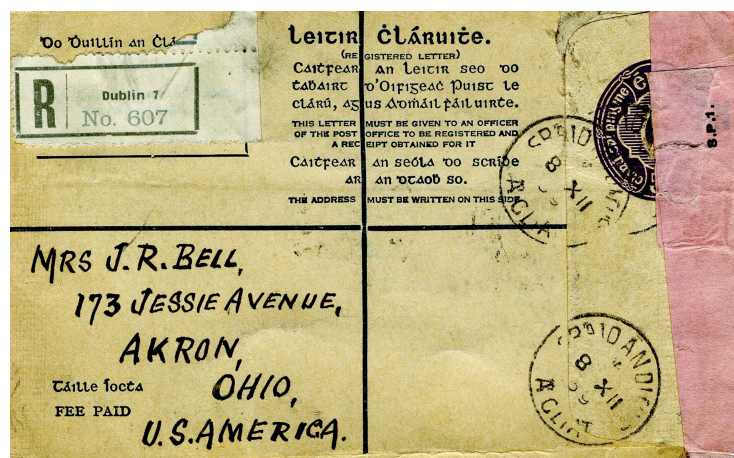
(I plan further research into the Battle for Pettigo and Belleek.)



Figures 10 and 11

Ireland at the Start of World War II

Figure 12 shows an Irish Censored, registered envelope from Dublin to Akron Ohio mailed on 8 December 1939, with an arrival back stamp of Jan 15, 1940. The cover contains a **Currency Export Certificate** allowing the mailing of \$15 to Mrs. J.R Bell (Figure 13). There was no letter or card explaining the purpose of the mailing. The 5d postage paid the 2d letter rate and the 3d registration fee which only provided a £2.00 in compensation for the contents. An additional £6.00 in registration fees was required to cover compensation for all of the \$15 (9). Considering that the mail was opened by the censor, I wonder if Mrs. Bell received her money.



Figures 12 and 13

The cover also illustrates two aspects of the (Irish) Emergency Powers Act (EPA). The Act was passed on 3 September 1939 in response to the start on World War II (10). The EPA granted the government

control over all foreign currencies and securities in Ireland, allowing the government to purchase or confiscate them and requiring a special permit to send anything abroad of negotiable value. The EPA also granted the Government the power to “*authorize and provide for the censorship, restriction, control or partial or complete suspension*” of the mail leaving Ireland. The censorship of mail leaving Ireland began in September 1939.

The Six Day 1967 Mid-East War and The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers

On 5 June, 1967, Israel launched a series of [preemptive](#) airstrikes against Egyptian airfields. Syria and Jordan also entered the war. The Israeli army invaded the Gaza Strip and Sinai Peninsula and pushed all the way to the Suez Canal.

A cease fire was signed between the Arab Countries and Israel on June 11, Consequently, the Canal became the new border between Egypt and Israel until 1978. Ships in the Canal were trapped until 1975.

The bulk mail cover in Figure 14 was mailed from Lahore, Pakistan on 8 May 1967 and addressed to the Commandant, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (misspelled by sender) in Omagh Northern Ireland. The contents are an advertising brochure from a Bag Pipe manufacturer in Pakistan (Figure 15). The mail was stranded in the Canal on the MV Nordwind for the 8 years.

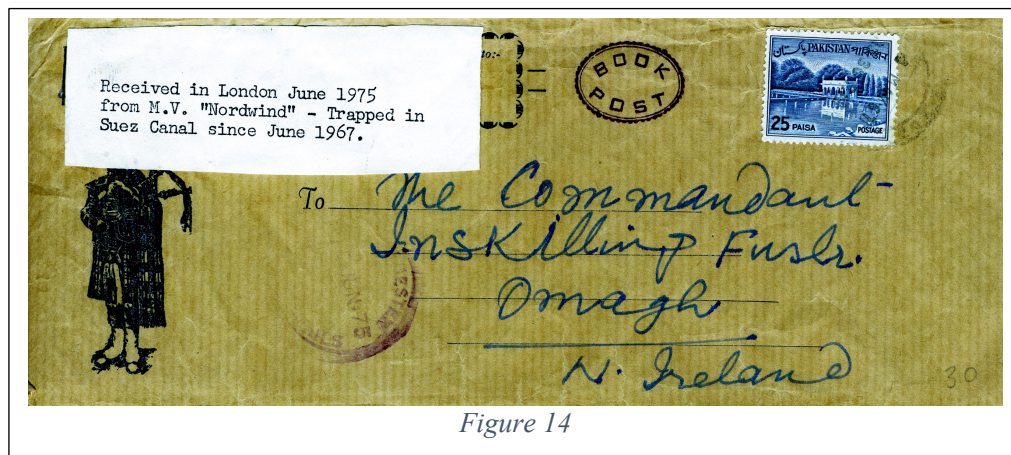


Figure 14

What is interesting about the item is that although, the Regiment's HQ was in St. Lucia Barracks, Omagh, it was stationed in England in 1967 and In 1968 it was amalgamated with three other Northern Ireland regiments to form the [Royal Irish Rangers](#) (11). The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers no longer existed by the time the mail reached the United Kingdom. The cover has a London receiving handstamp of 6 June 1975 and someone (London Post Office?) added the white note, which is glued to the cover.

Notes:

- (1) U.S. Classics Society [USPCS.org](https://www.uspcs.org)
<https://www.uspcs.org/resource-center/censuses/1847-cover-census/>
 Click on Ireland and the two recorded covers and their pedigree will be shown.
- (2) Kenna, Kevin: *All the Risings. Ireland 1014 – 1916*. Curragh Press, Blackrock, Dublin 2016, pages 119 to 133.

One of the Leaders from Wexford, Thomas Meagher was also deported to Australia. He escaped to New York where he became a General in the US Civil war as well as an important New York Political figure. Meagher was honored on an Irish stamp in June 2017.

- (3) Schaaf, Joachim and Warren, Brian: *Irish Postal Rates 1839 to 2014*. Published by the FAI, Germany 2014. Page 28.
- (4) Summary Notes from the Provisional Government of Ireland daily meetings. Feb 4 1922. Available in the National Archives, Dublin Ireland.
The Irish National Archives are open to anyone who can provide proof of their home address and has Photo ID. A three-year reader's card is issued to everyone that qualifies. The Provisional Government of Ireland met daily during 1922 and the minutes of each meeting were recorded, these notes provide a great insight into the formation of the Government of Ireland
- (5) Waterloo house, Ballyclough, Mallow was built in 1815 and was owned by the Longfield family until 1946. Courtesy of Landed Estate Data Base, National University Galway, Ireland.
- (6) McCane, S. Captain: *History of the Royal Munster Fusiliers 1861 to 1922*. The Naval & Military Press Ltd. Uckfield, East Sussex, England 2014
Page 117 mentions Company Serjeant Major McEvoy's brave run for reinforcements "Down a bullet swept Road shouting Come on Boys, the Irish never lost a Friday's battle yet". He was captured by the Germans later that evening.
- (7) An Sionnanch Fionn: *The Battle of Pettigo and Belleek, May to June 1922*. June 2015. Internet search
- (8) Ibid
- (9) Schaaf, Joachim and Warren, Brian: *Irish Postal Rates 1839 to 2014*. Published by the FAI, Germany 2014. Page 28.
- (10) Crowe, Catriona et al, Editors: *Documents on Irish Foreign Policy Volume VI 1939 -1941*, Royal Irish Academy, Dublin Ireland 2008, pages 1 to 5
The Royal Irish Academy has published a detailed series of Irish Foreign Policy communications in several volumes beginning with 1919 -1922. Volume I includes secret negotiations of the First Dail Eireann with the British Government concerning Irish Independence as well as the Dail's attempt to be recognized at the League of Nations negotiations in Paris.
- (11) Internet Search: History of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers 1881 to 1968, Wikipedia, December 2019.



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