

IRISH STAMPS

05/08

# Collectors NEWS

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- Centenary of the Opening of Scoil Éanna by Pádraic Mac Piarais
- Irish Music Part 2
- Popular Dances  
Joint Issue Ireland/Spain

 **POST**



Dear Collector,

Here's another edition of Collectors News for you to enjoy.

This time around we commemorate the centenary of the opening by Pádraic Mac Piarais of Scoil Éanna, a school dedicated to promoting the Irish language – with an emphasis on the arts and drama.

In this issue we also concentrate on arts and culture. On page 6, we focus on Irish music with the issue of four stamps on 10 October. Each stamp depicts a legendary group of traditional musicians celebrating Ireland's tremendous musical heritage.

Dance comes under the spotlight on page 10, with the issue of a joint minisheet from An Post and Correos de España, the Spanish Postal Authority. We give a brief history of Irish dancing and flamenco, showing how important dance is in the cultures of both Ireland and Spain.

Lots here to catch your interest, so set aside a little 'you' time and relax with this, the latest edition of Collectors News.

Aidan Murphy,  
Marketing Manager, Irish Stamps

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

# NEWS & INFORMATION

## STAMP SUGGESTIONS 2011

As 2008 draws to a close, we're already planning our stamp issues for 2011. As in the past, we are welcoming any stamp suggestions that our collectors may have to put forward for consideration. If you have an idea that you'd like to see on our stamp programme, simply send your suggestion to us at: The Secretary, The Philatelic Advisory Committee, Stamp Suggestions 2011, An Post, GPO, Ground Floor, Dublin 1, Ireland. Or email us at [pac@anpost.ie](mailto:pac@anpost.ie). The closing date for receipt of suggestions is Friday 30 January, 2009.

## GRAND PRIX DE L'ART PHILATELIQUE

Irish Stamps won the Grand Prix de l'Art Philatelique award for best youth-related stamp for the 'Celtic Cats' issue, beating entries from 44 countries. Aidan Murphy, Philatelic Services Manager, Martyn Turner, stamp illustrator and Professor Iseult McCarthy, Chairperson, Stamp Design Advisory Committee, are pictured here with the award, at the presentation ceremony held recently in Brussels.



## CHRISTMAS 2008

Collectors please note that our stamps to celebrate Christmas 2008 will be included in the next edition of Collectors News.

## PROMOTIONAL INSERT FROM CORREOS DE ESPAÑA

Enclosed in this issue of Collectors News is a promotional insert from The Spanish Post Office, Correos de España. This is being issued in conjunction with the joint issue Popular Dances. For collectors who may also be interested in Spanish Philatelic Issues, please complete the form and return to Correos de España or log on to their website: [www.correos.es](http://www.correos.es)

## VISIT STAMPA!

Make sure you don't miss Stampa 2008 at the RDS Ballsbridge, Dublin 4 from Friday 10 to Sunday 12 October. Open daily from 11am to 6pm.

## PORTADOWN STAMPEX 2008

Collectors - last reminder that the Portadown and District Philatelic Society will hold their annual Stamp Exhibition and Collectors Fair in Portadown Town Hall on Saturday 27 September 2008, from 10am to 4pm.

# CENTENARY OF THE OPENING OF SCOIL ÉANNA BY PÁDRAIC MAC PIARAIS



A strong desire to preserve the Irish language led Pádraic Mac Piarais to found Scoil Éanna, also known as St. Enda's School, in 1908. A long-time critic of the Irish educational system, Pádraic Mac Piarais observed bilingual education in Belgium while visiting the country in 1905, and resolved to set up a school in Ireland which would be based on this format.

Lack of finances proved to be no deterrent to Pádraic Mac Piarais in his drive to set up a bilingual secondary school for boys. Many prominent nationalists promised to provide what financial support they could, and to enrol their sons in the new school. Scoil Éanna officially opened on 8 September, 1908 in Cullenswood House in Ranelagh, Dublin.

Everything at Scoil Éanna was approached from an Irish perspective. Many classes were taught in Irish, with special emphasis on arts and drama. The approach proved successful, and in 1910 the school moved to larger premises at The Hermitage in Rathfarnham.

## Technical details



Date of Issue:	25 September, 2008
Values & Quantities:	2 x 55c (.36m)
Illustration :	Thomas Ryan, RHA
Typography & Layout:	Paul Raftery
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.

*After Scoil Éanna  
moved to The  
Hermitage, Pádraic Mac  
Piarais set up St. Ita's,  
a similar school for  
girls, at Cullenswood  
House in 1910.*

# CENTENARY OF THE OPENING OF SCOIL ÉANNA BY PÁDRAIC MAC PIARAIS



Product Code 0821FDC Price €2.10

After Pádraic Mac Piarais was executed in the aftermath of the 1916 Rising, his mother reopened Scoil Éanna in its original location at Cullenswood House. The school then returned once more to The Hermitage, in 1919, before finally closing its doors in 1935.

Today, The Hermitage houses The Pearse Museum. It is currently closed for renovations however, the Museum is due to reopen in November 2008.

To mark the centenary of the opening of Scoil Éanna by Pádraic Mac Piarais, two stamps will issue on 25 September, 2008. Illustrated by Thomas Ryan, RHA, they depict portraits of Pádraic Mac Piarais, alongside images of the schools in Cullenswood House and The Hermitage.



# IRISH MUSIC PART 2



Following the 2006 issue of four stamps marking the contributions made to Irish music by The Dubliners, The Chieftains, Altan, The Clancy Brothers and Tommy Makem, this year sees another four illustrious groups of Irish musicians similarly honoured: Planxty, De Dannan, The Bothy Band and The Tulla Céilí Band.

## PLANXTY

Planxty started out in the early 70s in the wake of Christy Moore's successful album Prosperous, when Donal Lunny, Liam Óg Ó'Flóinn, Andy Irvine and Christy himself discovered how much they enjoyed playing together.

Success came immediately, at home, in the UK and in Continental Europe. After a temporary parting in 1974, the original line-up regrouped in 1979, joined occasionally by guests of the calibre of Bill Whelan and James Kelly.

Each of the original members of Planxty has enjoyed great success outside of the group, both as solo artists and in other groups. Another successful singer and musician, Paul Brady, joined the band briefly in 1974.

## Technical details



Date of Issue	10 October, 2008
Values & Quantities	2 x 55c (.36m) 2 x 82c (.288m) €2.74 Minisheet (25k)
Illustration	Finbarr O'Connor
Typography & Layout	Steve Simpson
Stamp Size	44.45mm x 27.94mm
Colour	Multicolour with phosphor tagging
Make-up	Sheetlets of 12
Perforations	13.75 x 13.75
Printing Process	Lithography
Printer	Irish Security Stamp Printing Ltd.



# IRISH MUSIC PART 2

## DE DANANN

Formed in 1974 by Charlie Piggot, Frankie Gavin, Johnny McDonagh and Alec Finn, De Danann took their name from the Tuatha De Dannan, a mythical Irish tribe.

Membership of the band has been fluid over the years, with singers such as Dolores Keane, Maura O'Connell and Mary Black coming and going, but the distinctive playing styles of Frankie Gavin (fiddle) and Alec Finn (bouzouki) have given De Danann a unique and uniquely recognisable sound.

A willingness to experiment has also been a De Danann trademark, as demonstrated by their very individual recordings of music by The Beatles, Queen and Handel.

## THE BOTHY BAND

The Bothy Band, or the Bothies, also first got together in 1974, with their first performance coming in Trinity College on 2 February, 1975.

This was another band with a flexible line-up, revolving around a core of Matt Molloy, Paddy Keenan, Donal Lunny, Tríona Ní Dhomhnaill and Mícheál Ó Domhnaill.

They were noted for their highly-energetic live performances, where the fiddle, pipes and flute wove notes together joyously over propulsive, driving rhythms. Some of these performances were captured by the BBC in the 70s, then released on album in 1996.



Product Code 0823FDCMS Price €3.74



# IRISH MUSIC PART 2

## THE TULLA CÉILÍ BAND

The Tulla Céilí Band was formed in 1946 when Teresa Tubridy, Bert McNulty and P. Joe Hayes put together a group from east Clare for that year's Limerick Fleadh. Like the other ensembles featured, this band has undergone many changes of personnel. Members have included big names like Bobby Casey and Willie Clancy.

Unlike the other bands, the Tulla Céilí Band is still going today, with an annual slot at the Willie Clancy Summer School. Their individual style, featuring traditional céilí rhythms played with a lively swing, won them victories in the

All-Ireland Fleadh Cheoil in 1957 and 1960, and continues to win them fans to this day.

Each of the stamps shows an image of one of the groups in performance, painted by Irish artist Finbarr O'Connor, with typography by Steve Simpson.

When they are issued in October, these beautiful stamps are sure to be highly sought-after by collectors. Make sure you get yours. Order now, using the form attached, or by calling us on +353 (1) 705 7400.

Product Code 0823MS  
Price €2.74



Product Code  
0823FDC Price €3.74



# FILMED IN IRELAND



Stamp Set available now, just €2.74 from [www.irishstamps.ie](http://www.irishstamps.ie) or visit the Philatelic Shop, GPO, Dublin 1, tel. (01) 705 7400.

 **POST**

# POPULAR DANCES (JOINT ISSUE IRELAND/SPAIN)



An Post and the Spanish Post Office are celebrating popular dances from Ireland and Spain, with the issue of a joint minisheet. This is the first such collaboration between the two countries.

The precise origins of Irish dancing are unknown, but it is generally accepted that this form of expression developed from a number of sources. The most ancient source would appear to be the Druids, who used ritual dances to honour the sun and the oak tree. The Celts then came to Ireland, over 2,000 years ago, bringing with them their own styles of folk dancing. Later again, in the 12th century, Anglo-Norman influences were added.

The tradition developed throughout the 18th century, under the influence of dancing masters, travelling dance teachers who wore bright flamboyant clothing. Each dancing master had his own district, never intruding on another's home ground. When one master met another at a fair, they would challenge each other to a public competition, dancing until one master was too exhausted to continue.

After years of suppression, Irish dance was revived at the end of the 19th century, as part of the Celtic Renaissance spearheaded by the Gaelic League. The Irish Dancing Commission was then set up in 1929, establishing the rules for dance competitions and standardising methods of teaching.

Riverdance and similar spectacular shows have pushed Irish dancing to the forefront of worldwide attention in recent years. At home, feiseanna or competitions are held regularly, with winners from local competitions competing in the annual All-Ireland Championships.

## Technical details



<i>Date of Issue</i>	7 November, 2008
<i>Values &amp; Quantities</i>	1 x 55c (.294m) €1.37 Miniature sheet (50k)
<i>Design:</i>	Conor Walton (Illustration-Irish Dancer) Design Tactics (miniature sheet) Typography and layout Design Tactics (Irish stamp and Irish side miniature sheet) Jesus Sanchez (Spanish stamp and Spanish side miniature sheet)
<i>Stamp Size</i>	27.94mm x 44.45mm
<i>Colour</i>	Multicolour with phosphor tagging
<i>Make-up</i>	Sheetlets of 12
<i>Perforations</i>	13.75 x 13.75
<i>Printing Process</i>	Lithography
<i>Printer</i>	Irish Security Stamp Printing Ltd.

# POPULAR DANCES (JOINT ISSUE IRELAND/SPAIN)

The World Irish Dancing Championships are also held annually and attract entrants from all over the world.

As with Irish dancing, the origins of Spanish flamenco dancing are lost to history, but it is thought to have begun around 1492, when a number of different cultures blended into a new form of music – and dance. The new form came to be particularly identified with Spanish Gypsies, and their nomadic lifestyle helped flamenco to spread, survive and flourish.

Through the 18th and 19th centuries, flamenco changed, gaining a measure of legitimacy through being performed in theatres and cafés by non-Gypsies. Eventually, professional artistes came along as the 19th century drew to a close.

By the 1950s, commercialisation came close to debasing the entire genre, as Spain became a popular tourist destination. A revival of interest in flamenco as an art form then developed, helped by the flamenco festivals of the 1960s and 1980s.

In another parallel with Irish dancing, flamenco is today fiercely popular the world over. This popularity can be clearly seen at the annual festival in Jerez de la Frontera in southern Spain, where thousands of visitors gather from all over the world each year to celebrate the beauty and energy of flamenco.

The Irish stamp features an illustration of an Irish dancer by Conor Walton with

typography and layout by Design Tactics. The Spanish design is based on a photograph of a flamenco dancer by Jesus Sanchez.

Both stamps will appear on a miniature sheet issued jointly by An Post and Correos de España.

Such a beautiful and colourful issue is sure to catch the eyes of collectors from all over the world. Avoid disappointment – order yours by using the form attached, or call +353 (1) 705 7400,



*Product Code 0824MSS Price €1.38*



*Product Code 0824MS Price €1.37*

# AN POST VAN SET



*Product Code: 03VANSET  
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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 €4.50 within Ireland and €5.40 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](http://www.irishstamps.ie).*

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# ORDER FORM

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25/09/2008	Centenary of the Opening of Scoil Éanna - Cullenswood House - 55c Stamp	0821551	EA		€0.55	
25/09/2008	Centenary of the Opening of Scoil Éanna - The Hermitage - 55c Stamp	0821552	EA		€0.55	
25/09/2008	Centenary of the Opening of Scoil Éanna - Cullenswood House - 55c Sheetlet	0821551	SH		€8.80	
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25/09/2008	Centenary of the Opening of Scoil Éanna - FDC	0821FDC	EA		€2.10	
10/10/2008	Irish Music Part 2 - Stamp Set	0823SET	EA		€2.74	
10/10/2008	Irish Music Part 2 - 55c Stamp Sheetlet Planxty	0823551	SH		€6.60	
10/10/2008	Irish Music Part 2 - 55c Stamp Sheetlet De Dannan	0823552	SH		€6.60	
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10/10/2008	Irish Music Part 2 - FDC	0823FDC	EA		€3.74	
10/10/2008	Irish Music Part 2 - Minisheet	0823MS	EA		€2.74	
10/10/2008	Irish Music Part 2 - Minisheet FDC	0823FDCMS	EA		€3.74	
07/11/2008	Irish Dance - 55c Stamp	082455	EA		€0.55	
07/11/2008	Irish Dance - 55c Stamp Sheetlet	082455	SD		€6.60	
07/11/2008	Irish Dance - FDC	0824FDC	EA		€1.55	
07/11/2008	Popular Dances (Joint Issue Ireland/Spain) - Minisheet Irish Issue	0824MS	EA		€1.37	
07/11/2008	Popular Dances (Joint Issue Ireland/Spain) - Minisheet Spanish Issue	0824MSS	EA		€1.38	
07/11/2008	Popular Dances (Joint Issue Ireland/Spain) - Minisheet FDC Irish Issue Only	0824FDCMS	EA		€2.37	
	Filmed in Ireland Stamp Set	0816SET	EA		€2.74	
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