

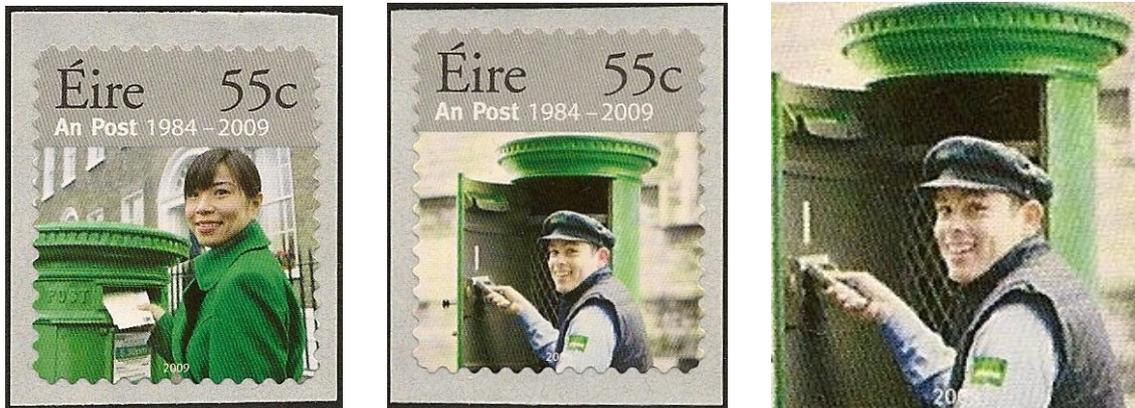
## An Post 25

Glenn H Morgan (Member 232)

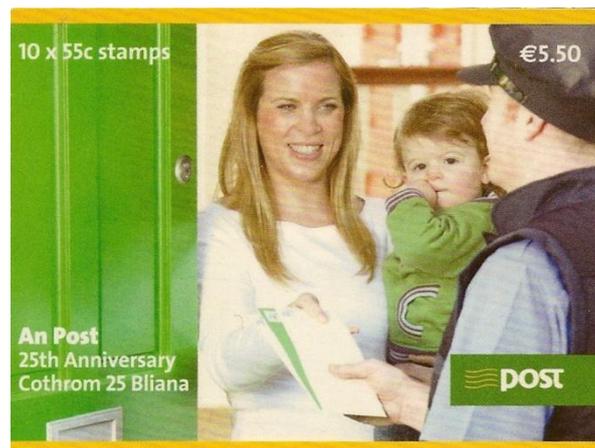
On 3 April, ten stamps appeared in self-adhesive booklets and coil boxes to mark the 25th Anniversary of An Post (the name for the Irish Post Office).

An Post was established on 1 January, 1984, by the Postal and Telecommunications Services Act, 1983. This Act abolished the Department of Post & Telegraphs (P&T) and created two separate semi-state companies responsible for providing Postal and Telecommunication services. Today, An Post is a major commercial organisation that provides a wide range of services that encompass postal, communications, retail, money transmission and banking.

The stamps illustrate the integral relationship between An Post and the people of Ireland with each image placed on a silver background to highlight 25 years in business. Two of the designs depict letter boxes in an Irish green livery. Of particular interest is the stamp that shows a postie using a barcode scanner to record that he has cleared the box at the allotted time. This has never been depicted on a stamp before.



The two letter box designs, plus a close-up of the scanning



The booklet cover design with a household letter box slit depicted

It is possible to purchase these items from [www.irishstamps.ie](http://www.irishstamps.ie) in a complete booklet at €5.50 or as 'Strip One' from the coil box containing the first five stamps in the set (including the two letter boxes) at €2.75. 'Strip Two' comprises the remaining five designs, but does not

include a letter box stamp. Complete boxes of 100 stamps cost €55.00. It should be noted that the booklets and the coil stamps are of a different physical size.



A pair of Greetings stamps appeared earlier this year, with one of the two stamp designs depicting a father holding up his daughter to enable her to post a letter. These are also on sale at €5.50 for a booklet of ten, or €1.10 for a pair of designs from a separate printing that enables collectors to buy the pair without the need for purchasing a complete booklet at five times the price.