

FIRST DAY COVERAGE

The Newsletter of the Association of G.B. First Day Cover Collectors

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The Association of Great Britain

First Day Cover
Collectors

Membership 254

June 2012

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From the Editor's Desk



Welcome to the June Edition of First Day Coverage. Well, we now know all about Royal Mail tariff increases and changes and it makes for uncomfortable reading. Along with massive increase in 1st and 2nd class stamp prices (in some sets the highest value is now £1.90!) there are changes to

Special Delivery (up 45p for up to 500gms), Recorded Signed For and Packet prices too. For Large Letter 101-250gms, which was 90p prior to 30 April, is now £1.20, an increase of 30p. Amongst other rather large price hikes is the Packet rate. All packets weighing 0 – 750gms are now the same £2.70, and 751-1000gms is £4.30 (1st class). One other shock is for those of us who buy and sell on eBay and other on-line auction sites, Airmail prices have shot up and there are now three rates – Europe, World Zone 1 and World Zone 2. World Zone 2 is Australia, New Zealand, Singapore and related islands. If

Continued on page 2

Pub Meetings

LONDON

Pub Meetings held in

In The Ship and Shovel, Craven Passage,
London WC2 @ 3pm

Please contact Richard Park for meeting dates during 2012

*Queries to: Richard Park, 2 Chaffinch Close, Horsham,
West Sussex RH12 5HA*

West Midlands Region

Meetings held in The Bowling Green Pub, Shaw Lane,
Stoke Prior, Bromsgrove. Worcestershire B60 4BH.

For future dates please contact: Mr Joseph Bevan,

Tel: 07969 311 003 & 0121 477 9924
(weekdays 7-10pm).

*Queries to: Terry Barnett, Hon. Secretary, 7 Mackets
Lane, Hunts Cross, Liverpool L25 0QA*

Important Notice

DEADLINE FOR THE AUGUST 2012 EDITION Items for publication MUST be with the editor by **7th July 2012**

Thank you to everyone who has sent in material for publication. If you haven't seen your article in this newsletter, please be assured that we will use it in a future edition. We require more articles and features so that we have them in have for forthcoming newsletters

Association Officers	
PLEASE CONTACT THE RIGHT PERSON	
Subject	Address
Association Chairman & all matters concerning the GBFDC Auction	Richard Park Hon. Chairman GBFDC 2 Chaffinch Close Horsham, W. Sussex RH12 5HA E-mail: rjpark@btinternet.com
All membership matters & National Meetings Organiser. General GBFDC queries. Newsletter Distribution.	Terry Barnett Hon. Secretary GBFDC 7 Mackets Lane, Hunts Cross, Liverpool L25 0QA E-mail: terryhunts@tiscali.co.uk
Editorial, Letters to the Editor, Advertising & General Newsletter queries. Leaflets & inserts. Newsletter Editing.	Phil Sheridan. Hon. Editor GBFDC P.O. Box 99, Widnes, Cheshire WA8 0NN E-mail: Sheridanf@aol.com
Assistant Editor to Phil Sheridan	Dot R. Hon. Assistant Editor GBFDC P.O. Box 99, Widnes, Cheshire WA8 0NN
Hon. Association Treasurer	David Cohen Hon. Treasurer GBFDC 24 Peshurst Gardens Edgware Middlesex HA8 9TP E-mail: david@cohenfamily.co.uk
Hon. Association Publicity Officer	John R. Chidgey Clock Tower House 18 Roan House Way MACCLESFIELD SK11 7BY E-mail: john@clocktowerhouse.com

sending covers to such places then prices are very expensive. For up to 100gms to World Zones 1 and 2 it is the same price, £3.30, but once packets starts to weigh 101 and over prices change and is different for World Zones 1 and 2. If you would like to see the full picture on tariff increases then a PDF poster and wall chart showing UK, Europe, and World Zone prices and weights can be downloaded from:
<http://www.royalmail.com/prices2012>

Another worrying change is to compensation levels. It used to be 10 x whatever first class postage was used. Prior to 30 April it was £46 (if you used a 46p 1st class stamp). With this in mind one would automatically think the compensation level would now be £60 given that a 1st class stamp is 60p, however, Royal Mail has frozen compensation payments at £46. For items that Royal Mail term "is of no intrinsic value", or for delayed items, you will only receive a booklet of 6 x 1st class stamps. The same applies for items sent by Recorded Signed For too. So members should know about this change and be prepared if filing for compensation. A booklet titled "Our Services – A guide to our UK and International postal services and code of practice" can be obtained free from Royal Mail on request by telephoning 08457 740 740. If you post out covers regularly to collectors or customers then I urge you to get a copy.

Royal Mail has admitted that its price increases might impact adversely on the hobby and they do recognise this. However, they have said they will restrict stamp sets to 12 issues in 2013, bring back the 2nd class stamp in selected stamp issues and reduce the price of the stamps in the Dickens miniature sheet to four 1st class stamps instead of the three higher values. They have also postponed the Dinosaurs issue

scheduled for 16th October 2012 until next year. I have heard that Space Science will be brought forward to 16th October from the 30th.

Staying with Royal Mail but focusing on Tallents House, the staff there are under enormous pressure due to Royal Mail changes, the closure of Glasgow SHC and subsequent transfer of operations to Tallents House, and the Olympics stamp programme. Orders are delayed, as are covers submitted for handstamping, but they do ask for our understanding during this time of transition and they are doing their best to catch up with orders and covers. It is not the fault of the staff at Tallents House and they are as much affected by Royal Mail changes as we collectors are.

If you would like to air your views on recent Royal Mail price increases and changes then we would love to hear from you. Write in to the usual address and we will publish your letter.

GBFDC's new website is now up and running so please use it and register on-line now. Please see page 8 for further details. The fourth and final GBFDC official cover is shown on page 3. It is based on A Tale of Two Cities stamp in the Dickens miniature sheet. The story is set in London and Paris before and during the French Revolution.

While this edition's editorial is dominated by Royal Mail changes, I feel there are issues that we all need to be aware of. Hopefully we will be back to normal in August.

Well, that's it from us for this edition. Please continue to send in your items for publication – we desperately need them!

Phil Sheridan, Hon. Editor.

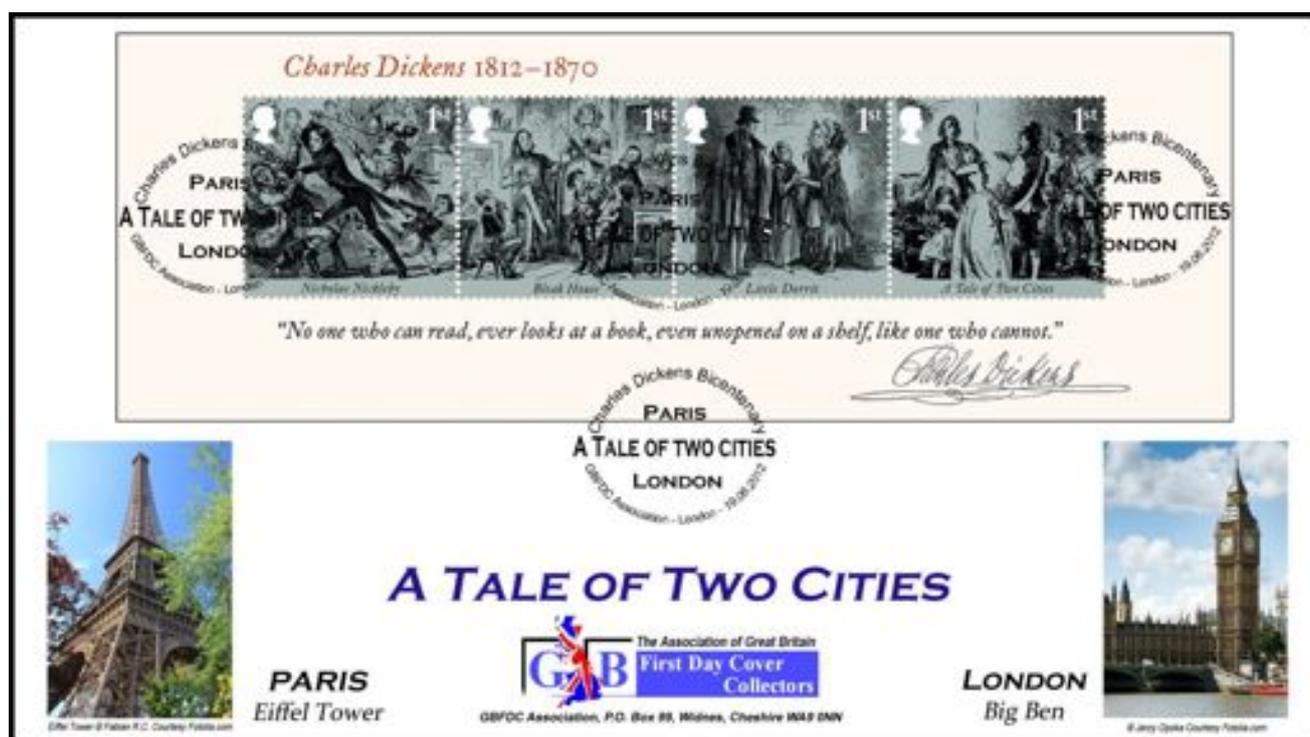
From the Editor's Desk
continued.....

The Association of Great Britain First Day Cover Collectors Official Covers 2012

GBFDC No.45 OFFICIAL COVER – Charles Dickens Bicentenary Miniature Sheet – 19 June 2012

This is the fourth and final GBFDC official cover for 2012 and it will be a Limited Edition of 70. If anyone would like a forthcoming cover but has missed placing an order then please contact Terry Barnett.

Dickens M/S A Tale of Two Cities GBFDC official cover shown below for member information



**David Millership (A Tom Green Associate) 29, Richmond Road, Pontnewydd,
Cwmbran, Torfaen NP44 1EQ**

Tel: 01633-793014 Mobile: 07866-816567

~ Quarterly Postal Auction of fine First Day and signed covers ~

Please send for free catalogue

Fairs:

York Racecourse Grandstand Fri. July 20th 11am– 6pm & Sat. July 21st
10am-4pm 2012

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

We have arranged for the 2012 AGM/Cover Fair to be held on Sunday 7th October 2012 at the Collingwood Centre, Great Barr, Birmingham B43 7NF (for Sat Navs). Tel: 0121 360 1484

A lunchtime buffet will be laid on with the AGM starting at around 1pm.

We hope that you will support the fair and look forward to seeing you all.

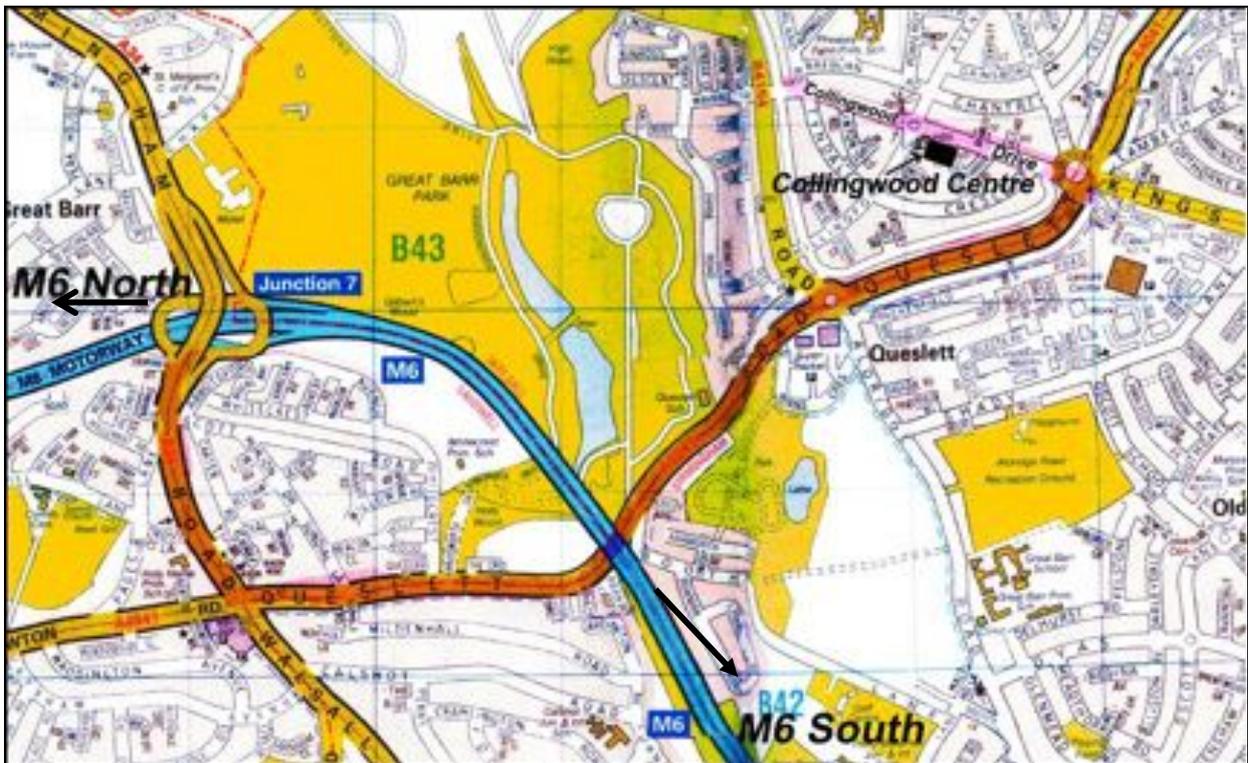
Peter Heath, Peter Middleton, Roy Jones, Sam Downes, Peter and Michael Maslak, David Millership, John Chidgey, Phil Sheridan, Brian Reeve and Terry Hurlstone.

The GBFDC club table will also be there for general enquiries and for selling the Association official unsold covers.

Location and Directions

To reach the Collingwood Centre leave the M6 at junction 7 going south along the A34 (Birmingham Road). At the A4041 turn left at the junction of the Scott Arms Shopping Centre onto Queslett Road. Continue over the first roundabout (ASDA is on your right) and at the second roundabout turn left into Collingwood Drive. The Centre is along Collingwood Drive on your left.

If you wish to stay overnight, the nearest recommended hotel is the Birmingham Great Barr Hotel, which is only a few minutes from the M6 and just a little further on from the Collingwood Centre. Map below.



ANNOUNCEMENT

At the cover fair last year it was brought to the attention of the Committee, by a stand holder, that certain dealer members were actively selling covers to members even though they did not have a table.

The dealers taking a table at the cover fair are paying for their tables and we do not think that non-paying dealers should potentially take sales away from those paying dealers.

There is no objection to members exchanging covers between themselves, or selling to the stand holders, and we do not wish to discourage this practice.

Whilst we know that we cannot stop this practice, we would please ask that if visiting dealers wish to deal directly with other members then this should be done off of the premises.

Thank you for your co-operation – your Committee.

CONFESSIONS OF A METER MARK DEALER

I suppose in a small way I miss the buzz of obtaining meter marks since I stopped servicing these at the end of 2011. On the other hand I don't miss the stresses and strains of continually trying to find new meter marks, or the constant telephone calls to companies and wondering what sort of response I would get when I eventually found the right person to talk to!

The number of times I have phoned a company and organised a meter mark only to find that when the time came to send the covers for franking that the person I first contacted had either left the company, was off sick or had gone on holiday. So then I had to start all over again and would be asked the following;- how many covers are we talking about?; why do you want our meter frank on them?; where are they going? After I had explained all of the above I was usually asked to put it all in writing or send an e-mail, which of course I duly did only to hear nothing back whatsoever as they presumably thought I was completely mad and of course they were not far wrong!

I remember phoning one particular company and speaking to someone in their post room. I explained all that I required and why and they replied in an upbeat manner that it was not a problem, I could send as many as I liked and they would sort it all out for me. However, the next time I phoned the company I discovered that the person I had spoken to was just a temp and in no way should he have given me permission to do anything, so that went down the drain. Following this episode I became very suspicious of anyone who said yes too quickly regarding franking without asking too many questions, that said I never liked being interrogated either!

There were always three phone calls involved to organise a meter mark:-

1. The initial call about a month before the issue date was to make contact and establish whether or not the company did in fact own a franking machine and were they prepared to frank covers for me.
2. The second call if the first one was successful would be about five days before the issue to say that the covers were on their way.
3. The third call, which I used to nickname the nuisance call, was made on the actual issue day to ask if the covers had arrived. (This was just a disguise really as I always used special delivery when sending covers, the main reason for phoning was to make sure the person I had contacted hadn't forgotten and wasn't off sick!)

If they hadn't forgotten and the covers were on their way back it was a great relief but if the person was absent or in a meeting till six o'clock at night and no-one else knew what I was talking about, it was panic stations as I knew deep down that this one was not going to work, which of course was a bitter disappointment.

The best scenario for me was when I lived in Woking as many of my meter mark contacts were in London so I was able to travel up very easily by train and go in person to the company concerned. This was great as in 9 out of 10 cases I was allowed to frank the covers myself so I could always do a few spares. If I was doing a C.D.S. with it as well I would stick the stamps on, jump on the underground and whiz off to the relevant post office. When this all worked it was a real buzz and gave me great satisfaction.

Continued.....

So there you have it really. It was sometimes very exciting and sometimes quite stressful but in the end, after nearly 16 years of organising meter mark covers and with more and more issues coming from Royal Mail, the stressful part won but it was fun while it lasted.

Bob Stevens

February 2012

- End -

WANTED

2005 Trafalgar issue with Trafalgar Square C.D.S.

Contact Bob Stevens on 01747 823280

GBFDC Association Requires Hon. Secretary.

Dear Members,

We are looking for a new secretary to join the GBFDC Committee.

Terry Barnett has served as GBFDC Secretary for 12 years now, and has decided it is time to stand down, and let someone else contribute to the running of the Club with some new and fresh ideas. Terry has kindly consented to stay on as secretary in the interim period until a new secretary takes up office.

If you feel up for the job please contact Richard Park in the first instance, to chat about what is involved in the role. Tel: 01403 241825 or email rjpark@btinternet.com

Brief requirements for the role as GBFDC secretary are as follows:-

- You need to have email as this is the committees preferred method of communication.
- You will be required to attend committee meetings & AGM which will require travelling & possibly an over night stop.
(Out of pocket expenses will be reimbursed)
- Minimum period of service required is 2 years.

Secretaries Duties:-

- Record minutes at Committee meetings and AGM and produce them for the newsletter and committee members.
 - Send out membership renewals and reminders, collect in the annual subscriptions.
 - Deal with enquiry letters, emails, phone calls, etc.
 - Be the main contact for organising the AGM and associated activities.
 - Keep good records of payments received and send cheques to the Treasurer
 - Keep membership database up to date with the Chairman
 - Communicate with all members of the committee and answer emails promptly.
-
-



to the Editor P.O. Box 99, Widnes, Cheshire
WA8 0NN

Dear Editor.....

I have been disappointed to read the opposition of some members to the production of a cover to encourage members to attend the AGM. I would have thought that all members would want to have the AGM attended by as many members as possible to both ensure a wide range of views were expressed and also to show support for the committee who put a lot of effort in on all our behalves.



£20 Star Letter

As someone who has a considerable distance to travel, it provides me with the incentive to attend. Without the prospect of acquiring a sort after cover I would be unlikely to be able to justify the £50+ petrol bill and would probably enjoy my usual Sunday morning lie in instead. In the years I have not been able to attend I have accepted I would not get the cover. While I understand the disappointment of those who cannot attend, I feel that if the cover is available by any other method than attending the AGM it will cease to perform its objective and there is no point producing it. If it was available at cost to all members I could stay at home and save a lot of money.

Miles Hobson



£20 Star Letter

If we give your letter the STAR treatment then you could win £20, so there is a great reason to write in with your news and views.

DayOneCovers

We sell **Benham** covers mostly below half catalogue.
We also carry an extensive stock of
Railway, Football, Coin and **SIGNED** covers.
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Write to us at **DayOneCovers**
Clock Tower House, 18 Roan House Way
Macclesfield, Cheshire SK11 7BY

Phone us on 01825 430888
or 07710 267827 mobile

email us at john@dayonecovers.com

See our eBay Shop:
<http://stores.ebay.co.uk/DayOneCovers>

DayOneCovers

Bletchley Park Turing Cover Update

The Turing issue is almost sold out so the web price has risen. We have a few signed by ex code breakers such as Baroness Trumpington available on special request. Station X issue is heading the same way and we have added two variants. One is a double cover set of all 14 stamps, the other a double dated cover bearing the Turing and the Station X stamp. Only 50 of each have been issued and they are on the website.

The Fashion issue has also gained wide media interest so we expect that to sell quickly as well.

After a long barren spell Bletchley Park Post Office has been exceptionally busy over the past couple of months with these issues. Visitors to the park have also increased significantly and we should exceed last year's 140,000 record.

Code breakers put their stamp on fashion.

For the "Great British Fashion" stamp issue on 15th May Bletchley Park Post Office has taken a 1940's theme. The first day cover that will carry the new stamps takes inspiration from the work of iconic fashion illustrator, René Gruau. A familiar figure to the fashion designers featured on the stamps and Bletchley Park's wartime code breakers reading the fashion magazines of the day. The double sided cover has the ten stamps set over the Union Flag with a fashionable code breaker providing the design theme for the first day of issue postmark. The well dressed code breaker on the rear reflects the combination of glamour and sensuality with humour that was such a feature of Gruau's work.



The cover will be issued as a numbered limited edition of 500 and is only available from Bletchley Park Post Office. BPPO, The Mansion, Bletchley Park, Milton Keynes MK3 6EB, Tel: 01908 363489

Terry Mitchell

The cover design is by Sam Tickner and Rebecca Peacock of Firecatcher Design.

NEW GBFDC ASSOCIATION WEBSITE

The new GBFDC website is now up and running at www.gbfdc.co.uk We would like to invite members to access it and we would appreciate your feedback on it such as layout/style, ease of use and quickness to load etc.. Please send your feedback either to the Letters Page of your Newsletter or to one of the committee members direct.

We would like to thank Jonathan Guy for all his hard work and dedication in building our new website. There are a lot more features, including a member's area. We hope you will take advantage of the new site and make it a success

House of Windsor envelope & QEII Definitive M/S 6 February 2012

I went to my local post office to send some RD items. When the serving gentleman had finished with the RD items, I asked him if he could let me have a sight of their box of philatelic items. (They know me well and most of them are very helpful) The gentleman brought the box and start showing me what was in it. Among other things, that I was not interested in, there were The House of Windsor first day envelopes. At that precise moment an idea struck to my mind that next week the Diamond Jubilee Sheet will be out and this cover envelope with House of Windsor and QEII picture would make a fantastic cover, so I bought the envelopes. I browsed through the Postmark Bulletin and decided to go with the Diamond Jubilee, Windsor postmark because it would have tied the cover, mini sheet and the postmark nicely. Only regret I have is that I should have had the postmark applied below the stamps which would not have obscured them. Never mind next time!

Farrukh Jamil



NEWSLETTERS BY E-MAIL

Many members are delighted with the PDF emailed version of the Newsletter. Not only does receiving it this way cut down on having to find storage for paper newsletters around the home, as all PDF Newsletters can be stored in a file of its own on your computer desktop, but it means you can read the newsletter at A4 size and in colour. You can print out all the pages at any time and at any size, or just one page if you so wish.

We do understand that for a variety of reasons many members do not want to receive their copies via email and would prefer to continue with a hard copy. This is not a problem and we would be happy to continue to send them out via the post.

From the point of view of our European and Overseas members emailing your newsletter would mean that you could be on a par with everyone else when it comes to the opportunities of purchasing items advertised in the newsletter, for instance in the Members Cover Sale.

Emailing the newsletter also saves your association money in paying for the newsletter printing and in postage costs. At the time of writing we are emailing the newsletter to 100 members and are keen to increase this number.

Would you be willing to receive your A4 colour newsletter via email instead of a black and white A5 hard copy in the mail? Yes, then please contact Terry Barnett with your email address.

If you already receive your newsletter by email then please don't forget to let us know if you change your email address.

Jubilee Miniature Sheet Miss-cut error found on cover

As many of you know I do collect first day covers. Whilst at a stamp fair in Elsecar (Yorkshire) a dealer offer this cover to me in exchange for something I was trying to sell. I laughed and said be serious. It was at this point that he pointed out that it appeared to be a miss-cut sheet for Diamond Jubilee issue. I then went and borrowed a sheet and after looking more carefully agreed to the exchange.

You can see from the illustrations (below) that the miss-cut has resulted in one the stamps from the miniature sheet being completely missing as well as part of the date and some of the text.

I am led to believe that these miniature sheets are produced as sheets of 12. This either means that there are only another 11 like this or if they are cut in bundles there are hundreds of them.

Who knows? Answers to the Editor please.

The other questions is of course how many of these miss-cut sheets were actually used on first day covers as opposed to being sold as miniature sheets.

I have sent illustrations of the cover to both the Philatelic Exporter (the trade magazine) and Stamp and Coin Mart with a request that if anyone else has come across this miss-cut could they please contact me.

I suspect that everyone who has read the article was busily looking at their own sheet to see if it is a miss-cut. So far nobody has reported finding one.

Here's hoping.....

Terry Barnett.



Members Cover Sale

If you are an ordinary member and would like to sell your covers free of charge, then be sure to let the editor have your list in good time for publication.

All the covers listed are being sold by the member whose contact details appear at the beginning of their listing. We have laid out each set of listings as requested by the vendor so layouts will probably differ from person to person. If left to the editor to arrange then the listings will take on a more uniform appearance. Prices given are the cost of each cover and buyers must contact the seller direct to negotiate the sale. The seller may or may not add postage costs so it is up to the seller and buyer to come to their own arrangement. All that remains is to wish you good luck.

Contact Details: Peter Middleton, 331, Wollaton Road NG8 1FQ

1948	Games	Games Slogan on superb Artcraft cover	£18
1957	Scouts	Jubilee Jamboree U/A	£18
1961	C.E.P.T.	European Conference Slogan	£2
1964	Shakespeare (Phos)	Southampton 'T' Slogan	£20
1964	Geographical (Phos)	Fareham CDS U/A	£18
1964	Botanical (Phos)	Fareham CDS U/A	£20
1964	FRB (Phos)	South Queensferry S/W	£30
1965	Churchill	Bladon, Oxford	£12
1965	Parliament (Phos)	Evesham	£10
1965	B.of.Britain	Waddington RAF (on 2 covers)	£60
1966	Burns	Alloway Spec/H/S	£5
1966	Burns	Edinburgh Spec/H/S	£7
1966	England Winners	Harrow & Wembley FDI	£8
1966	Technology	Manchester (Jodrell Bank) FDI	£10
1966	Christmas	Bethlehem FDI	£4
1967	Paintings	Art on Stamps Exhibition	£12
1967	Chichester	Chichester FDI	£5
1967	Discoveries	Penicillin, Fleming, W2	£9
1969	Ships	Lloyds Coffee House	£25
1969	Concorde	Hounslow FDI U/A	£8
1969	Cathedrals	Philatex, St. Paul's	£6
1969	Cathedrals	Ulster Recruiting official (Cat £50)	£10
1969	Investiture	Tallylyn Rail. Tywyn	£20
1970	Rural Arch.	Gloucester FDI	£2
1970	Gen. Anniv.	Anniv. Stamps Canterbury	£5
1970	Philympia	23 rd Base Workshop official (Cat £50)	£8

Contact Details: N. Whatmore , 3 Milret Close, Worcester WR3 8XF Tel: 01905 611778

E-mail: n.whatmore54@btinternet.com

1977	- Silver Jubilee 9p Silver Jubilee Nuneaton Official	£18
1978	- Horses Sport of Kings Brighton Races Official	£8
1982	- Christmas Norwich Cathedral Official	£12
1983	- Fairs MMB Official	£10
1988	- Armada Tavistock Book Shop Official	£10
1997	- Christmas GB FDC Official No 133/175	£8
2003	- Toys Stampex Official	£10
2007	- Beatles Min Sheet Music City Liverpool Official	£45
2008	- Lancaster & York Min Sheet Stampex Official	£10
2009	- Darwin RM cover Shrewsbury shs + F.S.C Meter Mark	£10

POSTAGE EXTRA AT COST

Contact Details: A.T. Pinder. Tel: 01978 855 815 E-mail: pilkes5@btinternet.com

28/07/1958 Slogan postmark British Empire & Commonwealth Games. Illus. cover	£40
07/07/1960 G.L.O. cancelled Lombard Street EC3. Illustrated. cover	£30
25/09/1961 Parliament. Slogan postmark C'wealth Parliamentary Conference Illus.	£35
14/11/1962 NYP Non-Phos. Ampleforth College cancellation. Illustrated cvr. Non Phos.	£25
14/11/1962 NYP Phos. Bebington, Cheshire cancellation. Illustrated. Phos.	£45
21/03/1963 FFH Stampex cancellation. Illustrated cover. Phos	£40
21/03/1963 FFH Slogan FFH Week. Illustrated cover. Non-Phos	£15
16/05/1963 Nature Week. Brownsea Island cancellation. Illustrated cover. Phos.	£75
31/05/1963 Lifeboats. London – Edinburgh T.P.O postmark. Illustrated cvr Non-Phos	£60
31/05/1963 Lifeboats. Southampton wavy line slogan. Illustrated cvr Phos	£20
15/08/1963 Red X. Slogan postmark Red Cross Centenary. Non-Phos	£30
15/08/1963 Red X. Southampton wavy line. Phos	£30
03/12/1963 Cable. Slogan postmark. Southampton wavy line. Phos	£20
02/05/1966 Landscapes. Grantown-on-Spey. Non-Phos	£80
19/09/1966 Brit. Technology. C.D.S Macclesfield. Non-Phos	£70
29/04/1968 Brit. Bridges. C.D.S., Menai. Ordinary	£60
29/05/1968 Brit. Anniversaries. F.D.I. Hendon. Ordinary	£35
12/08/1968 Brit. Paintings. Cancelled Parish Church Restoration, Kettering official	£30
15/01/1969 Brit. Ships. Cancelled Lloyd's New Coffee House E3. Slightly crumbled ?	£30
01/07/1969 Prince of Wales. BF 1000 PS official cover No.278	£90
03/06/1970 Literary Anniversaries. Chigwell official cover	£35
18/09/1970 Philympia. 23, Base Workshop REME BF 1136 PS	£20
25/11/1970 Xmas. Lilleshall Parish Church	£90
16/06/1971 Ulster. Philatelic Congress cover & cancellation	£35
28/07/1971 Literary Anniversaries. Shanklin, Isle of Wight P.O. cover	£50
26/04/1972 General Anniversaries. Cancelled Treasures of Tutankhamun Exhib.	£20
21/06/1972 Village Churches. 5 covers with appropriate postmark	£12
21/06/1972 Village Churches. 1 Earls Barton official cover	£25
13/09/1972 B.B.C. Cancelled BBC Pebble Mill	£225

Contact Details: Don Else. Don.else@gmail.com Tel: 01628 620841

Apologies for incorrect telephone number submitted. Please try again, thank you.

Commemoratives

O.N.O.

	Cat £	Sell £
1953 Coronation. Qantas Airletter 2 ½d & 4d 'London FS' Pmk	55	15
1963 Lifeboat. ILLS. Edinburgh Centenary Slogan Pmk. Non Phos. T.A	75	20
1964 Forth Bridge. Unusual as on Daily Mail newspaper wrapper		
South Queensferry Special H/S. Non Phos. U/A	30	6
1965 Lister. On Royal Infirmary Cvr. Edinburgh FDI Pmk. Non Phos. Neat H/W	70	15
1967 EFTA. Wales GPO Cvr. 'Nato Cymru' Special H/S. Non Phos. Neat H/W	45	8
1967 Brit. Disc. Wessex Cvr 'Penicillin Discv 1928' SHS slight label stain	25	5
1968 Brit. Anniv. GPO Cvr. 'TUC 100' SHS. Very neat H/W	75	15
1969 Notable AnnS. GPO Cvr. Full set. 'Forces Post Office 79' circular H/S U/A	25	8
1969 Cathedrals. St.Paul's Ills. Cover. 'Philatex St.Paul's' H/S + cachet		
'Posted in Crypt' U/A	22	5

Definitives

1957 Graphites. Full set 6 Experimental Wildings. Southampton CDS. T/A	95	25
1954/55 3d, 6d, 7d - 9d, 10d, 11d – 4d, 1/3d, 1/6d on 3 matching very clean white T/A envelopes. Very clean CDS. Scarce in this condition	98	25
1969 1/6d All Over Phos. Wessex cover. Southampton CDS. Small L/A	12	3
1970 'First Issue Deciman Stamps' Windsor SHS. P.O. Cover U/A	24	5

Continued.....

1972 '£1 Redrawn'. Philart Luxury Windsor Castle Cover + Windsor FDI CDS Very neat H/W	16	4
1977 50p to £5. Philart Luxury Windsor Castle Cover + special Windsor FDI H/S Unaddressed	30	8
PHQ '6 Fire Service. Windsor FDI CDS (B.B.Stamps sell price £65) Pristine	-	25

.....
Contact Details: P. Sheridan. Tel: 07939 832 184 E-mail: sheridanfdc@aol.com

18/07/06 NPG Cotswold fdc National Portrait Gallery M/M & NPG 150 Years, London SHS	7.00
01/02/07 Sea Life Stuart fdc National Sea Life Centre, Birmingham M/M & Birmingham SHS	7.00
04/09/07 Birds Cotswold fdc RSPB M/M & Exmouth, Devon SHS	7.00
06/11/08 Armistice Trio of Poppy sheet stamps Western Front Assoc., Stockport M/M & Western Front Association, Stockport SHS on Cotswold cover	7.00
06/11/08 Armistice Trio of Poppy sheet stamps National Army Museum M/M & Western Front Association, Stockport SHS on Cotswold cover	7.00
19/05/09 Kew M/S Cotswold fdc Kew 250th M/M & Botanic Gardens, Kew 250 th SHS	7.00
16/06/09 Mythical Creatures Cotswold fdc Dreams M/M & Sea, Ilminster SHS	7.00
Sheridan official covers	
17/07/07 Harry Potter single set 7 stamps on Sheridan The Magic of Books official cover	30.00
17/07/07 Harry Potter M/S Sheridan The Potter Magic official	30.00
17/07/07 Harry Potter double cover bearing both single set 7 stamps and full miniature Sheet of 5 stamps on Sheridan official but with Hogwarts, Alnwick SHS (only 12 done)	35.00
20/09/07 Army Uniforms Sheridan Tank Museum, Bovington official cover with Bovington CDS	15.00
05/02/08 Working Dogs Sheridan Sheep Dog Society official cover	40.00
03/11/09 Xmas Generic Sheet (full sheet) on 4 Sheridan Westminster Cathedral official covers (Set No. 10 of only 16 produced)	40.00
07/01/10 Classic LP Sleeves single set on Sheridan Music Industries Association Music For All official cover	20.00
07/01/10 Classic LP Sleeves stamps from souvenir sheet on Sheridan Music Industries Association Music For All official cover	20.00
07/01/10 Classic Album Covers set 4 PSB panes on Sheridan Music Industries Association Music For All official cover (Set No.30 of 30 produced)	35.00
06/05/10 London 2010 KGV M/S King George V College official cover with KGV College M/M	20.00
06/05/10 London 2010 KGV M/S King George V College official cover with Royal Society of St. George M/M	25.00
08/05/10 KGV Stamps M/S (Seahorses) Sheridan British Empire Exhibition official	20.00
08/05/10 KGV Stamps M/S (Seahorses) Sheridan British Empire Exhib. Off. With Business Design Centre M/M	30.00
08/05/10 Machins Exhibition Souvenir Sheet Sheridan British Empire Exhib. official (Only 38 done)	40.00
08/05/10 KGV Stamps set 4 PSB panes on Sheridan British Empire Exhibition official covers	35.00
06/05/10 London 2010 KGV Overprinted M/S Sheridan British Empire Exhib. official (Only 35 done)	40.00

.....
Mr D Whalley, 5 Laverock Grove, Madeley, Crewe CW3 9NL

14/04/87 1-80 (10x18p) Booklet Cyl B1 Windsor SHRM UA	£2.50
04/08/87 52p (4x13p) 72p (4x19p) 1-04 (4x26p) 1-30 (10x13p) 1-80 (10x18p) 5 Booklets on 5 RM Covers Windsor SH UA	£16.00
29/09/87 50p (1x1p) (2x5p) (3x13p) Booklet Cyl B1 B43 B32 Windsor SH UA	£1.20
23/08/88 56p (4x14p) 76p (4x19p) 1-80 (4x27p) 1-40 (10x14p) 1-90 (10x19p) 5 Booklets all Cyls on 5 RM covers Windsor SH UA	£14.00
05/09/88 50p (1x14p) (2x19p) 2p Discount Book Cyl B1 B16 RM Windsor SH UA	£1.20
05/09/88 1-00 (2x14p) (4x19p) 4p Discount Book Cyl B6 B21 RM Windsor SH UA	£2.00
05/09/88 1-40 (10x14p) 1-90 (10x19p) Cyl Books B6 B21 2 RM Windsor SH UA	£7.50
11/10/88 1-40 (10x14p) 1-90 (10x19p) Questa Books B6 B21 2 RM Windsor SH UA	£8.00
11/10/88 56p (4x14p) 76p (4x19p) 1-80 (4x27p) 1-40 (10x 14p) 1-90 (10x19p) 5 Booklets all with Cyl. No on 5 RM covers Windsor SH UA	£18.00
24/1/89 56p (4x14p) 76p (4x19p) Books on 2 RM covers Windsor SH UA	£3.00
25/04/89 1-00 (2x14p) (4x19p) Booklet Windsor SH UA	£2.50

Continued.....

22/08/89 56p (4x2nd) 76p (4x1st) 1-40 (10x2nd) 1-90 (10x1st) all with Cyl No on 4 RM covers Windsor SH UA	£12.00
19/09/89 1-40 (10x2nd) 1-90 (10x1st) Questa Print 2 RM Windsor SH UA	£7.50
17/04/90 Penny Black Anniv Books 80p (4x20p) 1-50 (10x15p) 2-00 (10x20p) on 3 RM covers Windsor SH UA	£9.00
17/04/90 1-16 (4x29) Cyl W2 W2 Windsor SH RM UA	£2.50
06/02/90 Greetings Book (10x20p) Teddy Bear Ironbridge SH UA	£5.00
08/01/91 Dogs Dog World Congratulates SH RM UA	£3.00
05/02/91 Greetings Book (10x1st) Magpie Yelverton SH RM UA	£4.00
26/03/91 Greetings Book (10x1st) Teddy Bear Ironbridge SH UA	£4.00
20/08/91 Dinosaurs Ignanodon Mantelli SH RM UA	£3.50
17/09/91 Maps R.I.C.S. London SW1 SH RM UA	£3.00
26/01/92 Greetings Book (10x1st) Cyl Eastbourne SH RM UA	£3.50
02/02/92 Greetings Book (10x1st) Cyl Aladdin SH RM UA	£4.00
09/11/93 Christmas Books (10x19p) & (10x25p) Christmas Postcards N.P.M. SH on 2 RM Christmas covers UA	£10.00
14/09/93 Autumn Berry Hill, Coleford SH RM UA	£2.50

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Covers for Sale. Please contact Terry Barnett 0151 486 2610 or email

terryhuntsc@tiscali.co.uk

POST FREE. If you would like a scan of any cover please ask.

6/10/1941 2d pale orange. plain unadd. light crease Harrogate cancel Cat £50	£5
1942 Jersey 1/2d plain typed add. Jersey cancel	£2
1948 Liberation III. printed add. Jersey cancel Cat £35	£4
1948 Liberation III. printed add. Guernsey cancel Cat £35	£4
1964 1 st July Holiday booklet Stratford CDS Cat £25	£3
1964 FRB PHOS printed add. Fareham cds	£3
1965 Lister PHOS typed add. London WC fdi	£3
1966 W Cup PHOS typed add. Liverpool fdi Cat £45	£5
1966 W Cup PHOS typed add. London EC fdi Cat £25	£3
1968 Bridges Typed add. Menai slogan cancel Cat £80 (small amount of foxing around the edge of the stamps)	£8
1973 IOM postage dues NON 'A' unadd.	£12.50
1977 Wildlife on 5 RSPB official covers each with an appropriate fdi	£3
1978 Horses on the MW official with a York cancel Cat £30	£3.50
1979 Horses g/p's with a Derby Epsom cancel doubled with a g/p set of the 1978 Horses set on a large Cotswold cover	£3
1981 Disabled on the DDMC official	£4.50
1981 Disabled on the Cotswold official (Le Court)	£4
1981 R Wedding on BOCS(2)6 official with a Caernarfon cancel	£1
1981 R Wedding on the Pilgrim official	£3.50
1981 R Wedding on the S.P. official (E. of Eng. Show)	£4
1982 Cars on the Bradbury official (RR Enth. Club)	£4
1983 Engineering on the Chester Le. S. official	£3.50
1984 B Council with a Lichfield slogan cancel Cat £25	£3
1986 Nature C. on the BIL official Cat £45	£5
1988 Armada with a Santander cancel on the Benham L20 Cat £50	£5
1989 RSPB on the LFDC74 official with a Leicester cancel	£3
1990 1d Black m/s on Benham BLCS53b off.(SG Stamp World cancel) Cat £50	£4
1991 Greetings on the PPS cover with a Rainow cancel	£3
1993 £10 defin.on the Benham SPG 19 official with a Dover cancel	£4
2000 Stamp Show Exhib. m/s with an Earls Court cds (small h/w add)	£4
2000 Q Mother m/s on a BHC cover with a Clarence House cancel	£3
2002 Q Mother on a Mercury cover with a Windsor cancel	£2
2003 Hi. Val. Defins with an Edinburgh cancel	£2
2004 Christmas with an Edin cancel doubled with the IOM Christmas set	£3
2011 Trains M/S on the PTS official with a Newton Le W cancel 1 of 100	£5

Contact Details: Mike Brazier, 7, Fosters Booth Rd, Pattishall, Towcester NN12 8JU

Tel: 01327830397 Email : mikefdc@talktalk.net

1994 Golf	Intersport M\M on their cover	12.00
1994 Postcards	Valentines m\m + H\S	8.00
1995 Greetings	Valentines m\m + Kissingbury H\S	8.00
1998 Magical Worlds	Yellow Brick Rd M\M + Yellow Brick Rd h\s	5.00
1998 Magical Worlds	Phoenix Chemicals M\M + Nesbit H\S	4.00
1998 Magical Worlds	Wychwood Brewery M\M + CS Lewis H\S	5.00
1998 Carnival	Jamaican High Commission M\M + Jamaica St CDS	5.90
1998 Speed	Airflow M\M + Silverstone H\S (rare m\m)	5.50
1998 Christmas	Holy Cross Church M\M + Nazareth H\S on Church cvr	4.90
1998 Christmas	Merry Christmas M\M + H\S	5.50
1998 Lighthouses	Trinity House M\M + Trinity House H\S	7.00
1998 Lighthouses	English Heritage Dover Castle M\M + Dover H\S	5.50
1998 Lighthouses	RNLI M\M +RNLI H\S on RNLI cvr	9.00
1998 Queens Beasts	Unicorn M\M	4.50
1998 Queens Beasts	English Heritage Dover Castle M\M + Heralry Soc H\S	5.00
1998 Queens Beasts	E2R Royal Studs M\M	5.00
1999 Patients Tale	Northampton Gen.Hospital M\M +Brains Surgery H\S !!	5.00
1999 Inventors Tale	Newtec M\M + New Invention CDS	7.00
1999 Inventors Tale	Microsoft M\M + Babbage H\S	6.90

Contact Details: Dot Radley, Te; 07939 832 184. E-mail: salwals@aol.com

16/7/91 Roses	Benham BLCS66b Drum Castle S/H	4.50
15/5/84 Europa	Benham BOCS(2)27 Sealink with Posted at Sea Paquetbot cachet Folkestone S/H	1.50
20/5/86 Nature	Benham BLCS12 Slimbridge H/S	1.00
10/4/84 U. Renewal	Benham BOCS(2)26 Liverpool H/S	1.00
17/11/87 Xmas	Benham BLCS27 Christmas Common S/H	1.00
11/3/97 Faith	Benham small silks English Heritage, Canterbury H/S	4.50
5/3/91 Scientific	Bradbury Royal Society Chemistry official	5.00
23/6/98 NHS RM fdc	Father's Day Slogan – serviced by Cuthbert covers	4.00
23/4/98 Comedians RM fdc	BBC Look North Slogan – serviced by Cuthbert covers	4.00
23/4/98 Comedians RM fdc	MIB Men In Black Slogan – serviced by Cuthbert covers	5.00
24/3/98 Lighthouses	Cuthbert Covers fdc Aquadome Slogan	4.00
24/3/98 Lighthouses	Seamark official	30.00
24/2/98 Q. Beasts	Cuthbert Covers fdc One 2 One Slogan	4.00
24/2/98 Q. Beasts	Cuthbert Covers fdc House of Commons (double ring) CDS (rare)	12.00
24/2/98 Q. Beasts	Cuthbert Covers fdc House of Lords (double ring) CDS (rare)	12.00
3/2/98 Diana 4d Post regional fdc	City of London SHS doubled with Queen's Beasts Set of stamps The Heraldic City of London 24/2/98 SHS	8.00
16/4/96 Queen's B'day label (Cyl) on Cotswold fdc	cancelled with Royal Armouries Slogan doubled with Q. Beasts set cancelled with Royal Armouries, Leeds SHS	8.00
1/8/00 Tree & Leaf	Bradbury Millennium Forest for Scotland official	8.00
4/8/00 Q. Mother M/S	Raflet Stamp Club official (No.116 of 150 produced)	6.00
6/8/96 Women of Achievement GB3	Derek Williams Margot Fonteyn official	30.00
1/10/96 Classic Cars GB4	Derek Williams Morgan, Malvern official	30.00
25/2.03 Secret of Life DNA GBFDC Assoc.	official No.11	15.00
13/2/07 Sky at Night GBFDC Assoc.	official No.23	15.00
23/6/98 NHS Peter Payne Hale Gardens	official (only 41 produced)	35.00
29/9/98 Speed Peter Payne Hermes	official (only 51 produced)	35.00
02/11/98 Xmas Peter Payne North Pole Road	official (only 51 produced)	35.00
02/11/98 Xmas Peter Payne St. Nicholas Road	official (only 41 produced)	35.00

Continued.....

Contact Details: Farrukh Jamil, PO Box 31261, London NW2 6GA.

E-mail: farrukh.jamil@virgin.net.

Prices inclusive of P&P. Scanned images of the covers are available on request.

1962	National Productivity Year FDC bearing full non-phos set tied London NPY, Nov 1962-63 slogan postmark. Cat £60	£40
2009	RM Plants FDC bearing all 4 stamps from M/S tied with 250th Anniv Botanic Gardens, Kew, Richmond SHS	£8
2011	RM Olympic & Paralympic Games FDC bearing Booklet No.6 tied with Sporting Disciplines Retail Booklet, Wembley SHS.	£8
2011	RM Post & Go Cover bearing full set of Birds of Britain IV tied with Autumn Stampex, Post & Go Birds of Britain 4, London N1, 16 th September 2011	£8
2011	Stampex Cover bearing full set of Birds of Britain IV from the vending machine 91 tied with Autumn Stampex, Post & Go Birds of Britain 4, London N1, 16 th Sept. 2011 (set includes 1x1st, 1x1 st Lge, 1x20g Europe, 1x10g Worldwide, 1x20g Worldwide & 1x40g Worldwide) Original Machine Purchased Receipt Included.	£10
2011	Stampex Cover bearing full set of Arnold Machin Centenary Post & Go stamps from the Stampex vending machine 92 tied with Autumn Stampex, 14 th Sept. 2011 (set includes 1x1st, 1x1 st Lge, 1x20g Europe, 1x10g Worldwide, 1x20g Worldwide & 1x40g Worldwide)	£10
2012	Stampex Cover bearing full set of Britons of Distinction stamps tied with Stampex, FDI Britons of Distinction SHS	£10
2012	RM FDC bearing Post & Go Farm Animals II (Pigs) stamps tied with Swine, Hull SHS	£8
2012	RM FDC bearing Post & Go Farm Animals II (Pigs) stamps tied with Jimmy's Farm, Wherstead, Ipswich SHS	£8
2012	RM FDC bearing Post & Go Farm Animals II (Pigs) stamps tied with Farm Animals-Pigs, Tamworth SHS	£8
2012	RM FDC bearing Post & Go Farm Animals II (Pigs) stamps tied with Farm Animals-Pigs, Berkeley Vale SHS	£8
2012	RM FDC bearing Post & Go Farm Animals II (Pigs) stamps tied with Farm Animals-Pigs, Farmers Walk, Birmingham SHS	£8

- End of Sale

MCS How to submit your covers for sale

Please submit your list either by post or email (typed in a Word Doc.) Please make it LEGIBLE otherwise it will not be included. Send them by e-mail to sheridanfdcs@aol.com. We would prefer you NOT to list covers in a table as it makes formatting difficult. Any member can sell covers via the newsletter free of charge. If you require further details then please contact the Editor.

Please, if possible, only send the list of covers for the next newsletter rather than sending a large list or several lists. It is becoming a little confusing to work out which list belongs to whom and which edition it is for. Thank you

1) Please list them in a Microsoft Word Document (NOT in a table though). The more details you include then the less space there will be for your covers and less covers will be listed.

2) Either email your list or send it by post to Phil Sheridan. Hon. Editor, GBFDC Association, P.O. Box 99, Widnes, Cheshire WA8 0NN. E-mail: sheridanfdcs@aol.com When posting hand-written lists please make sure we can read them. It is probably best to print all lists.

3) Deadline for all items for inclusion in to any newsletter is ALWAYS 7th of the previous month to the newsletter publication. Please see top of page 2 and inside back page in EVERY newsletter

MYSTERY AT BALIVANICH- ISLE OF BENBECULA

1981 NATIONAL TRUST ISSUE

Following up an eBay purchase in 2006 I wrote to a Lt. Col Gavin RA to check out why a cover I had bought from him with a set of the 1981 National Trust stamps had been cancelled Balvanich -Isle of Benbecula cds.

I discovered that Lt. Col Gavin had in fact designed the illustration depicted on the St Kilda Detachment RA Range Hebrides Official Cover cancelled BFPS 1750. His opinion was that only two types of cover were sent from St Kilda on the issue day of the stamps. A Post Office type cover and the Official.

He recollected that because a Post Office had been authorised to be open for the issue day of the stamps they applied TWO DIFFERENT CANCELS to covers leaving the island - The National Trust for Scotland's rubber handstamp depicting a St Kilda Wren with the inscription "The Furthest Station West" was applied at the PO Station and another rubber stamp was applied onboard HMAV Ardennes -the island's army supply ship seen on the illustration of the official cover.

He gave the impression that the special handstamp was also applied at St Kilda but I would be surprised if this was the case as normally such cancels are applied at the handstamping centre (probably Glasgow or Edinburgh) The mystery surrounding the Balvanich cds centres on why this cover was cancelled at Balvanich and why it did not get the BFPS cancel along with all other covers that day. Lt Col Gavin's explanation is that it may have been posted late, and to make sure it went on the supply ship, the cover was sent uncanceled and so the cds was applied at Balvanich. However if we accept that none of the covers had been cancelled on arrival at Balvanich then the mystery deepens as to why it got the cds cancel.



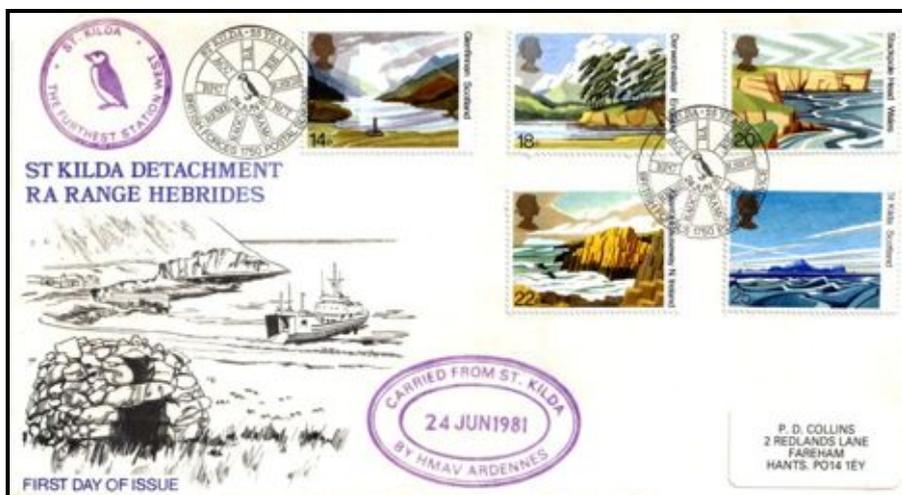
My view is that the cover was cancelled at Balvanich because the post office realised the cover was 'local'. A Post Office clerk may not have appreciated the importance of a BFPS 1750 cancel!

Whatever happened that day draws out two theories:-
a) The Balvanich cds is likely to be a unique cancellation with the two rubber stamps attached and also the nearest PO to St Kilda. There is also no record of a St Kilda cds so this too supports the view that St Kilda was a 'station' not a Post Office.

And one other controversial point -
b) The Benham covers cancelled with the Kilda Wren could not have been cancelled on St Kilda as the research shows that only two types of cover came off the island that day.

DO YOU KNOW DIFFERENTLY?

Terry Mee



Christopher Robin and the Pens

By Selwyn Goodacre

When Pooh saw what it was, he nearly fell down, he was so pleased. It was a special Pencil Case. There were pencils in it marked "B" for Bear, and pencils marked "HB" for Helping Bear and pencils marked "BB" for Brave Bear.....and Blue Pencils and Red Pencils and Green Pencils for saying special things in blue and red and green....

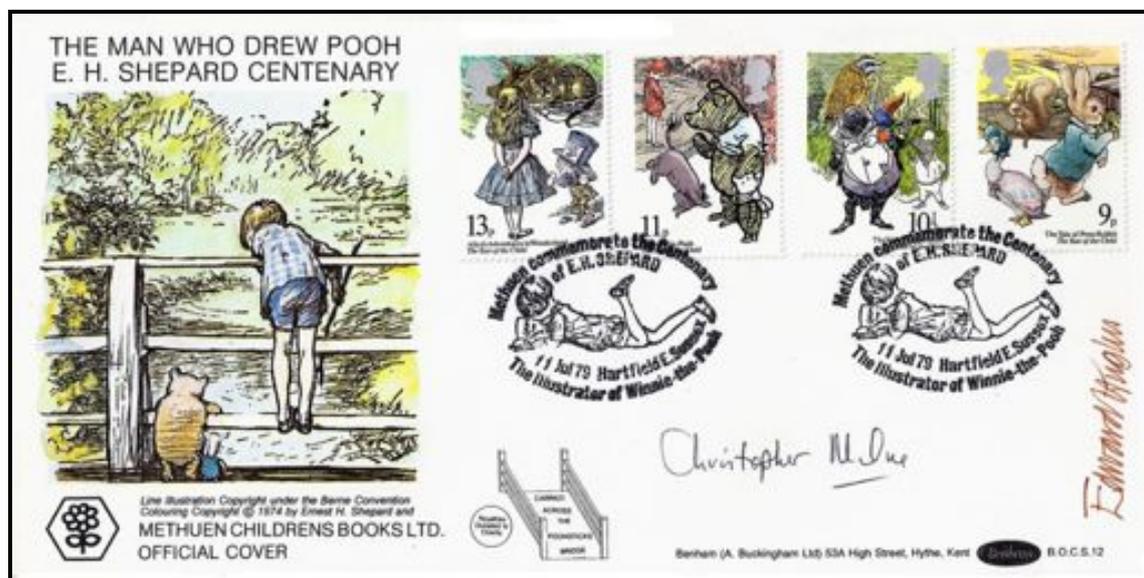
(From *Winnie-The-Pooh*, by A A Milne: Methuen, London 1926)

The quotation is Pooh's response to a special gift from Christopher Robin. It is well known that Christopher Robin Milne signed a number of FDCs for the Year of the Child in 1979. What is less well known is that he signed them in various different ways. Tony Buckingham, when he was running the Benham Company, arranged for the signings by Mr Milne – Tony told me he thinks about 100 were signed in total and only 50 at the outset. Mr Milne was very reluctant to do the signings and indeed even went as far as saying "It gives me no pleasure signing these covers" (!) Tony, rather significantly, said the signatures were not all done at the same time. The varying inks and pens may also be explained by his signing the occasional cover in his bookshop at the request of visitors.

Was Mr Milne intending to do them differently one wonders? Was he thinking of Pooh's gift all those years ago? Whatever the reason, we do know that, although all are simply signed 'Christopher Milne', there are four variants:

- fountain pen black ink
- ball-point black ink
- fountain pen blue ink
- ball-point blue ink

My example of the one in black ball-point is also signed by the stamp designer Edward Hughes (rather prosaically, *he* signed all his YOC covers in brown ink)– and no, I do not know if there are examples of the cover signed in black ball-point *without* the Hughes signature.



The ones cited above are all on Official Benham covers (BOCS 12) with the 'Methuen commemorates E H Shepard, Winnie the Pooh, Hartfield' PHS. I do have a solitary example of a BOCS 12 cover with the Hartfield FDI (and single Pooh stamp) – also signed by Christopher Milne – in blue ball-point. Whether Hartfield FDI covers exist with signatures with the other inks I do not know – yet.

I am most grateful to Tony Buckingham for his help with this article.

SLEEPING BEAUTIES?

Needing to make inroads into our overstuffed filing cabinets and the paperwork accumulation of ages, prior to house downsizing, I recently came across many old FDC catalogues, the earliest of which was the 4th edition of 'Collectors Guide to GB FDCs', dated September 1975. This was a joint production by two stalwarts of GB cover productions, sales and cataloguing - Bernard Townsend (of Bredon Hill Stamps) and Tony Buckingham (of Benham Covers).

I found it fascinating - and occasionally somewhat galling - to see the prices passing in the early 1970s for those relatively few magic 'relevant' cds cancellations. These covers could then be acquired for very close to the catalogue listing guide price. Noting a while ago (via H.M. Land Registry website) a one hundred-fold increase in the cost of that first little semi-detached home we bought as a couple in North London, over the course of the 46 years between 1962 and 2008, it was hard to realise that, incredibly, the same hundred-fold increase also applied to certain FDC covers over a slightly shorter period between say 1972/5 and 2012. That's real cash-in-the-bank increases by the way, not somewhat illusory unrealised gains by way of contemporary catalogue listings.

To give an example or two from the mid-Seventies bargain basement -

- 1972 British Polar issue, BFPO with Reykjavik back stamp - £3.
- 1974 Churchill issue, Marlborough cds - £2.50,
- Bladon cds - £2.50,
- Winston cds - £3.
- 1975 Charity issue, Stoke Charity cds - £2.50.
- Paintings issue, Turner's Hill cds - £1.50,
- Petworth cds - £1.
- EAHY issue, Greenwich cds - £2.50.

Other members may doubtless have their own instances of similar bargains from earlier years. Adrian Bradbury probably had a hand in the production of most of the above and cover owners should be very grateful to him.

Moving up to what might be called the Premier League, I recall Bernard Townsend asking me, with some trepidation at Stampex one lunchtime, probably in the late Seventies, if I would mind paying as much as £50 for a nice 1953 Coronation illustrated cover with the juicy Buckingham Palace cds. Not exactly biting his hand off, I did agree that it was a very fair offer. Another time he procured a 1929 PUC £1, Congress cds for £900 or so.

Now we know that all true collectors are not simply in it for the money, (*laughter and murmurs of 'rubbish'*). However, with a saturation of Millennium and current new issues, it does make me wonder just where/which are any 'still-sleeping' covers of today which may tomorrow cause one or other of our 254 members to rush and check their insurance levels.

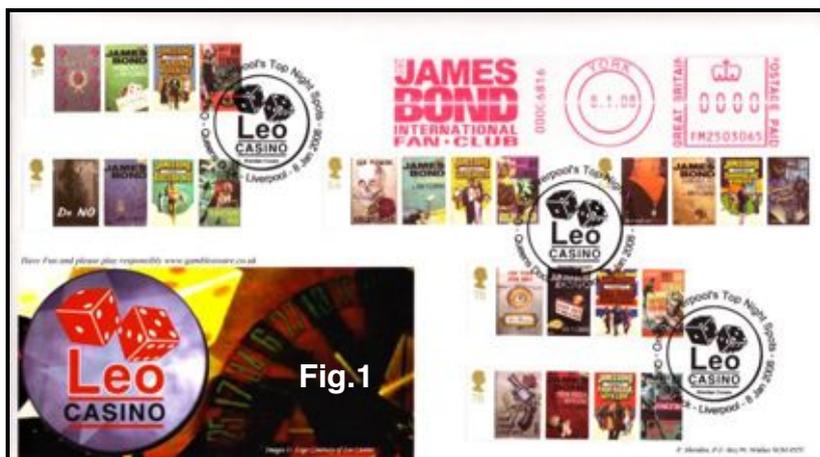
Perhaps there may be a July 1981 Royal Wedding cover lurking low in your collection with the Great Brington cds, (the local Northamptonshire village right next to Althorp, Princess Diana's home and final resting place) which might just fall into that category. I believe this cancellation wasn't even recognised in the catalogues until about twenty years after the wedding day. The same cds cancellation for the February 1998 Diana Memorial issue received a lot of attention, for obvious emotional reasons and there was also a privately financed official Great Brington Post Office cover, with 10,000 on offer at £10, half the profits being promised to the Princess of Wales Memorial Fund.

Squirrel

Favourite meter mark covers

A few weeks ago I was asked by a member about meter mark covers and what makes them so special. So this prompted me to explain a little about them for those members who are not so familiar with them.

A meter mark is a franking machine mark used when a company, organisation or charity sends its own mail out. Most franking machines carry an advertising plate that can often tie in with a stamp issue. Some of the most sought after meter mark covers are those with a meter mark with an obvious connection to the stamps and carry a CDS postmark from a post office with an appropriate name. However, I personally prefer an official cover with a meter mark on rather than a Royal Mail cover with a CDS and meter mark. While such covers often cost a few pounds more at new issue, I am happy to pay this because I know, as an official cover it is more likely to hold its value later on. I also think they are more pleasing to the eye when well done. Very few official cover producers apply meter marks to their covers. Mike Brazier used to do them on his Pub official covers and Phil Sheridan tries to do a meter mark official cover for every stamp issue she produces a cover for.



Obtaining a suitable meter mark is not as easy as it first appears. A lot of thought, effort and money go in to obtaining each one. That is why it costs a couple of pounds more to buy. Below are a few meter marks on official cover that I am very proud to have in my collection.

Fig.1 is a particular favourite cover of mine. What could be a better meter mark for a James Bond stamp issue!

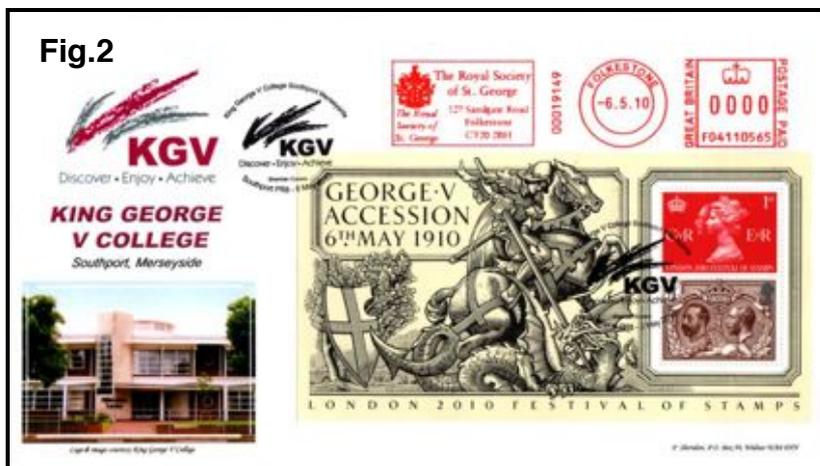


Fig.2 is another cover that works very well. It is a Sheridan official for King George V College and bears the KGV Accession M/S issued 6 May 2010. The miniature sheet shows a spectacular illustration of St. George and the Dragon so what could be better than the Royal Society of St. George meter mark, perfect. Incidentally, this is my favourite M/S of all time. The designer did a fantastic job.



Fig.3. This cover is a fine example of a meter mark and CDS combination that works perfectly. It is on a 4d Post cover and has RSPB meter mark and Robins Lane CDS. One of the best I have seen.

Continued.....

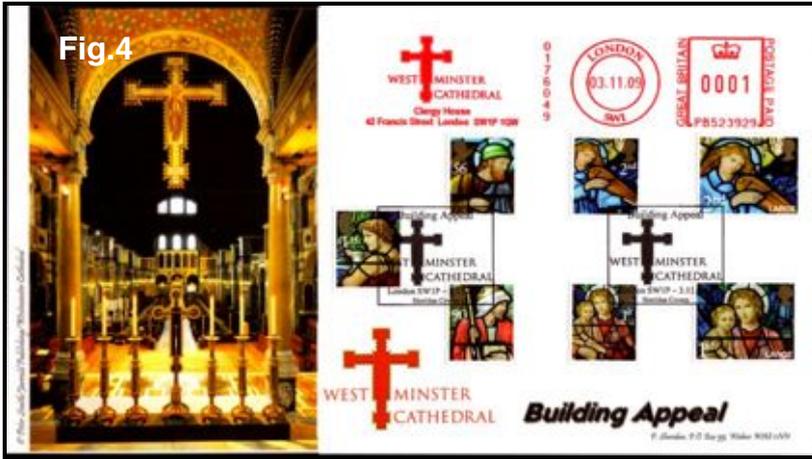


Fig.4. This is a Sheridan official cover produced for 3/11/2009 Christmas stamps. The cover was produced to support Westminster Cathedral Building Appeal and is one of the best covers I have seen on an official where the cover design, meter mark and postmark all match perfectly.

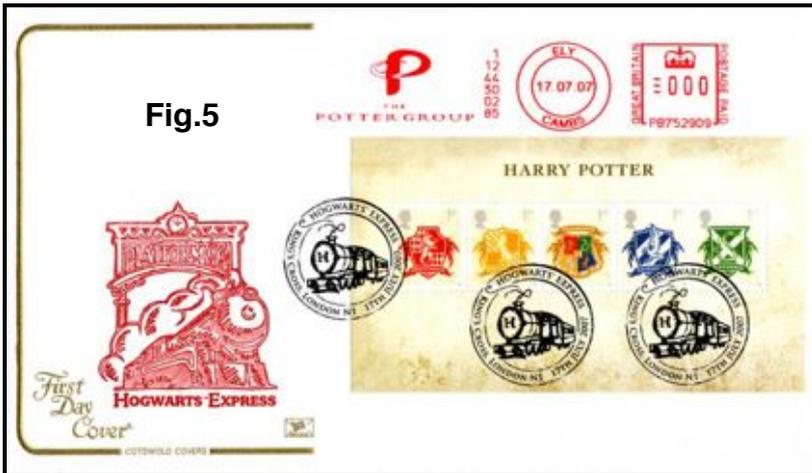


Fig.5. The cover here is a Cotswold produced cover and it could be argued that it is an official. Cotswold obtained the licence to feature Hogwarts Express on the cover and the sponsored handstamp matches perfectly. The meter mark is pure genius – The Potter Group, amazing research to acquire it. Obtained by Dot R.



Fig.6. This cover is quite rare, only 20 produced. It is a Sheridan alternative official but only produced to take the meter mark. It's a lovely cover and stamps, cover image and meter mark all match.

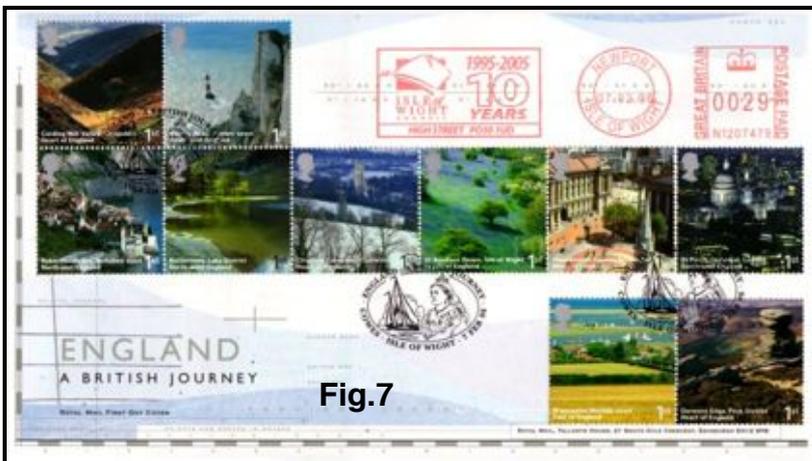


Fig.7 is a Royal Mail cover for England British Journey 7/2/06 and has Isle of Wight 1995-2005 10 Years meter mark. St. Boniface Down, Isle of Wight is shown on one of the stamps and the handstamp is Cowes, Isle of Wight. A very nice and relevant cover.

I hope you like my selection of favourite meter marks on cover. If you have favourite meter mark covers that you prize more than others, and would like to share them, then please send them in to the usual address and include a little bit of detail about each one, and we will publish them.

Dot R.

Phil Sheridan, P. O. Box 99, Widnes, Cheshire WA8 0NN



**50 Years of James Bond
 Commemorative Sheet
 1 May 2012**

All 10 stamps & attached labels on the one official Bond Street, London cover.

Price - £35 (inc. p/p)

(Limited to 40 numbered covers – only 3 left – when they are gone, they're gone!)

**H.M. The Queen's Diamond Jubilee
 31 May 2012**

Full set of 8 stamps on Royal Yacht Britannia official cover

Price - £17.25 (inc. p/p)

(Limited to 48 numbered covers)

There will also be a Diamond Jubilee Retail Booklet official cover at £17.25

And a set of PSB official covers for £25.00

Special Offer – all 3 formats for £55



**Charles Dickens Bicentenary Single Set
 19 June 2012**

Full set of 6 stamps on Rochester & Chatham Dickens Fellowship Swiss Chalet Appeal official cover

Price - £17.25 (inc. p/p)

(Limited to 58 numbered covers)

**Charles Dickens Bicentenary M/S
 19 June 2012**

Full Miniature Sheet of 4 stamps on Rochester & Chatham Dickens Fellowship Swiss Chalet Appeal official cover

Price - £17.25 (inc. p/p)

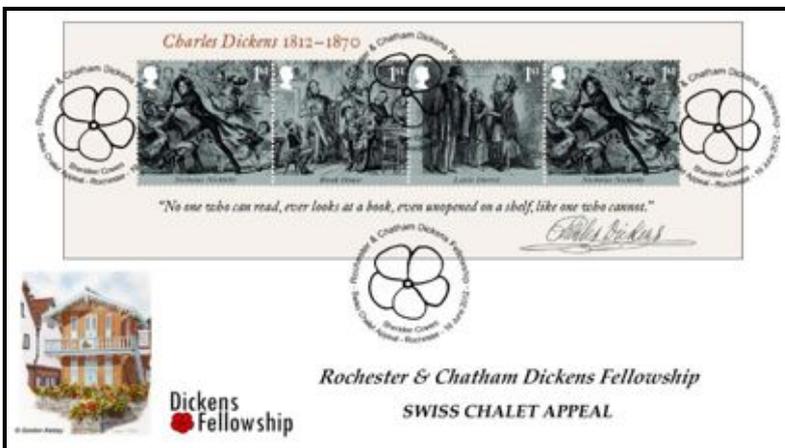
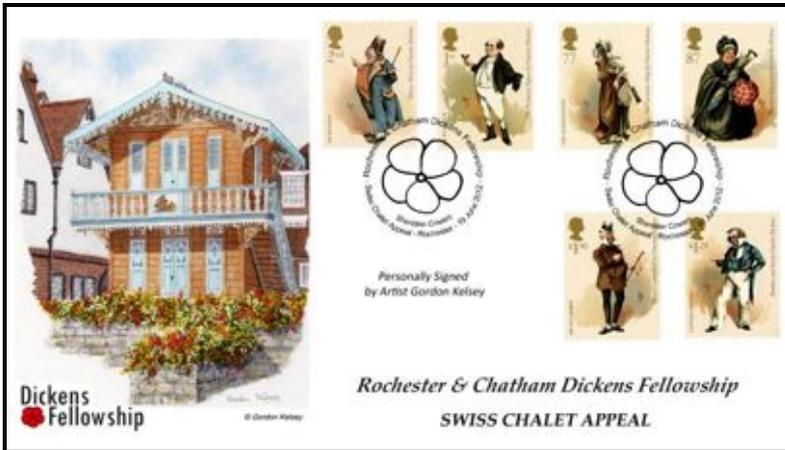
(Limited to 55 numbered covers)

There will also be a double cover available at £20.75

Special Offer – all 3 formats for £52

Tel: 07939 832 184

E-mail: Sheridanfdcs@aol.com



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Member Commercial advertising rates Full page: £20 , artwork £5 extra, total - £25 Half page: £10 , artwork £3 extra, total - £13 Third page: £7 , artwork £2.50 extra, total - £9.50 Quarter page: £5 , artwork £2 extra, total - £7 Fifth page: £4 , artwork £1 extra, total - £5	Europe: Europe:	£17 (to receive Newsletter by post) £12 (to receive Newsletter by email) Rest of World: £20 (to receive Newsletter by post) Rest of World: £12 (to receive Newsletter by email) Other major currency to the value of
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DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE 7th July 2012

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