

FIRST DAY COVERAGE

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

P.O. Box 99, WIDNES, Cheshire WA8 0NN

www.gbfdc.co.uk

E-mail: Sheridanfdcs@aol.com

Number 128



The Association of Great Britain

First Day Cover
Collectors

Membership 228 August 2015

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From the Editor's Desk



Welcome to the August Edition of First Day Coverage, and we have a rare bumper 24 page newsletter for you this time. We have two very interesting articles spread over 7

pages and we have to thank Selwyn Goodacre and Richard Bennett for submitting them. Both names will go in to our exciting new prize draw for an AGM2015 rare official cover and it's a cracking cover we have for you too, see page 3. Further details of our prize draw are at the end of the Letters on page 7.

Your committee held a meeting via conference call on 7th June 2015 the minutes can be read on page 7.

We are holding a Charity Auction to benefit Breast Cancer care, Warrington Hospital, on page 9. It is for a valuable Europhilex Numbered Sheet on Sheridan official cover. Anyone can enter their bids so the chance is there if you wish to get hold of one of these covers and you missed out on them in May.

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 2015

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

**Newsletter Queries to: P. Sheridan, P.O. Box 99,
Widnes, Cheshire WA8 0NN**

Association Officers

PLEASE CONTACT THE RIGHT PERSON

Subject

Address

Association Chairman & all matters concerning the GBFDC Auction Newsletter by email	Richard Park Hon. Chairman GBFDC 2 Chaffinch Close Horsham, W. Sussex RH12 5HA
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E-mail: rjpark@btinternet.com

All membership matters & National Meetings Organiser. General.	Ian Balcombe, Secretary GBFDC, 21 The Marlowes, London NW8 6NB
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E-mail: secretary@gbfdc.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
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E-mail: Sheridanfdcs@aol.com

Assistant Editor to Phil Sheridan	Dot R. Hon. Assistant Editor GBFDC P.O. Box 99, Widnes, Cheshire WA8 0NN
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Hon. Association Treasurer	David Cohen Hon. Treasurer GBFDC 24 Penshurst Gardens Edgware Middlesex HA8 9TP
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E-mail: david@cohenfamily.co.uk

Hon. Association Publicity Officer	
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Important Notice

DEADLINE FOR THE OCTOBER 2015 EDITION

Items for publication MUST be with the editor by

7th September 2015

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

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

The cover has been very kindly donated by a GBFDC member who would like to remain anonymous. For full details please see page 9. Good luck to everyone who enters a bid.

We have an extensive MCS this issue so a very big thank you to all who submitted their list of covers for sale. I am sure there are covers you would like to obtain amongst them.

We are very grateful for the two excellent articles gracing the pages 16 through to 22. Village Churches 1972 is a very popular stamp issue, even though many of the covers are extremely expensive to buy nowadays. Dot and I love this issue also and we are delighted to run this article now.

Over pages 20 to 22 is a fascinating article about the 1935 Silver Jubilee Westminster S.C. "Forgery". I don't begin to understand about "forgeries" of this cover but Richard Bennett gives very clear pointers so they can be recognised. Even to this day, any cover can be forged so we need to be made aware of what might be out there. If anyone knows about other forged covers then please write an article about it/them and our members can be warned what to look out for. I know there are covers, so called "forged", which are made by miss cutting Press Sheets to produce 'miscut' miniature sheet panes.

They are usually put on ebay where unsuspecting collectors and overseas collectors are duped into paying large amounts for them. Forgers of this kind often say it is a deliberate 'miscut' of a Press Sheet and there seems to be money out there for brazenly 'forged' covers of this kind. I think the buyers are under the impression that these covers will be worth more because they are 'forged'. Unfortunately, from past awareness of such covers, this is often true. But such items can only bring our hobby in to disrepute.

October is the month of this year's AGM and it is fast approaching. It is on the 18th October at the usual venue, The Collingwood Centre, Great Barr, Birmingham. The usual information, agenda, dealers attending the fair and directions are on page 5.

We hope to be there this year, all being well. We will have a special vehicle for Dot to travel in so, as long as everything comes into place, and Dot remains able as she is now, we both should be there.

We all look forward to meeting new and long standing members alike. Come along if you can. We have a great day and a lovely buffet lunch is laid on for us.

Please continue to send in your items for publication – we desperately need them! We could have a 24 page newsletter every issue if we received the material to put in them. Well all that remains for us to say is Happy Collecting.

Phil Sheridan, Hon. Editor.

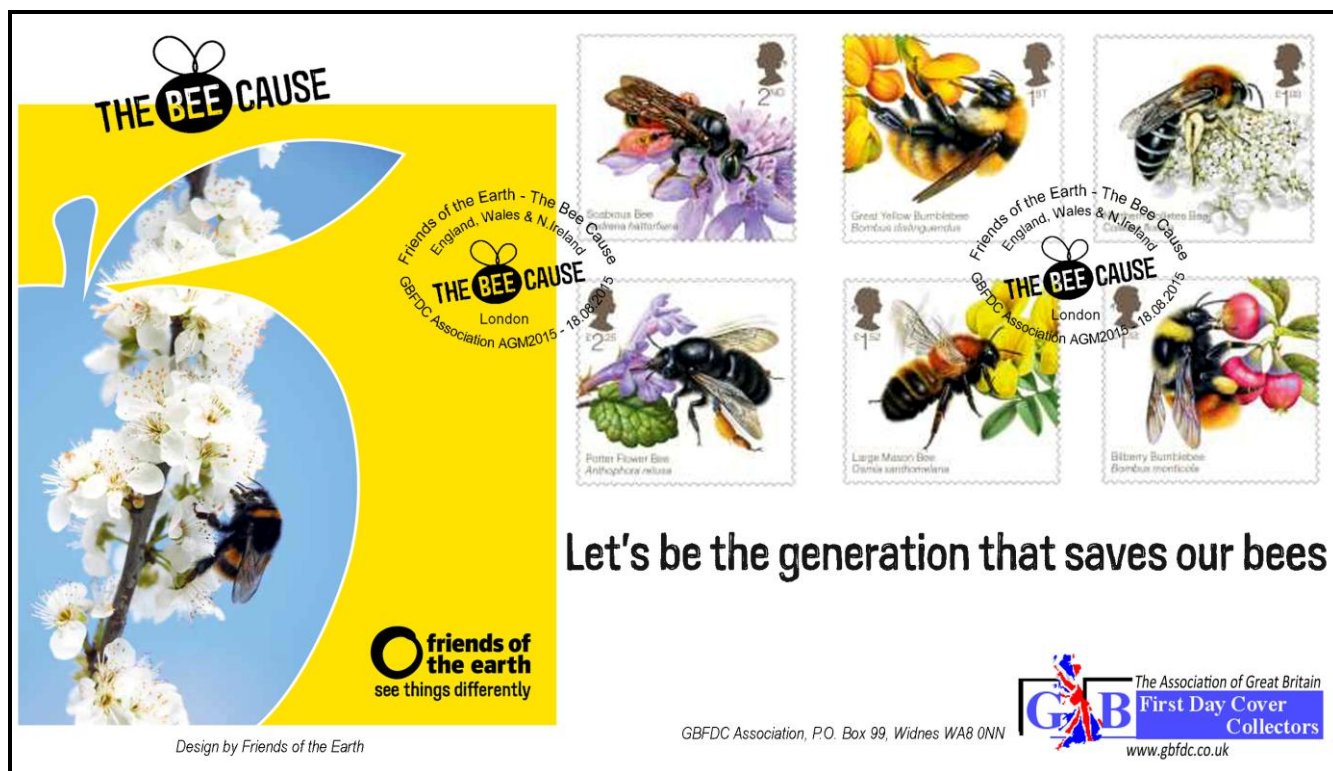
The Association of Great Britain First Day Cover Collectors Official Covers 2015

GBFDC AGM2015 OFFICIAL COVER – Bees - 18 August 2015

We are extremely honoured to partner Friends of the Earth campaign, THE BEE CAUSE, to bring you this highly attractive First Day Cover that will only be available to attendees of the GBFDC AGM 2015. As you can see, it is a highly collectable issue, and cover, there being only 60 produced.

If you would like to acquire this FDC then we will be very pleased to see you on the day. See page 6 for details of this year's AGM.

Bees single set GBFDC AGM2015 official cover shown below for member information



**David Millership 29, Richmond Road, Pontnewydd, Cwmbran, Torfaen
NP44 1EQ**



**Tel: 01633-793014 Mobile: 07866-816567
E-mail: davidmillership@hotmail.co.uk**

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

Please send for free catalogue

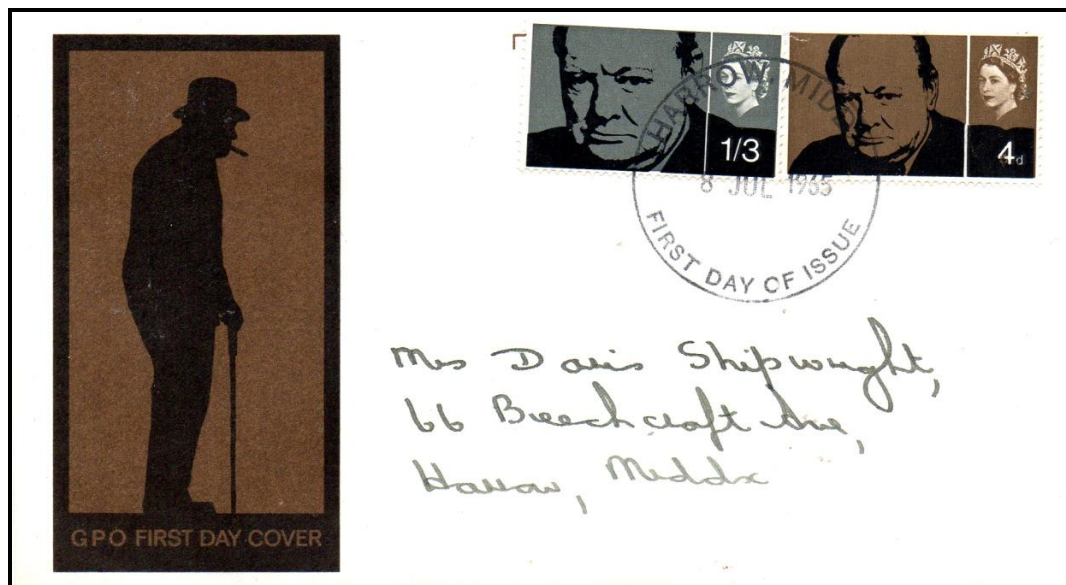
Fairs: Autumn Stampex Gallery Bay 23A-- September 16th - 19th 2015
GBFDC AGM Fair – 18th October 2015

Let's Connect.....by Nigel McGarry

Sir Winston Leonard Spencer Churchill KG, OM, CH, TD, DL, FRS, RA.

In 1965 a rather austere set of two stamps were issued to commemorate the life and death of Sir Winston Churchill who was one of, if not, the greatest war time leader/s of the 20th century. In my endeavour to find a new connection for the stamps to compliment the likes of Bladon, Oxford and Bristol I recently came across a GPO cover with the stamps cancelled by a Harrow First Day of Issue Handstamp.

In April 1888 Churchill began attending Harrow School which became his alma mater.



If you haven't seen it, Google the Mail Online - Churchill - Harrow and see a fascinating piece and picture of the school and Churchill in 1892.

British Flora

Flowers usually provide provide an attractive set of stamps that can be connected by all sorts of handstamps from a Botanic Gardens, Belfast CDS to Kew Gardens handstamps.



Not so long ago I bought a Cotswold Cover bearing the lovely 1979 Spring Flowers set. The reason was the connection of the London SW First Day of Issue Handstamp to the Chelsea Flower Show held every May in the grounds of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, London SW. This is a super link to the stamps to look out for.

Finally did anyone link the Battle of Waterloo issue to the London EC Royal Mail Handstamp (No 4664) featuring St. Paul's Cathedral? The 'Iron Duke' himself is buried there which is a story in itself.

GBFDC 2015 AGM

In accordance with Paragraph 3 of the Constitution, notice is hereby given of the Annual General Meeting to be held on Sunday 18th October 2015 at the Collingwood Centre, Great Barr, Birmingham, B43 7NF at 1pm. Tel: 0121 360 1484
Doors open at 10am. A buffet lunch will be available at 12 midday.

The following business will be transacted:-

- 1.To consider the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 26th October 2014.
- 2.To consider reports of the Association's activities since the last AGM
- 3.To consider the Financial Statement for the most recent Financial Year.
- 4.To elect an Honorary Chairman and other Committee Members as provided in the Constitution.
- 5.To consider any proposal by a member received in writing by the Honorary Secretary, at least five weeks before the date of the meeting.

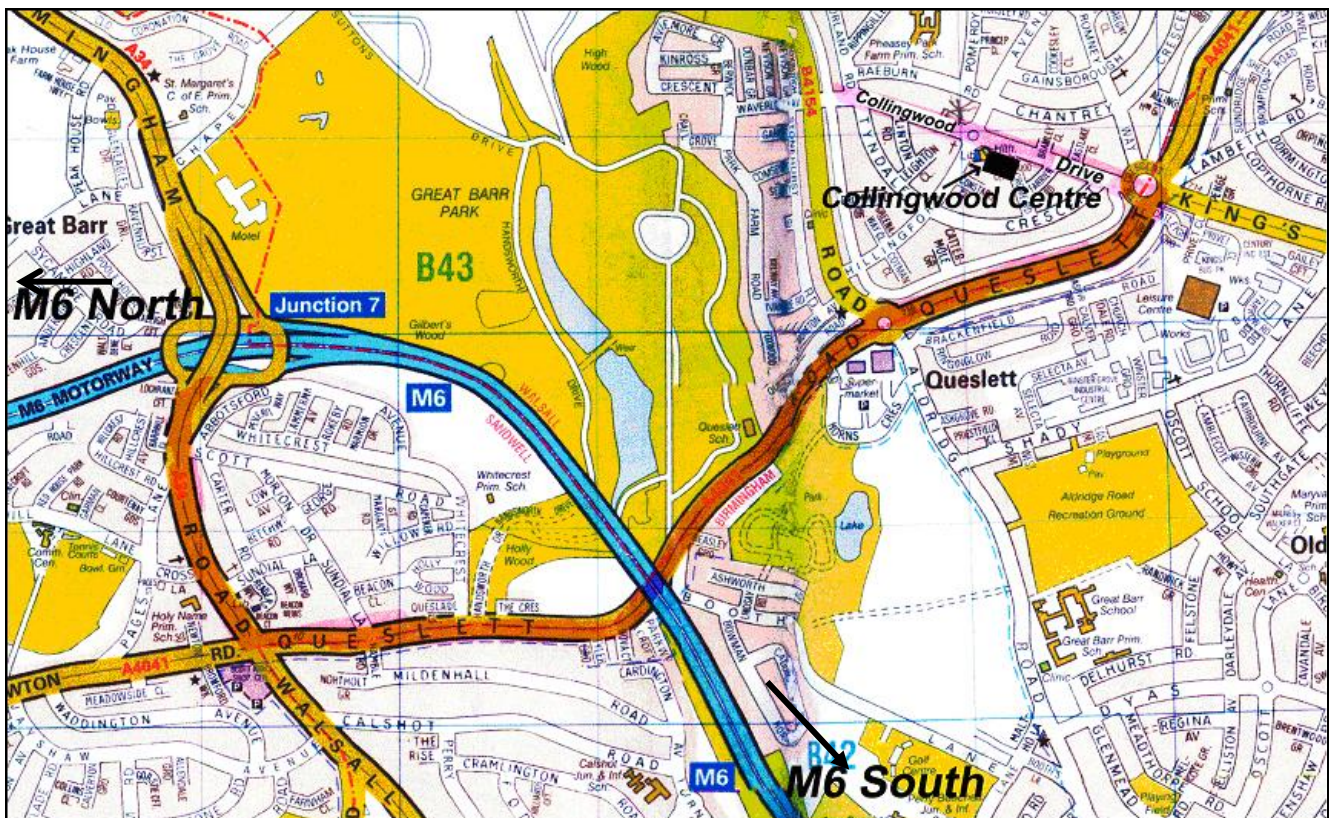
Ian Balcombe
Honorary Secretary

Dealers attending AGM cover fair: Richard Park, Phil Sheridan. David Millership, Peter Heath, Brian Reeve, Terry Hurlstone, Joseph Bevan, Sam Downes, Peter and Michael Maslak, Tony Mee.

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.





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

Dear Editor.....

I attended Europhilex after work on the first day, so my visit was brief. The show was not particularly busy at this time, and my experience was mixed. As I also collect Spanish FDCs, it was great to visit the Spanish stand and meet for the first time the staff from Madrid who handle my subscription. I was able to buy my allocation of Penny Black sheets, and used two of these to create first day covers, which I posted in the box near to the Royal Mail stand. However I was disappointed when these came back with a 14 May postmark, rather than 13 May. I took this up with the Special Handstamp Centre, who advised that the sorting of covers took place at the Exhibition. I thought that covers posted at the Exhibition would receive a postmark corresponding to the day of posting.

Paul Drohan

Dear Editor.....

On the 12th of May I travelled to London for the Europhilex Stamp Show. In the afternoon I called to see a girl my ex and I used to foster. She contacted me last year and said that if I was ever in London she would be glad to see me. I met her husband and her two children, a boy of 13 and a girl of 20. It was lovely to see her again.

On the 13th I made my way to the stamp show, arriving there at 8.45 a.m. to find I was the first in the queue. I unfolded my chair and patiently waited until 10 a.m. No end of people were just walking in and were being told to go and collect their passes. There were people like myself who had bought a ticket and were expecting to just walk in. Some of them got really peeved because they were told to go to the back of the queue but they knew it didn't start until 10 a.m. Phil Sheridan arrived quite early and was not far behind me in the queue. I did offer her my chair at one point but she was quite alright standing.

10 a.m. arrived and we were let in. I was quite dismayed at the amount of people who were already at the Royal Mail stand. I was hoping to get sheet 1 but ended up with 96, 97 and 98. I gave Phil my 96 sheet for my first day cover from her. Phil was the only one to sponsor a dedicated handstamp for Europhilex date, 13th May. There was also a Royal Mail hand stamp counter and I had the rest of my covers franked and I did not have to put an address on them. I had taken a sponge and roller with me to put the sheets on the covers. I loaned them out to a few people at the counter as they were struggling to put the stamp sheets on the envelopes.

I really enjoyed the show. I had a very nice day there.

I see Buckingham Covers are selling their overprint covers for £79.95 and using the Royal Mail Hand Stamp. Benham Covers are selling theirs for £100 per cover and using the Royal Mail Hand Stamp. So if you have been lucky enough to obtain a cover for Europhilex from Phil and Dot, you have a very unique and collectible cover.

Henry Pugh

Dear Editor.....

In reply to Mr Park's letter in the June newsletter in response to my request for a realisation list of items sold in the auction, I understand it takes a lot of his time entering all the data on to the computer. I'm unable to help as I've got no email address or computer (and don't want one.)

Letters Page Continued.....

If Mr Park is happy, as he says, to supply me with the data, would he be happy to supply me with a hard copy? This is all I requested in the first place. I will send him a Post Paid SAE.

D. Whalley

FREE PRIZE DRAW

Don't Forget - Every letter and article published gains free entry into our Prize Draw for a sought after AGM cover. Draw will take place during the AGM 2015

GBFDC Minutes of the Committee Meeting held by conference call on Sunday 7th June 2015 commencing at 7.30pm.

1. Members present. Richard Park in the Chair, David Cohen, Dot Radley, Phil Sheridan, Ian Balcombe
2. Members absent/apologies. Not applicable.
3. Minutes of Committee Meeting held on the 11th May 2014 were read out. They were proposed by Phil Sheridan and seconded by David Cohen and they were accepted as a true and proper record.
4. Matters arising. None.
5. Chairman's Report. Whilst we are gaining members, there is a net loss of members. Flyers were being distributed. Phil and Dot were thanked for producing the flyer. It was felt that there would be little response to advertisements in the main Stamp Magazines. Richard had written an article for Stamp and Coin Magazine and publicised the Association but had not produced any new members.
6. Website. This is being looked at by 50 people per day and was producing new members. A questionnaire may be of some benefit. The Paypal payment gateway will need to be upgraded.
7. Treasurer's Report. The accounts were currently in a very healthy state. Action taken over the past years had come to fruition. Membership income is slightly down this year. Costs we can foresee for this year (covers, postage, insurance, web site, newsletter and AGM) will be covered by available club funds. Subscription letters would be sent out with the August newsletter and reminders with the October newsletter.
8. Newsletter Report. Phil and Dot reported that the incentive of being in a draw for the AGM cover by submitting letters or articles had been a success.
9. Cover Report. Future Association covers as well as the AGM cover were discussed.
10. Advertising Report. Flyers were discussed as above. There were difficulties in getting reports of the GBFDC covers in Stamp Magazines due to the Royal Mail embargo.
11. Membership. Currently stands at 227 - the majority of which receive the newsletter by email.
12. AGM. This will be taking place on the place on the 18th October 2015. All members of the committee were happy to stand for re-election in their respective Offices for the next 2 years Terry Barnett will be standing as Secretary and Ian Balcombe will stand for election as Publicity Officer.
13. Any other business. None
14. Date of next meeting – Saturday 17th October before the AGM at 5pm.
Conference call finished at 8.35pm

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



Bees 18 August 2015

Full single set on Bumblebee
Conservation Trust official cover

Price - **£17.25** (inc. p/p)

(Limited to 55 numbered covers)

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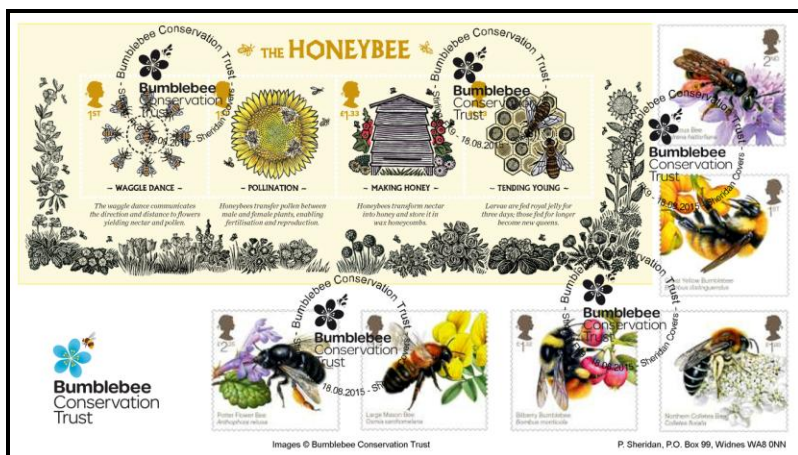
Bees 18 August 2015

Full miniature sheet on Bumblebee
Conservation Trust official cover

Price - **£17.25** (inc. p/p)

(Limited to 55 numbered covers)

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Bees 18 August 2015

Full Miniature Sheet & Single Set on
Bumblebee Conservation Trust
Double official cover

Price - **£22** (inc. p/p)

(Limited to 32 numbered covers)

Offer – all 3 covers for £54

*There may also be a limited number of
Bees Retail Booklet covers produced but
it is still in the early stages as we haven't
decided whether or not to do them.*

For further details on any of the covers shown here, please contact: **Tel: 0151 257 8874 or 07975 858 815 / 07939 832 184** If we are not available please leave your name and telephone number and we will call you back. Alternatively **E-mail us at: Sheridanfdcs@aol.com**

ANNOUNCEMENT - We apologise for the delay in dispatching Gallipoli and Waterloo issues for the 14th May & 18th June, but, at the time of writing, we are working to get the GBFDC Newsletter out for August, plus printing out Bees covers. It has delayed us quite a lot with our own work. Due to various set backs, we are still working on all covers to get them out to you ASAP. We hope to dispatch Gallipoli covers and Generic Sheet covers for 6th & 13th May together very soon. We will then work on the Bees covers and once they are off we will try to get Waterloo covers out to you. All covers will arrive eventually, and we have everyone's orders in. We beg your patience a bit longer. If worried then please contact us anytime. We are always happy to hear from you. Thank you for your understanding & patience. **Phil Sheridan.**

CHARITY AUCTION.....Europhilex M/S 13th May 2015 Official Cover

We are offering, via auction, this sought after **Europhilex Penny Black Miniature Sheet, 13th May 2015, Number:0203, official cover** in our Charity Auction. All proceeds will go to Warrington General Hospital Breast Cancer Clinic. The charity is run alongside the clinic and supplies breast prosthesis, prosthesis bras, lymphoedema, gloves and sleeves to breast cancer patients unable to purchase such expensive items themselves. It is a very deserving charity and one that also coincides with the cover donor's own endeavours to raise funds for Breast Cancer Care. The cover is not from me, although I produced it. One of my very altruistic customers, and a GBFDC member, donated it, and we would like to thank them very much. A receipt from Warrington Hospital Breast Cancer Care for the money raised will be published in either the October or December newsletter.

Background - The Europhilex Penny Black miniature sheet, 13th May 2015, was limited to 7,500 by Royal Mail, and was ostensibly for visitors to the London Europhilex Show at the Business Design Centre, Islington, 13th -16th May. The M/S FDI was 13th May, the first day of the show, and was only available from the show. Tallents House did not get any in, and cover producers and dealers (Key Account Holders [KAH]) were not taken in to account when Royal Mail was printing this M/Sheet. However demand was so high from KAH that Royal Mail decided to 'allocate' a certain number of sheets to each KAH, based on their annual spend with RM, but they had to be collected and paid for at the Royal Mail stand in Europhilex show itself. That meant having to travel to London to pick them up. Royal Mail allocated a set number of sheets for sale on each day of the show. Visitors were limited to purchasing 3 sheets only, and once they were sold on that day, no more were available until the following day. It made sense therefore to attend the show as early as possible on one of the four days in order to ensure sheets were available. All sheets were sold out by 2pm on all four days of the show, and all 7,500 sheets had gone at the close of the show on the 16th May.

Sheridan Official Covers for this miniature sheet all bear the Sheridan Jacob Perkins D Cylinder Printing Press 13th May 2015 postmark, the only dedicated official postmark to be sponsored for that day and specifically for this sheet. Just 64 covers were produced and sold out at new issue. These covers are now selling for very high prices. It is a cover that will be missing from many collections and this is a rare chance to acquire one.

The auction is straight forward the highest bid wins the cover. All bids must be received by the **4th September 2015. The starting estimate is £60. All bids over £60 will be considered.**

Please either post or email your bid to Phil Sheridan, P.O. Box 99, Widnes, Cheshire WA8 0NN, E-mail: sheridanfdcs@aol.com. Phil Sheridan will post out the cover to the winner by Special Delivery free of charge after the 4th September. Thank you and Good Luck.

Jacob Perkins
D Cylinder
Printing Press

THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE PENNY BLACK

0203 OF 7500

175th Anniversary of the Penny Black

Europhilex 13 May 2015 Overprint

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

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.

That's it from us for this edition. Please do look in your collections and see if you can put together an article for us. It will be most appreciated.

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

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Whist we are happy to receive lists of covers for the MCS written in long hand for members who do not have a computer (or access to email), we would ask those member who do have a computer and (or) access to email to take the trouble to type out their lists in a Word Doc. or directly in to an email and email it to us. This will save us a lot of work and time in transferring the list to computer and trying to decipher hand writing. If you submit a list in long hand and we know you have a computer and email then we are sorry but we can't guarantee to put your list in the newsletter. We hope you will understand. We are trying to make things a little easier for Phil & Dot due to their ongoing health problems

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.

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Contact details: Jon Cox – joncox999@btinternet.com Tel: 0121 352 1621 P&P £1 any quantity.

1970	Philympia	FDI Darlington on Royal Lancers Philatelic Society card	£30
1973	Cricket	FDI Gloucestershire on PO cover. Unaddressed.	£5
1974	Fire	FDI Belfast on Northern Ireland Fire Brigade postcard (3½p only)	£5
1974	Postal Union	FDI Southampton on PO cover. Catalogued.	£6
1975	Charity	House of Commons CDS on PO cover. Unaddressed.	£6
1975	Architecture	St Georges Chapel with Carried by coach cachet on PO cover	£6
1975	Sailing	FDI Southend on Sea . Benham Woodcut cover.	£4
1976	USA	FDI Fareham on Copecrest woven silk picture card	£8
1976	USA	CDS Northborough on PO cover. Serviced by A G Bradbury	£22
1976	Caxton	Plymouth College official Cat £150 neat h/w address	£60
1977	Chemistry	Bureau on Shell Chemicals cover	£8
1978	Horses	FDI Aylesbury on Amersham Horse Show cover	£12
1979	Dogs	England v N.Ireland, Wembley on PO cover	£9
1979	Horseracing	Chigwell School official.	£19
1979	Horseracing	Norwich Union official with 10½p doubled with 14F Belgium stamp cancelled Antwerpen carried on Royal Mail Coach from East Anglia to Antwerp	£6
1979	Year of Child	Home International Bowls, Pontypool. Pilgrim official	£30
1980	Conductors	Sir Geoffrey de Havilland on Mosquito Museum official	£60
1980	Conductors	CDS Stamford – birthplace of Sir Malcolm Sargent on PO cover	£8
1990	Queen Award	Paper for Penny Black, Northampton official	£30
1992	Gilbert & Sull	Sir Arthur Sullivan, Sesquicentenary, Savoy	£6

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Covers for Sale. Please contact Terry Barnett 0151 486 2610 or email terryhuntsc@tiscali.co.uk

If you would like a photocopy or a scan of any cover please contact me.

ALL POSTAGE FREE

1971	Even cover Trans America Expedition with an RAC cds	£2
1936	1/9/36 Ed. 8 th on illustrated cover Glasgow cds Neat h/w add	£40
1961	POSB with an Accrington cds Typed add	£12
1967	EFTA phos.Edinburgh Bureau cancel. Typed add	£1
1967	Chichester with a Plymouth cancel . Typed add	£1
1969	Concorde on three SP maxi cards each Filton cancel	£3
1974	7p postage due on a Cotswold cover Marshfield cancel	£10
1975	Speedpost with a Brighton cancel	£6
1978	Christmas on an Abbey cover with a Bethlehem cancel	£1
1981	Folklore on the Ainscough cover with a London fdi	£4
1986	26p/34p cylinder blocks on Benham D43	£2
1992	Wintertime on Benham SPG14 with Foxearth cancel	£3
1993	Timekeepers with a Greenwich CDs	£2
1993	Orchids with a Kew Gardens cds	£3
1993	R. Britain with a Roman Road cds	£2
1993	R. Britain on Benham SPG21 with a Newcastle cancel	£3

Continued.....

1994 P. of Wales on Benham SPG23 with a Nottingham cancel	£3
1994 Summertime with a Wimbledon cds	£2
1994 Golf on Benham BLCS96b with a Sandwich cancel	£1
1994 C. tunnel on Benham BLCS95 Pegasus Bridge cancel	£1
1994 C. Tunnel on Benham SPG24 BFPS2420 cancel	£3
1996 Football on the Mastercard official with Wembley cancel	£1
1996 Greetings (11 th November) Reprint with Windsor cancel	£5
1997 Hong Kong retail sheet. Private cover Parl. Sq. cancel	£2
1997 Hong Kong retail sheet. Private cover Chinatown cancel	£2
1998 P. Diana on Benham SPG39 Kensington Pal.Gdns cancel	£3
1999 Farmers Tales on the Mercury official with London cancel	£1
2002 Football on the Scott official with a Soho cancel	£2
2004 Wales retail booklet with a Merthyr cancel	£2
1987 Pottery - BLCS26 - London SW7	£1
1988 Linnean Soc.- BLCS29 – Arundel	£1
1989 Ind. Arch. – BLCS44 – Redruth	£1
1990 !d Black Ann. – BLCS48 – Plymouth	£1
1990 Europa – BLCS51 – Alexandra Palace	£1
1991 Europe in Space – BLCS64 – The Rocket	£1
1991 Maps – BLCS68 – Ashford	£1
1991 Christmas – BLCS69 – Shrewsbury	£1
1992 Wintertime – BLCS70 – Godalming	£1
1992 Tennyson – BLCS73 – Winchester	£1
1992 Europa – BLCS74b – Manchester	£1
1992 Civil War – BLCS75b – Kington	£1
1992 Gilbert and S. – BLCS76b – Penzance	£1
1992 Single Market = BLCS78 – Westminster	£1
1993 Swans – BLCS80 – Slimbridge	£1
1993 B. Potter – BLCS81c – London W8	£1
1993 Timekeepers – BLCS82b – Greenwich	£1
1993 Orchids – BLCS83 – Kew	£1
1993 Art – BLCS84 – Lymington	£1
1993 autumn – BLCS87 – Skipton	£1
1993 S. Holmes – BLCS88 – Granada TV	£1
1993 Christmas - BLCS89 – Rochester	£1
1994 Trains – BLCS90 – Waverley Station	£2
1994 Trains – BLCS90b – Euston	£2
1994 Greetings – BLCS91 – Daily Express	£2
1994 Greetings – BLCS91b – Paddington	£2
1994 P. of Wales – BLCS92 – Caernarvon	£1
1994 N. Ireland – BLCS92c – Co. Down	£1
1994 Postcards – BLCS93 – London SW1	£1
1994 C. Tunnel – BLCS94 (pair) – Folkestone	£2
1994 D-Day - BLCS95 – BFPS2419	£1
1994 D-Day - BLCS95b – Portsmouth	£1
1994 Golf – BLCS96 – Turnberry	£1
1994 Golf – BLCS96b – Sandwich	£1
1994 Summertime – BLCS98 – Kent CCC	£1
1994 Summertime – BLCS98b – Braemar	£1
1994 Medical D. – BLCS99 – Whatstandwell	£1
1994 Medical D. – BLCS99b – The Lancet	£1
1994 Christmas – BLCS100 – Nazareth	£1
1994 Christmas – BLCS100b – Bethlehem	£1

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

Email n.whatmore54@btinternet.com

POSTAGE £1 SIGNED FOR EXTRA

1977 Rackets - B'ham FDI on P.O cover R/S	£8
1977 Silver Jubilee (May date) - Portsmouth FDI on Stuart cover T/A	£10
1977 Xmas - Cambridge FDI on P.O cover U/A	£8
1977 Coronation - Windsor FDI on P.O cover L/A	£4
1979 Horse racing - King Lynn FDI + Royal studs cachet on P.O cover U/A	£12
1979 Child - Hartfield FDI on P.O cover U/A	£5
1979 R.Hill M/S - Kidderminster FDI on P.O cover L/A	£3
1979 R.Hill M/S - Sanquhar FDI on Cotswold cover U/A	£3
1981 R.Wedding - Chester FDI on P.O cover U/A	£7
1981 R.Wedding - Truro FDI on Philart cover U/A	£7
1982 Cars - Manchester FDI on RM cover L/A	£5
1984 Royal Mail - Exeter District FDI on RM cover L/A	£4
1986 R.Wedding - Windsor FDI on RM cover T/A	£5 YB
1991 Dogs - Liverpool FDI on RM cover U/A	£7
1992 Glorious - Windsor FDI on RM cover T/A (Seller did not put a price so please contact seller if interested in this cover)	

Contact details: Ken Brown, 788 St. John's Road, Clacton-on-Sea, Essex CO16 8BS

Tel: 01255 820514 Email: sucakeli788@btinternet.com

14/9/36 Edward VIII 1d Westminster cover P.A.	£65
1947 11d defin plain cover Lancaster CDS H.A.	£8
6/7/53 defines illustrated cover P.A.	£15
1957 Parl Conf airletter with Conference H/S T.A.	£8
1/7/64 2½d sideways wmk illustrated cover U.A.	£8
1963 Paris Postal Conf (ord) Dover P O cover (Ship Hotel) T.A.	£12
1963 Lifeboats (phos) London FDI slogan GPO cover P.A.	£15
1963 Compac (phos) illustrated cover U.A.	£18
1964 Geographical 4d value only. Plain cover v. clear leave no litter slogan T.A.	£5
1964 Shakespeare 2½d printed postcard 400 th Anniv H/S T.A.	£5
1965 Parliament (ord) GPO cover House of Commons CDS neat H.A. slit open	£8
1965 Parliament (phos) GPO cover House of Commons CDS neat H.A. slit open	£8
1966 Abbey (ord) GPO cover relevant London SW FDI T.A.	£3
1966 Technology (ord) Stuart cover Macclesfield CDS U.A.	£25
1967 EFTA (ord) GPO cover House of Commons CDS neat H.A.	£8
16/9/68 4d plus 1d postal stat envelope used 1 st day P.A.	£4
1969 Cooks Booklet Philart covers Liverpool CDS P.A.	£10
1971 low value defines Windsor FDI no post delayed cachet	£4
1971 Wales regionals PO cover scarce Aberystwyth H/S T.A.	£6
1972 Churches set of Benham engraved. A few trivial tone spots clear of stamps	£8
1972 Churches Letheringset H/S U.A.	£6
10/9/73 3p defin Stuart cover Windsor CDS U.A.	£2
1974 Churchill Benham Engraved cover with Bladon CDS A L. few tone spots	£25
30/11/74 Churchill Europa M/S Café Royal H/S P.A.	£2
24/11/75 Speedpost T.A.	£5
14/7/76 Pair of 65p and 85p booklets Stuart covers Windsor H/S U.A. Scarce	£35
1977 Racket Sports Squash official P.L.	£25
26/1/77 Pair of 50p panes on 1 Philart Luxury cover Windsor H/S P.A.	£2
1977 Chemistry Royal Institute official P.L.	£10
13/6/77 Pair of 70p and 90p booklets Stuart covers Windsor H/S U.A.	£4
1977 Wildlife illustrated Otterferry CDS tone spots on perfs of 1 stamp	£3
16/11/77 7p and 9p coils Cotswold cover Windsor H/S very light toning on Some perfs P.L.	£45

Continued.....

1978 Coronation PO cover Queen Elizabeth Ave CDS P.A.	£8
1979 Horse Racing S.P. official P.L.	£5
1979 Rowland Hill Bruce Castle official U.A.	£10
1979 Police Cotswold official label fallen off	£3
14/11/79 Coils Cotswold cover Windsor H/S P.L.	£10
25/6/80 Pair of 50p panes on PO covers Windsor H/S P.L.	£20
1986 British Rail booklet on PPS covers with diff TPO CDSs P.A.	£15
4/8/87 26p redrawn value RM cover Windsor Phil Counter H/S U.A.	£6
2001 Submarines Prestige Book on Internetstamps covers (only 69 sets exist)	£30

Contact Details:- Peter Middleton 331 Wollaton Rd. NOTTINGHAM NG8 1FQ

1975	Architecture	Chester Heritage City	£16
1975	Sailing	Royal Dorset Yacht Club Official	£40
1975	Railway	Longmoor Military Railway Official	£20
1976	Bicentenary	58 th Philatelic Congress, Plymouth	£11
1976	Roses	Year of the Rose Northampton Official	£35
1976	Caxton	Caxton Exhibition British Library	£10
1976	Reformers	Sanquhar CDS on Sanquhar Official P.O.	£15
1978	Coronation	Visit of Prince of Wales Newton Aycliffe	£15
1978	Coronation	Buckingham Palace CDS	£90
1978	Christmas	History of Philately Exhibition Official	£20
1978	Christmas	British Library Official	£20
1979	Flowers	Kew Gds CDS (Traffic Light Gutter pairs, 2 covers)	£60
1979	Police	Chief Office London EC1	£9
1979	Year of the Child	Give a Child a Home Slogan	£65
1980	London 1980	Collect British Stamps Slogan	£30
1980	(May) London M/S	Earls Court CDS + Single Stamp CDS	£40
1980	Queen Mother	Buckingham Palace CDS	£80
1980	Queen Mother	Code Sort Comes to Manchester	£12
1981	Royal Wedding	Greetings from Watton at Stone official	£45
1981	Royal Wedding	Royal Tournament BF1805PS official	£23
1982	Maritime	Maritime Bristol Slogan	£50
1982	Motor Cars	Tile Hill Wood School official	£50
1982	Motor Cars	NEC Birmingham CDS on Ford Motors Cover	£65
1983	Army	Sanquhar CDS on Sanquhar official	£15
1983	Army	Forces Post Office CDS	£9
1983	Gardens	House of Lords CDS	£9

Contact Details: Phil Sheridan, Tel: 0151 257 8874 / 07975 858 815

E-mail: sheridanfcds@aol.com

Summer Discount - 20% Off 5 covers or more just for this newsletter

24/09/02	Astronomy PSB Panes x 4 Sheridan Blue Planet (blur ink H/S) off. (V.rare, last set)	£80
26/02/04	LOTR Sheridan King Arthur's Labyrinth, Machynlleth, official (rare now)	£50
13/04/04	Ocean Liners (set) Sheridan Cunard red ink H/S official cover (rare now)	£50
13/04/04	Ocean Liners (M/S) Sheridan Cunard red ink H/S official cover (V. scarce now)	£60
25/05/04	RHS (set) Sheridan Flowers & Plants Association silver ink H/S official	£50
25/05/04	RHS (M/S) Sheridan Flowers & Plants Association silver ink H/S official (very rare)	£60
01/11/05	Xmas (set) Sheridan A Holy Christmas (Salmon Stained Glass) official	£40
01/11/05	Xmas (M/S) Sheridan A Holy Christmas (Ilian Rachov painting) official	£40
01/11/05	Xmas (Double, M/S & set) Sheridan A Holy Christmas official (last one)	£60
18/07/06	Nat. Portrait Gallery Sheridan Royal Society of Portrait Painters official	£40
31/08/06	Three Kings M/S Sheridan Windsor Castle official (46 done)	£40
31/08/06	Three Kings M/S Sheridan Mulready reproduction official (40 done)	£40
15/05/07	Beside the Seaside Sheridan Blackpool Sandcastle Water Park official	£40

Continued.....

28/02/08 Lancaster & York (set) Sheridan Richard III Society official	£40
28/02/08 Lancaster & York (M/S) Sheridan Richard III Society official	£40
28/02/08 Lancaster & York (set) Sheridan Richard III Society official & Royal Armouries M/M	£43
13/05/08 St. Pauls (set) Cathedral Sheridan St. Paul's Cathedral official	£40
13/05/08 St. Pauls (M/S) Cathedral Sheridan St. Paul's Cathedral official	£40
13/05/08 St. Pauls (Double, set & M/S) Cathedral Sheridan St. Paul's Cathedral official	£60
21/04/09 Age of Tudors (set) Sheridan Mary Rose official cover	£40
21/04/09 Age of Tudors (M/S) Sheridan Mary Rose official cover	£40
21/04/09 Age of Tudors (set) Sheridan Mary Rose official cover & Mary Rose meter mark	£43

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

CDS strikes perfect unless otherwise stated. Photocopies plz send SAE. Email scans free

23/11/77 Christmas RM fdc Full set plus two extra 9p & one extra 7p to make up registered post. Partridge Green (double ring) CDS Has Partridge Green Reg. label No.0028	£35
09/07/80 Brontes Benham BOCS 22 signed by P.D James (died 27/11/2014)	£20
02.08/90 Queen Mother Sotherby silk with Glamis, Forfar CDS . Dundee Reg label No.659534 Plus Cachet "Glamis Ancestral Home of H.M. The Queen Mother" in red.	£20
01/03/94 Prince of Wales Paintings on Bradbury Caernarfon Castle cover & Caernarfon CDS With Prince of Wales' Feathers blue ink cachet on cover (A lovely cover)	£15
03/10/95 Rugby League Rugby School Sotherby Silk. Rugby School meter mark & Rugby S/H	£10
11/04/95 Nat.Trust. RM fdc full set NT stamps, plus full set of 1981 NT stamps (10 stamps on one cover) with National Trust Centenary meter mark. All cancelled with NT, Queensgate S/H	£15
14/05/96 Football. RM fdc with The Football Trust meter mark & Bobby Moore West Ham United & England 108 Caps, London S/H	£10
21/01/97 The Great Tudor. 4d Post fdc cancelled Windsor, Berks, CDS . 4 extra Henry stamps on back to make up registered cost (A great cover)	£15
21/01/97 The Great Tudor. 4d Post fdc with Royal Sovereign meter mark. Cancelled Hampton Court S/H (Very rare M/M for this issue, only 5 done)	£15
13/11/97 Queen's Golden Wedding RM fdc Windsor, Berks CDS . Registered. Extra Gold Machins and 63p wedding stamps to make up reg. post	£20
13/11/97 Queen's Golden Wedding RM fdc Windsor Great Park CDS	£8
23/04/98 Comedians RM fdc.30 Years of BBC Local Radio M/M & Shepherds Bush CDS (Reg)	£12
02/03/99 Patients' Cambridge S.C. Concorde 30 th Anniversary, Filton (75 produced)	£20
15/06/99 Royal Wedding. RM fdc with Queen's Club meter mark & Windsor, Berks CDS (Reg.)	£18
01/05/01 Occasions Smilers Cotswold fdc with 5 Smilers occasion stamps with attached Cotswold/Stuart's own labels. Cancelled with 150 th Anniversary of The Great Exhibition, Hyde Park. Very rare FDC. Not listed	£40
15/05/01 London Buses stamps. GBFDC Assoc. official	£20
10/07/01 Pond Life. David Legg official especially commissioned watercolour painting by Peter Payne specifically for obtaining Fishponds CDS (No.11 of only 12 done. RARE)	£25
06/01/01 Xmas Robins RM fdc Snowflake meter mark & Hollybush CDS (Reg.)	£8
15/01/02 Just So Stories. Kingsland official (65 produced)	£20
06/02/02 Golden Jubilee. 4d Post Glass Coach fdc. Cancelled Heathrow CDS duelled with 2x Kenyan stamps cancelled Nyeri, Kenya CDS 14th Feb. on the front of cover. Better awaits on the reverse of this cover. Full set of 1992 Accession stamps also cancelled Heathrow CDS, plus 4 more Kenyan stamps cancelled Nyeri, Kenya CDS . Complete with explanatory filler card. Only 21 covers produced. A very unusual cover indeed. Photocopies of both sides available	£45
06/02/02 Golden Jubilee. RM fdc The Estate Office, Sandringham M/M & Jubilee Oak CDS	£12
05/03/02 Occasions. RM fdc cancelled Weddington CDS	£8
19/03/02 Coastlines. RM fdc stamps cancelled with the unusual Waterbeach, Cambridge CDS	£12
19/03/02 Coastlines. RM fdc Sail To Padstow This Year! meter mark cancelled Padstow CDS	£14
25/04/02 Q. Mother Memoriam. 4d Post fdc cancelled with Bowes (Double ring) CDS (Reg.)	£16
24/09/02 Astronomy M/S CoverCraft British Astronomical Assoc. official	£20
10/09/02 London Bridges. CoverCraft Institution of Structural Engineers official	£20
08/10/02 Post Boxes. CoverCraft The Trollope Society official	£20
04/03/03 Hello Booklet on 4d Post Occasions fdc. Full Cyl.No. Booklet with backing card intact on cover. HELLO! meter mark & cancelled with Hello, Waveton, Chester (Lion waving) S/H	£15

Village Church First Day Covers, 21 June 1972

By Selwyn Goodacre

Phil and Dot contributed an excellent, though anonymous, short appreciation of certain of these fine covers in *FD Coverage* 85, October 2008. This article seeks to expand and offer more detail on this brilliantly colourful issue.

Five historic English village churches were featured - St Andrew's, Greensted-juxta-Ongar, Essex (3p); All Saints, Earls Barton (4p); St Andrew's, Letheringsett, Holt, Norfolk (5p); St Andrew's, Helpringham, Sleaford, Lincolnshire (7 ½ p); St Mary the Virgin, Huish Episcopi, Langport, Somerset (9p). I have a personal interest in the issue, as I was married in All Saints church, Earls Barton (in 1964 – some years before the stamps!).

The stamps were designed by Ronald Maddox. The FDCs tend to be rather expensive these days, possibly because it was unfamiliar territory to local church organisations, who probably under-estimated the numbers of official covers likely to be sold. In fact only four of the villages in this issue organised their own 'official' covers (Letheringsett was the exception).

The Greensted-juxta-Ongar official cover is rather small, so the five stamps are crowded together. This meant that damage was quite likely when the stamps were affixed. The upshot is that 'clean' versions tend to be quite scarce. Official covers with the single stamp are rather more common – some have the vicar's stick-on label on the cover, but I have not yet ascertained if the Vicar signed any covers, though I do have one signed by D. Shippey, who I believe designed the official cover.

The Earls Barton official cover features an olive green line drawing of the Church tower by Ronald Maddox (the designer of the stamps), and a number of the covers have his signature alongside the drawing (see my letter in *FD Coverage* 85, October 2008), each is numbered – the highest number I know of is 154.



Fig.1.

I have never been a keen 'signed FDC' collector, but I do make an exception with the Village churches – as it is obvious that one signed by the Vicar in question is desirable. Happily a number of the Earls Barton official covers were signed by the Vicar at the time, and some by the Vicar and the Bishop of Peterborough (Fig 1).

An artist 'R. Mammatt' (?) (the signature is difficult to read) created a 'Special issue of 30' covers – each with a fine pencil drawing of the Church – all differing slightly. I have three of them (Fig 2).

With issues like this one, local post offices were allowed to use their own CDS, without the cover having to be registered. The dispensation was temporary, so 'Last Day Covers' are known. Earls Barton was allowed to use the CDS from issue date until 31 August 1973 (see my short article in *FD Coverage* 103, August 2011, on a 'last day cover'). Official covers with the first day of issue Earls Barton CDS are rare. I am still in search of an example, though I do have examples of the Post Office FDCs with the CDS.

Continued.....



Fig.2.

The Scott catalogue believes the Helpringham official cover was only issued with the single stamp but Adrian Bradbury tells me he thinks they do exist with the full quota. The PHS is certainly rather elaborate – and though the cover is small, there is certainly room for all five stamps.

The official cover for Huish Episcopi is a pleasant line drawing of the church. Again, the cover is small and there is only just room for all five stamps, such examples are therefore pretty rare.

There were a number of commercial covers – Abbey, British Forces Post Office, Cotswold, Festiniog Railways, Philcovers, Stuart, Thames, Wessex, and Philart, who issued a variety of different covers, including a series of five small covers – one for each of the five churches, usually these are found with just the one stamp. Although Letheringsett did not issue an official cover, I do have an example of the Letheringsett Philart small cover (with the single stamp) signed by the Vicar. The recent GBFDC auction had an example (with photo) with all five stamps, signed by the Vicar, but I was the under-bidder.

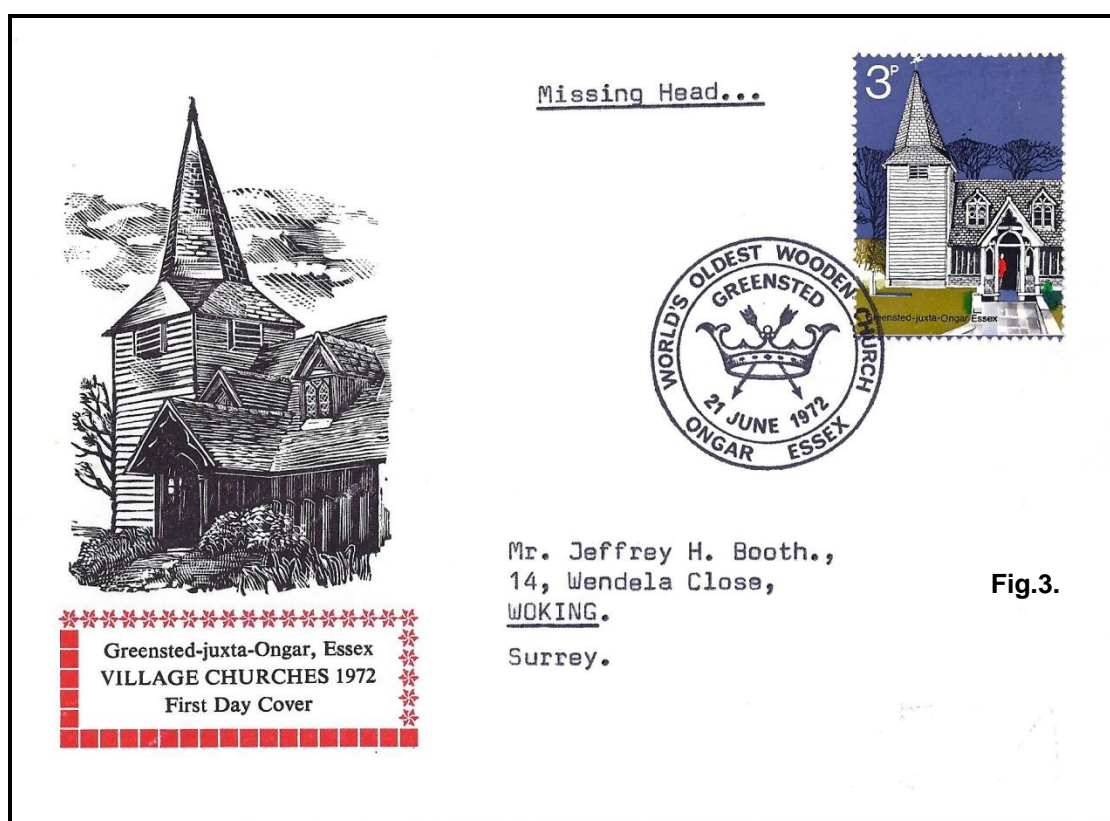


Fig.3.

Continued.....

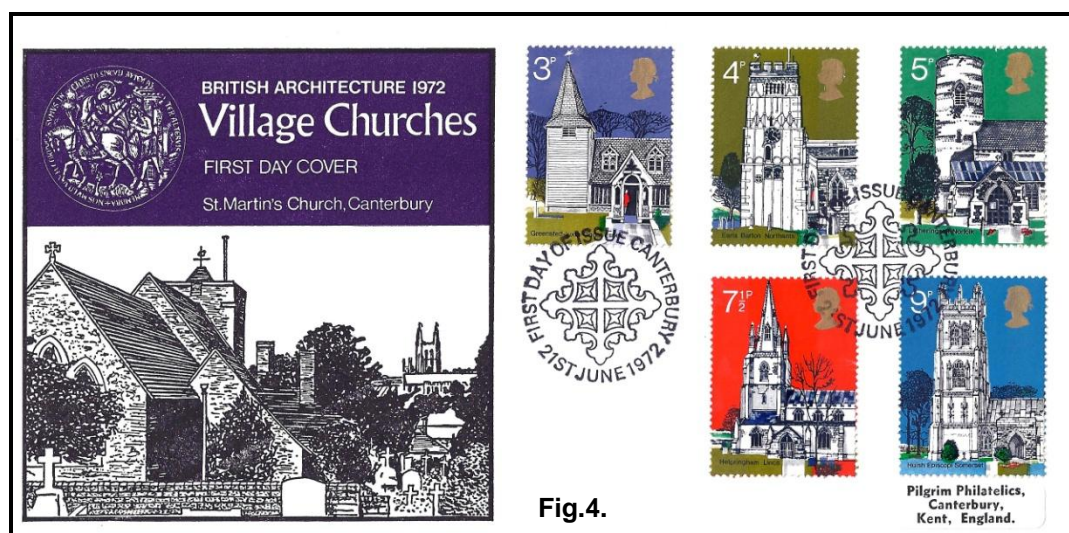
1972 was in the early days of Benham when they still producing brilliant small engraved covers. For the Village Churches, like Philart they issued one for each of the five churches, each with the single stamp. Tony Buckingham is fond of relating how he found in 1972 a sheet of 3p churches missing the Queen's head. 'I did 6 superb FDC and sold the rest to a specialist. If ever you see a 3p Ongar on Benham engraved with Ongar postmark – it's one I did'. Happily I do have one of them (Fig 3 - above).

Some of the most valuable FDCs for the 'Village Churches' issue do not feature the five named churches at all:

St Mary the Virgin Church, at Langley, near Slough issued a fine cover – in two different sizes. Each tends to retail for over £200. For the larger of these two I have an example signed by the Vicar. The smaller version I do not have, but one was shown in *FD Coverage* 85, October 2008.

St John The Baptist Church, Berkswell, Coventry had a nice official cover – also issued in two sizes, the smaller one is pictured in *FD Coverage* 85, October 2008; the larger one I have never seen. Both are again valued at over £200.

St Augustine's Church, Kilburn produced a fine official cover for their centenary celebrations. Examples with all five stamps are valued at over £250 (see *FD Coverage* 85, October 2008), sadly I still lack one of these.



St Martin's Church Canterbury also issued an official cover (Fig 4). This appears to be quite scarce, and is not listed in either the Scott or Bradbury catalogues. Booth simply lists the cancellation.



There are certain other 'Village Church' rarities. One is a special 'Armed Forces Postal Cover', issued by Philart. This appears to be excessively rare, retailing these days at over £300 (Fig 5).

Continued.....



The Parish Church of St Peter in Barnstaple issued a cover with a picture of the church, and Barnstaple FDI cancellation (Fig 6). When I bought this one, the dealer wondered if it was unique. This I rather doubt!

The Village Churches issue is certainly a fascinating area in which to collect. Thanks to Richard Park I have a number of covers with later dates, covering all sorts of events – football teams celebrating promotions, Loughborough Carillon 1973 50th Anniversary, Battle of Britain anniversary, first BEA air flights, Distribution of Royal Maundy – and so on.

The search continues...

Editor's Note: We thank Selwyn very much for sending us such a well put together article to publish on a very popular subject. I think Village Churches stamp issue 1972 is collected by a lot of people but some of the covers are very expensive. There are a few less expensive covers to buy for the issue but, I am sure, everyone covets the rare ones and wishes they could afford them, I know I do. It is an issue I have always loved too so I am sure the majority of our members will enjoy Selwyn's article.

Auction Deadlines

Spring GBFDC auction April/ Dear Members,

- May is 31st January
- Autumn GBFDC Auction October/November is the 31st August.

Guideline for Auction Lots

First Day covers ONLY, no commemorative covers please.

No Philatelic Bureau Covers. (Unless on privately produced covers)

No Handwritten covers (Unless they are Rare covers)

No unrelated First Day of Issue covers. (Unless on Privately produced covers)

Covers must be in good condition. (Otherwise they will not sell!)

Minimum Estimate of £5 where possible please.

If have any questions please contact Richard Park 01403 241825 or

email rjpark@btinternet.com

GBFDC Website

We would like to inform our members that the domain name **www.gbfdc.uk** is now active and you can access the website with it. As well as **www.gbfdc.co.uk**

Thank you, **R Park (Chairman)**

The 1935 Silver Jubilee Westminster Stamp Company “forgery”

The commemorative stamps of Great Britain to celebrate the Silver Jubilee of George V were issued on the 7th May 1935 and comprised one of 63 such sets issued as an “omnibus” across the commonwealth; it was the first of several such issues over the coming 30 years. The majority of the FDC’s for the British issue have plain covers, there being a very limited array of illustrated covers, with London SW1 (Buckingham Palace) and Windsor being the key postmarks.

One of the illustrated covers was produced by Westminster Stamp Company (referred to hereafter as WSCo), who also produced illustrated covers for many Great Britain issues between 1935 and 1940. While the KEVIII definitive covers were printed normally with the design flat to the surface, those for the 1935 Jubilee, the 1937 Coronation and the 1940 Centenary were lithographed, giving a very intricate design, raised above the level of the paper. This cover design was used for the omnibus issues as well, so there was probably a substantial print run.



Figure 1 –
Lithographed
WSCo 1935 Silver
Jubilee FDC for
Great Britain with
normal code 35
at base of cds,
below the “35” of
the year.



Figure 2 -
Lithographed
WSCo 1935 Silver
Jubilee FDC for
Great Britain with
uncommon code
18 at the base of
the cds
Exceptionally
however, for the
GB stamps only, a
normal printed
version of the
cover also exists
only for the 1935
Silver Jubilee
issue:

GB stamps only, a normal printed version of the cover also exists only for the 1935 Silver Jubilee issue:

Continued.....



Figure 3 – Normal printed WSCo 1935 Silver Jubilee FDC for Great Britain with code 18 at the base of the cds

The two can be easily distinguished by the following characteristics:

- 1) It is printed in a lighter blue colour
- 2) The design is flat to the paper and does not showing the same clarity as the lithographed FDC.
- 3) The envelope is actually a sheet of thin white paper folded over to look like an envelope; the litho FDC is printed on much thicker, better quality, cream paper, though folded in a similar manner.
- 4) The London SW1 postmark is very clear and the code is 18, rather than 35 on most of the original covers (fig 1) (very rarely they also the 18 code (fig2)).
- 5) There are many more of the normally printed FDC in circulation than there are of the lithographed FDC.

As a consequence of these characteristics the normal printed cover has generally been regarded as a forgery, apparently coming on to the market in the early 1940's.

There is however a less often seen, third type of cover produced by WSCo, which is lithographed, but instead of having the WSCo name and address printed in lithography, the address is typed, usually to a client in the USA or handwritten with a WSCo cachet on the reverse. This approach of sending covers direct to clients in the USA is also seen in WSCo's later covers, such as those of the KEVIII issues.



Continued.....

Figure 4 – Lithographed WSCo 1935 Silver Jubilee FDC for Great Britain with typed address with 18 at the base of the cds

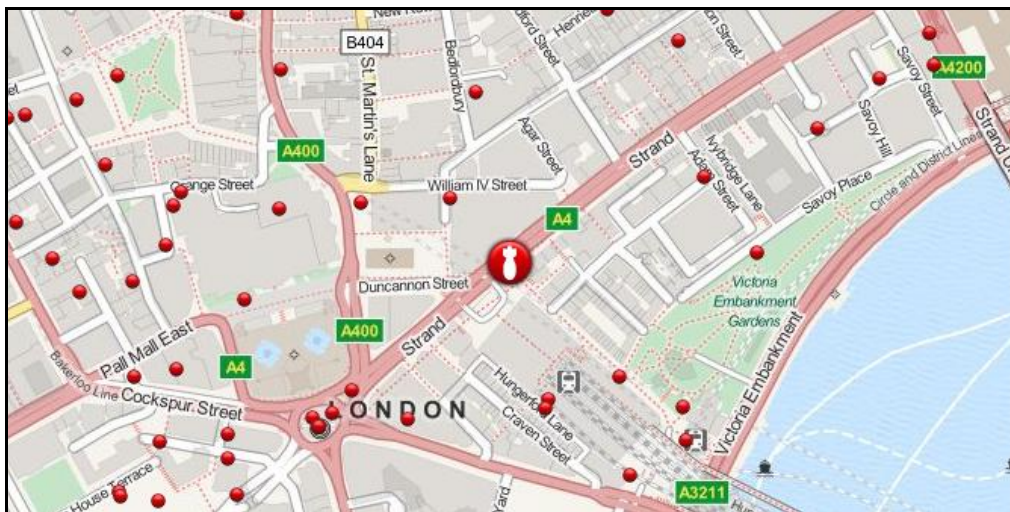
And this is where the forgery story gets a bit confused. Because, rather than the London SW1 cds with code 35, seen on almost all of the lithographed covers with printed address, the typed covers instead have the London SW1 cds with code 18, seen on the normal printed covers (and only a very few lithographed ones). While perhaps not as clearly struck as on the normal printed cover, it is pretty much identical. So why, if the normally printed cover is intended to be a forgery, would the forgers go to all the trouble of fashioning a very authentic replica postmark which is not actually the one found on almost all of the covers of the type they are trying to copy? And indeed, given the cost of the stamps, why use such poor quality paper? And with WWII blazing around them, why try to market forged covers at a time when most people are focussing on staying alive, rather than collecting stamps and covers?

An alternative explanation

Given the large number of cover sets that needed to be produced for the omnibus, Westminster Stamp Company would have had to guess how many blank covers to produce. Clearly if they marketed both the omnibus sets of stamps and extra of just the GB set, then if they underestimated numbers of purchases, they would try and keep the cover sets consistent. So, if coming up to the issue, they discovered they needed more, then they may have had to make a rush order (indeed just one additional order for the full set of 63 covers would have left their local clients in the UK without covers). Clearly, they may not have had time to go back to the original lithography company (Perkins Bacon), so the “emergency” order for anticipated UK customers would have been on lower quality paper, possibly as a flat printed copy of the original litho.

On the day of issue, the GB covers destined for the omnibus sets may have been dispatched separately from those intended for the US and those for internal use in the UK, which would account for the different postmarks (18 vs 35) on most. And, if their guesstimates of additional covers for subsequent shop sale were incorrect there may have been many left over.

But why then, the sudden appearance of these remaining covers on the market in the early 1940's?? Well, during the London blitz, between October 1940 and June 1941, a high explosive bomb is recorded as hitting The Strand within metres of where Westminster Stamp Companies office was at number 32.



Could it be that their office was destroyed, and that their remaining stock that could be salvaged (including the remaining Silver Jubilee FDC's) sold off? It would certainly account well for the sudden appearance of the FDC's on the market at this time.

Summary

Clearly there is quite some conjecture involved in the above explanation, but it does fit the facts well and indeed given the lack of rationale for creation of large quantities of a forgery, may provide an alternative explanation for these covers.

Richard Bennett

- End -

Non-commercial advertising rates – members only	Membership Fees	
Covers wanted advert: No charge Covers for sale advert: Two or three items with no illustration, free Half page, £4.00 (Mint decimal stamps accepted) Full page, £7.50 (Mint decimal stamps accepted)	U.K.	£14 (to receive Newsletter by post)
	U.K. Junior	£7 (to receive Newsletter by post)
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	U.K.	£12 (to receive Newsletter by email)
	U.K. Junior	£6 (to receive Newsletter by email)
	Europe:	£17 (to receive Newsletter by post)
	Europe:	£12 (to receive Newsletter by email)
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Other major currency to the value of		
Junior rates apply for children up to 16 years of age All advertisements must be accompanied by the appropriate fee, otherwise your advert will not be published – Sorry, but no exceptions		
IMPORTANT NOTICE Name & address of contributor is printed with each item, as it is assumed members do not object to this information being given to other members through the Newsletter. At no point will members' names & addresses be sold on to other members or dealers. Your name & address may be supplied to another member if we think it is a genuine enquiry. If you object to this then please advise the editor. Only your name, address & membership number is recorded on the computer hard disk, no other information is recorded with it. © All material published in the Newsletter is the copyright of the writer of the item concerned ©		

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE 7th September 2015

Notice for all Advertisers

If an advertisement is not accompanied by the relevant fee (all fees are displayed in the rates column above), then we are afraid we cannot publish your advertisement. **Receipts will only be issued if a stamped SAE is received.**

Return of CD's:- For those of you who supply disks containing advertisements – if you wish these to be returned to you, please include a PADDED stamped SAE. If you require them back by Special Delivery then you must supply the full amount, padded envelope and completed silver label.

All Advertising fees must be sent in through the editor – thank you.

Letters and Articles for inclusion into the Newsletter

The Association welcomes readers' letters, tips and views, and we look forward to hearing from you. The Newsletter is only as good as the material that is sent in for publication so please continue to do so. However, views expressed in *First Day Coverage* do not express the views of the GBFDC Association or its officers. Material published is the copyright of the person who writes it. It is worth remembering that items published may also express controversial views and opinions, which may well stimulate equally controversial replies. It is only to be expected and individuals are advised that such views may well prompt ongoing debate.

The editor has complete discretion over what is, or is not, published in *First Day Coverage*.
Please send all items for publication to:

The Editor, GBFDC Association, P.O. Box 99, Widnes, Cheshire WA8 0NN



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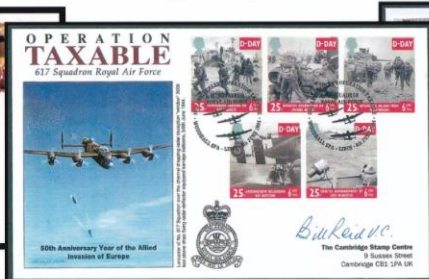
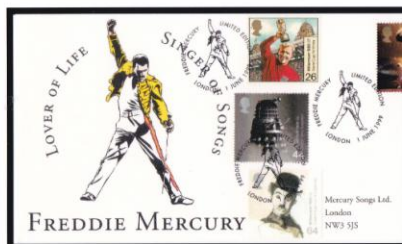
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