

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 225 December 2015

Inside this Issue

Special Features

GBFDC 2016 Official Covers & Application Form	3
GBFDC AGM Minutes	4/5
GBFDC Committee Meeting Minutes 17/10/15	5/6
Help Wanted	8
Regulation marks on older covers A key to numbers produced?	14/17
Member Cover Dispatch Survey	17
House of Illustration Revisited	18/19
Incorrect Date on Official Covers	21
Signed Covers	22

Regular Features

2	Association Officers & Editorial
6	Letters to the Editor
7	Newsletters by Email & MCS – How to submit your covers for sale
11/13	Members Cover Sale
10	MCS continued
23	Auction Deadlines & GBFDC Website
23	Rates Column

Advertisements

David Millership	8
Steven Riley	9
Phil Sheridan Officials	20
Covercollecting.com	24
Steven Scott	24

From the Editor's Desk



Welcome to the December, and last edition of 'Coverage' for this year. We once again have a bumper 24 page newsletter for you. We have several very interesting articles

inside and we have to thank Richard Bennett, Colin Young, and Ian Balcombe for submitting them. We also have a good article about a set of 4 incorrectly dated covers produced by Benham on page 21. All names, including those submitting letters to the editor, will go in to our exciting new prize draw for a rare AGM2016 official cover. Further details of our prize draw are on page 6.

Your committee held a meeting on the evening of 17th October, prior to the AGM the next day. The minutes can be read on page 5. Minutes of this year's AGM can be read on page 4/5

The Charity Auction will have ended on the 30th November and we will be presenting a cheque for the amount raised to Cancer Patient Support Fund at Warrington Hospital. An update will be in the February 2016 Newsletter.

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

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Hon. Chairman GBFDC
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Horsham, W. Sussex
RH12 5HA

E-mail: rjpark@btinternet.com

All membership
matters &
National
Meetings
Organiser.
Newsletter &
official cover
dispatch.

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General Newsletter
queries. Leaflets &
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Important Notice

DEADLINE FOR THE FEBRUARY 2016 EDITION

Items for publication **MUST** be with the editor by
7th January 2016

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.....*

Once again members of the committee have had to help fill up the pages of the MCS. However we would like more members to take advantage of this feature by submitting covers for sale lists for future newsletters. As the saying goes, "use it, or lose it". It is a feature that is normally very popular but it's often left to the same people in order to fill the pages. If you have not yet sent in covers for the MCS then please look at your collection and see if there are covers you don't want, or have duplicates of, that you can sell in the newsletter. You might be surprised how many you sell.

We are very grateful to several members for sending in the articles we have published inside this edition. Richard Bennett always submits very interesting articles on a variety of diverse subjects related to cover collecting. His latest article starts on page 14.

The House of Illustration is revisited by Colin Young on page 18. Colin shows two covers he managed to obtain from the House of Illustration. These covers may well be the only 'official' covers for their postmark. It shows what can be done with a bit of tenacity.

On page 3 is the application form for the three GBFDC official covers for 2016. We apologise for not being 100% certain of which issues we will produce covers for next year. We have listed several issues we are considering at this time but until we know more

about each issue we can't be more specific. Our sincere apologies if you find this unhelpful. We hope to produce a cover for The Great Fire of London in September which will be the AGM2016 official cover.

We intend to start the GBFDC official cover programme in April 2016 as this will give Dot an extra few months to attain a level of recovery that is conducive to licking and sticking on the stamps, and to research and design each cover and handstamp. We hope you will understand our decision.

We apologise for not attending the AGM as we initially intended. Unfortunately Dot's illness is such that a relapse can happen anytime. She relapsed the week before the AGM weekend and didn't recover enough to make the AGM weekend.

We are now in dire need of material for the February and April 2016 newsletters. Please can you take a long look at your collections and see if you can put together a small article for your newsletter. There is also a paucity of letters to the editor and covers for sale in the MCS page this issue. It's our guess that many of you have covers that you would like to sell, or something you would like to put in a letter/email. Please do put something together for publication and send it in to the usual address.

That's it from us for this year. We will see you in February 2016.

Have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy, and Peaceful New Year. Happy Collecting.

*Phil Sheridan & Dot,
Hon. Editors.*

The Association of Great Britain First Day Cover Collectors Official Covers 2016

GBFDC Official Covers for 2016

We have decided to produce three Club Official covers again next year, plus the AGM cover for 2016. It's very difficult to predict which covers we will be doing as it is dependant on so many eventualities. However we have listed several issues on the application form and we will chose closer to the issue date when we will know more about what each issue contains by way of formats.

Beatrix Potter and Agatha Christie may be a minefield where copyright is concerned so we have listed an alternative issue as backup. We also don't yet know what the issue will be on 20 October. It might be a good subject, in which case we will know sometime during middle of the year. We apologise that we cannot be more specific at this time. Royal Mail is not announcing details of issues as early as it use to do. However we will endeavour to bring you excellent quality covers as usual next year.

The covers will be Limited to the number of applicants. To avoid disappointment please let Terry have your order and cheque, using the application form below, as soon as possible.

if anyone wishes to pay into Terry's PayPal then that will be acceptable, and also if anyone wishes to pay directly in to Terry's bank account then please contact him direct for the account details.

GBFDC Association Official Cover 2016 Application form For All Three Covers

Please send me **all Three** GBFDC official covers (QEII 90th Birthday 21 April AND/OR Animal 17 May; Beatrix Potter 28 July AND/OR Landscape Gardens – 16 August, MAYBE Agatha Christie 15 Sept.)

[Issues are subject to change]) at **£42** – Total cost: **£.....**

Name.....Address.....

.....

Postcode.....Tel:.....

Email address (where applicable).....

CHEQUES WITH ALL ORDERS PLEASE

Make cheques payable to '**GBFDC**' and send to:

Terry Barnett, 7 Mackets Lane, Hunts Cross, Liverpool L25 0QA

Email: terryhuntsc@tiscali.co.uk

(All orders will be processed on a first come first served basis)

GBFDC Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 18th October 2015 at the Collingwood Centre

Richard Park welcomed the members and thanked them for attending.

Apologies were received from committee members – Phil Sheridan and Dot Radley. Also from David Millership who was not well. Also other numerous members.

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Sunday the 26th October 2014 were read and accepted on a proposal from Terry Hurlstone and seconded by Sheila White.

There were no matters arising.

Chairman's Report

The membership was now up to 233. New members mainly coming through the website. 3 members had re-joined - one living abroad is able to get the newsletter by email. There is a Facebook page. He thanked the members of the committee and advised that the finances in particular had been built up. He thanked the Honorary Secretary for all his hard work. Terry Barnett would be standing as Honorary Secretary for the forthcoming year and Ian Balcombe would be standing as Publicity Officer.

Auction.

The current Club Auction catalogues have been sent out and lots were invited for the next auction.

Official Cover Report.

Phil Sheridan and Dot Radley were not able to attend as Dot is not well. It is expected that there will 3 possibly 4 covers plus the AGM cover commencing after March. The price of the AGM cover would be retained at its current level. The packing materials will need to be enhanced and the cost of the other covers may increase to allow for this.

A vote of thanks was given to Phil Sheridan and Dot Radley for all their hard work in producing the covers and newsletter, and to Terry Barnett for the help that he gives and for distributing the covers. Terry Hurlstone suggested and it was accepted unanimously that flowers be sent to Phil and Dot.

Newsletter.

As always Phil Sheridan and Dot Radley require articles from members as well as members cover sale details. Those members who had not sent articles or letters were encouraged to do so. The Star Letter/Free Membership had been replaced by the Prize Draw for an AGM cover. To ensure that email copies are received all at the same time Mail Chimp would be looked at for this purpose.

Treasurer's Report.

David Cohen presented the year end accounts. He reported that the Club finances were healthy. Reserves are maintained for advanced payments. Official Covers are the main basis of profit. There is currently a bank balance of £7269 to which is added the Paypal account in the sum of £808 and Auction Account in the sum of £1344.95 and in respect of Paypal there is a balance of £808 which has been transferred to the main account. Expenses are being kept under control. Newsletter printing costs have decreased due to many being sent by Internet. The official AGM cover price has been lowered. The auction accounts are now kept separately and produced as surplus of £881 due to their being better material being submitted earlier. The cost of catalogues and postage was lower due to use of the internet. The printer had been changed due to a price increase by the previous printer. It is intended that Membership subscriptions would be kept at the same rate in the coming year. However the committee will review the cost of subscription in future years being subject to overhead costs.

Adoption of the accounts was proposed by Selwyn Goodacre and seconded by Elke Andresen.

Elections.

The following would be standing:-

Chairman - Richard Park.

Honorary Secretary - Terry Barnett.

Honorary Treasurer - David Cohen.

Hon. Editor Newsletter and Official Covers - Phil Sheridan and Dot Radley.

Publicity - Ian Balcombe.

Continued.....

Further nominations were invited. There were none received.

Terry Hurlstone proposed that the committee be elected en bloc and this was seconded by Chris Dadswell. The meeting voted in favour.

AGM 2016. This will take place on the 16th October 2016 at 1pm. The fair will commence from 10am.

Any other business.

Terry Hurlstone followed up an article that had appeared in the Newsletter regarding the Lewis Carroll issue saying that the Post Office had at that time insisted on their being a specific Anniversary however odd it may have appeared to have been, similarly with the Dulwich Millennium covers. There was also discussion on the best way of applying stamps/miniature sheets to covers.

The prize draw for the AGM cover was won by Anne Tucker.

The meeting closed at 1.31pm.

GBFDC Minutes of the Committee Meeting held at the Holiday Inn Hotel, Great Barr, Birmingham on Saturday 17th October 2015 commencing at 5.45pm.

1. Members present. Richard Park in the Chair, David Cohen, Ian Balcombe.
2. Member's apologies. Dot Radley, Phil Sheridan, and Terry Barnett.
3. Minutes of Committee Meeting held on the 7th June 2015 had been circulated and they were accepted as a true and proper record.
4. Matters arising. None.
5. Chairman's Report. There were difficulties in sending out bulk email in one session and a Mail Chimp account would be set up - there is no cost implication.
6. Website. Functioning well and continues to produce new members.
7. Treasurer's Report. A £1 surcharge is to be considered for next year for any mail subscriptions not paid by the time of the AGM and for which reminders had to be sent out as there was a cost implication in doing so. The Annual Accounts were reviewed and were in good shape. The auction would be a separate cost centre.
8. Newsletter Report. It was resolved that it was up to individual members of the committee to decide if they wished to enter the prize draw for submission of articles and letters.
9. Cover Report. Future Association covers from March 2016 onwards as well as the AGM cover were discussed. The cost of the AGM cover would be maintained at a lower level. The adequacy of packaging was discussed and it was decided that plastic stiffeners would be used in addition to (or to replace) the board backed envelopes. This would increase the cost per cover and would be kept under review.
10. Advertising Report. GBFDC covers could be publicised and sold to non-members at the normal cost plus membership subscription. Facebook to be used more.
11. Membership. Currently stands at 233 of which 126 receive the newsletter by email.
12. AGM 2016. The date was confirmed as Sunday 16th October 2016 at the Collingwood Centre.
13. Any other business. None.
14. Date of next meeting – conference call to be advised.

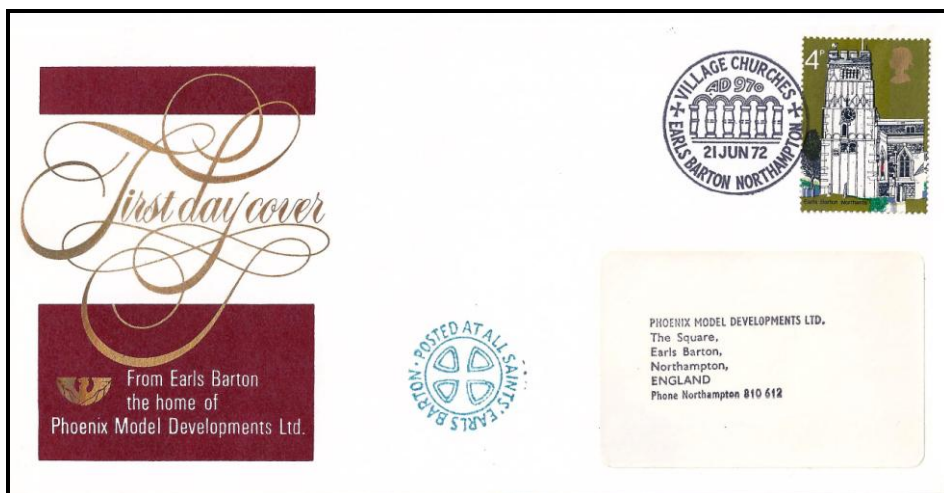


to the Editor, P.O. Box 99, Widnes, Cheshire
WA8 0NN

Dear Editor,

I enjoyed the article 'Why did They Do It?' by Miles Hobson (*FD Coverage* October 2015) He mentions covers issued by Dermal Laboratories in the early 80s, commenting that those he has seen all have a typed address to a medical practitioner. In my article 'The GP first day covers' (*FD Coverage* 101, April 2011), I discussed similar covers. Most of the ones I have seen do not give the name of the sponsor. Exceptions are Selpharm Laboratories in the late 1960s, Servier Laboratories in 1971-73, and Ciba Laboratories in 1973. These would appear to be similar to Miles' Dermal Laboratories examples.

I am sure Miles is right when he says such covers are marketing tools. In my Village Churches collection I have one cover issued by Phoenix Model Developments. This was a firm located in Earls Barton, so it is understandable that they only issued examples with the Earls Barton 4p stamp.



As regards the Year of the Child issue (1979) I have two such covers – W T Burden – with Birmingham FDI, and Berkshire Printing Co. Ltd. – with Reading FDI.

I agree with Miles that these are all intriguing covers, and it's a pleasant change from collecting the better known commercial covers.

Selwyn Goodacre

Congratulations to Ann Tucker who won the AGM2015 cover draw

For a chance for you to win one of our very sought after, and valuable, AGM covers, just send in a letter to the editor or an article between now and the 2016 October newsletter.

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 for 2016 will take place during the AGM 2015 on Sunday 16th October 2016 at the Collingwood Centre, Great Barr, Birmingham, B43 7NF. Tel: 0121 360 1484

Charity Auction Update

The Charity Auction will have ended on the 30th November 2015. We will be presenting a cheque for the sum raised to Cancer Patient Support Fund at Warrington Breast Cancer Clinic during December. Further details will be in the February newsletter.....*Phil*

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

Whilst 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

Help wanted please.....



As members will read elsewhere in this newsletter, I am selling some of my collection to fund the purchase of a power wheelchair, which I find I now, sadly, need.

However, during my rummage through albums and boxes, I came across this beauty of a cover. I know I bought it around 2000 but I can't remember who produced it, and why.

It measures approx' 9" x 6¼" and carries the full set of Architects of the Air stamps 10/06/97 and is cancelled by

Heathrow Airport, Hounslow, London (Concorde logo). I have looked in the Bradbury catalogue but, although it does list the handstamp, it states 'n.s.c.' alongside it. There is no number or signature on the back even though space exists for one. It's a lovely cover but a complete mystery to me. Can anyone help identify it please and hazard a guess at its value?

Thank you very much.

I would like to thank the following people who contacted me with the name of who signed the Golden Jubilee cover in First Day Coverage No.129, October 2015 page 12. The signature is that of Kiri Te Kanawa, now a Dame. Thanks go to: Rev. Clive Laws, John Nixon, Richard Dean, Ian Balcombe, and D. Ashley.

Dot R.

**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

Please send in your letters, articles and covers for the MCS, for the February Newsletter. We have nothing in hand at all so please don't forget us over the Christmas holidays, Please look at your collection and see if you can put a small article together or find duplicated or unwanted covers you may be able to sell via the MCS. Also please send in your letters on all things philatelic.

Thank you. Phil & Dot

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Commemorative Covers produced by Royal Mail, Benham, Sotheby's, A G Bradbury, Cotswold, Philart, Stuart, Mercury, Thames, Historic Relics, Abbey, Wessex, Connoisseur, Festiniog Railway, RNLI and other leading cover producers, all with detailed listings of FDI, CDS, Slogan and Special Handstamps in stock from 1924 onwards including rare early Covers

Benham Cover specialist, Beautiful Limited Edition Covers and Collections including Engraved, BOCS, BLS, BLCS, L, Gold, SPG, Sets and Cards

Rare Covers, Commemoratives and Definitives

Official Covers, Signed Covers, Definitive Covers and Coin covers

Guernsey, Jersey and Isle of Man Covers including Benham Covers

Royal Air Force Museum Covers and Collections

Royalty, Railway, Sport, RAF, Flight, Army, Military, Maritime, RNLI, and other Special Event Covers

Cover Collections including the special Benham Collections

STEVEN RILEY

37 BADGER GATE, THRESHFIELD, SKIPTON BD23 5EN



Thank you all for the fantastic basket of plants

Both Dot and I would like to thank all GBFDC members, and those members who attended this year's AGM in particular, for sending us this beautiful basket of flowers and plants. All living plants that will grow year after year and they will remind us of you all each time we look at them. It was a wonderful surprise to receive them and so very thoughtful of you all. We were so delighted.

A special thank you to Terry Hurlstone who proposed sending flowers to us and to the committee for choosing a basket of plants that will last forever.

Thank you all, Phil & Dot xx

Continued from page 13.

01.10.96 Classic Cars Benham Genevieve coin cover. 2 different postmarks, red cachet. Signed by Dina Sheridan who starred in the classic film, Genevieve	£25
01.10.96 Classic Cars Benham off. signed by Nigel Mansell Doubled Isle of Man Mansell stamp	£40
16.04.96 Going to the Pictures. Carry on Cinema Scott official signed Barbara Windsor	£32
03.01.98 Tales of Horror Dracula stamp only Christopher Lee as Dracula fdc signed Christopher Lee (only 39 produced so got to be scarce)	£80
01.10.96 Classic Cars. 4d Post fdc with Aston Martin Lagonda M/M & Aston Martin S/H (Superb)	£30
03.02.98 Diana 4d Post England's Rose Official cover signed by Bruce Oldfield	£15
24.03.98 Lighthouses She Devil off. signed by Patricia Hodge, Dennis Waterman & Fay Weldon	£20
23.04.98 Comedians. 4d Post fdc with The Stage MM & cancelled with Torquay CDS	£8
23.04.98 Comedians. RM fdc with Metropole Hotel, Blackpool M/M & Wonder West World CDS + Butlins cachet. Butlins HQ was Metropole Hotel at that time. The CDS is a Butlins Holiday Camp. A very rare CDS and M/M combination. Haven't seen it for sale since they were done.	£60
23.04.98 Comedians. Bradbury official Morecambe S/H signed by Ernie Wise	£25
29.09.98 Speed 4d Post fdc with Historic Grand Prix Cars Association M/M & Sir Malcolm Campbell, Castle Combe SHS (Very rare M/M for this issue & maybe last chance to get it)	£40
29.09.98 Speed 4d Post fdc with LUX Traffic Control Management M/M & Pendine SHS (Very rare M/M for this issue & maybe last chance to get it)	£40
02.11.99 Xmas set. Macintyre Thomas Becket, Canterbury official cover	£35
02.11.99 Xmas set. Sinking the Triptitz with Sinking the Triptz, Lossiemouth changeable date	£30
07.12.99 Artists Tale. Bletchley Park official cover	£35
07.03.00 Water & Coast. Bletchley Park official cover	£35
06.06.00 People & Places. Macintyre Ramsgate official cover	£35
06.06.00 People & Places. Bletchley Park Ultra official cover	£35
01.08.00 Tree & Leaf. Macintyre Molash, Canterbury official cover	£30
06.02.02 G. Jubilee RM fdc with Kenya Airways M/M & Anniv. of Concorde, Heathrow SHS	£6
16.07.02 Commonwealth Games Kingsland official (65 produced)	£20
24.09.02 Astronomy M/S Kingsland official	£20
24.09.02 Astronomy set of 4 PSB panes on Kingsland official covers (just 25 sets done)	£50
20.05.03 Wildings Collection II M/S on RHS official	£15
02.06.03 Coronation full set of 4 PSB panes on Cotswold fdc. Each pane cancelled with a different SHS	£20

I have a list of covers for sale. If you would like it then please send me a stamped SAE to the address at the top of my listing and I will send one to you. As I mentioned at the beginning, I am open to all reasonable offers.

- END OF SALE -

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: John Phillips, Email: johnphillips91@btinternet.com Phone: 01737 362189
Postage £1.00. (NB. All covers are Royal Mail covers except as stated.)

1974	Winston Churchill	Oldham H/S on Official cover	14.00
1979	Year of the Child	NSPCC Bethlehem H/S. BOCS (SP) 1	4.00
1981	Year of the Disabled	Guide Dogs H/S. BOCS (2) 2	3.00
1981	National Trusts	Haslemere CDS on Cotswold cover	14.00
1982	Youth Organisations	Frist For Boys, BOCS(2)10a	4.00
1982	British Theatre	Arts Theatre, Cambridge H/S on Official	20.00
1982	Information	Technology Best of Prestel Official cover	4.00
1983	British River Fish	Stafford CDS on Izaak Walton Cottage cover	9.00
1983	British Gardens	Fenstanton CDS on Fenstanton Church cover	6.50
1984	British Cattle	Chillingham CDS on Rare Breeds (LFDC) cover	8.00
1984	Urban Renewal	Cockburn Street on G & P cover	4.50
1984	Urban Renewal	Prince Street, Bristol on Arnolfini cover	5.00
1985	Safety at Sea	Cawsand CDS on DG Taylor cover	5.00
1985	Safety at Sea	Manston CDS	4.50
1985	Safety at Sea	Coltishall CDS	4.50
1985	Royal Mail	Southend CDS + 350 years Slogan	7.00
1985	British Film Year	Elstree CDS on G & P cover	4.50
1986	Royal Air Force	Stanmore BO CDS	4.00
1986	Royal Air Force	Newton RAF Station CDS	9.00
1986	Royal Air Force	Wyton RAF Station CDS	9.00
1986	Royal Air Force	Lindholme RAF Station CDS	9.00
1986	Royal Air Force	Middle Wallop CDS on PPS Silk cover	5.00
1988	The Welsh Bible	Swansea CDS and Jesus is Alive! slogan.	35.00
1988	Sports	Aviemore CDS	5.50
1988	Sports	Lytham St. Annes CDS	5.50

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

The following are all unaddressed R.M. covers with a WINDSOR CASTLE cds.

1996 Wildfowl	£2
1996 Cinema	£2
1996 Football	£2
1996 Olympics	£2
1996 Women	£2
1996 Childrens TV	£2
1996 Cars	£2

Continued.....

1996 Christmas	£2
1997 Missions	£2
1997 Tales of Terror	£2
1997 Aircraft	£2
1997 P. Offices	£2
1997 E. Blyton	£2
1997 Christmas	£2
1998 Endangered S.	£2

The following all have neat handwritten addresses each with a WINDSOR CASTLE cds

1998 Lighthouses	£2	
1998 Comedians	£2	
1998 NHS	£2	
1998 Magical W.	£2	
1998 Carnival	£2	
1998 Speed	£2	
1998 Christmas	£2	
1999 Inventors T.	£2	
1999 Travellers T.	£2	
1999 Patients T.	£2	
1999 Settlers T.	£2	
1977 Racket Sports on the Philart off.		£25
1977 S. Jubilee 9p on the Blackburn off. Neat h/w add.		£35

The following all have a WINDSOR CASTLE cds

22 nd Aug. 1995 £3 u/a	£8
22 nd Aug. 1995 £1 (small) u/a	£8
21 st April 1997 26p + 1 st Golden Wedding (cat £125) u/a	£25
21 st Jan. 1997 Great Tudor u/a	£10
8 th July 1997 Queens Horses u/a	£10
13 th Nov 1997 Queens Golden Wedding (cat £250) u/a	£50
24 th Feb 1998 Queens Beasts (cat £125) neat h/w add.	£25

.....
Phil Sheridan, P.O. Box 99, Widnes, Cheshire WA8 0NN Tel; 07975 858 815 / 07939 832 184
E-mail: sheridanfdc@aol.com

Christmas Cracker Special 20% off all covers just for this newsletter. A rare chance to acquire some very scarce official Christmas covers. Post & Packing £1 extra. For orders of 3 or more covers p&p free.

02.11.04 Christmas set on Sheridan 4C Charity Christmas Card Council official (last one)	£45
02.11.04 Christmas M/S on Sheridan 4C Charity Christmas Card Council official (last one)	£45
06.11.07 Christmas set on Sheridan Angels International official (last one)	£45
06.11.07 Christmas M/S on Sheridan Angels International official (last one)	£45
04.11.08 Christmas set on Sheridan The Grand Theatre official (last one)	£45
04.11.08 Christmas set & M/S on Double Sheridan The Grand Theatre official (last one)	£65
04.11.08 Christmas set Sheridan The Grand Theatre off. with The Grand Theatre MM (last one)	£50
04.11.08 Christmas full Generic Sheet on 4 Sheridan The Grand Theatre officials (last set)	£65
04.11.08 Christmas set on Sheridan St. Giles Pantomime Society official (last one)	£45
04.11.08 Christmas M/S on Sheridan St. Giles Pantomime Society official (last one)	£45
04.11.08 Christmas set Sheridan St. Giles Pantomime Soc. Off. with Season's Greetings MM (last one)	£48
07.11.06 Christmas set Sheridan Donna's Dream House official	£40
07.11.06 Christmas M/S Sheridan Donna's Dream House official (last one)	£45
03.11.09 Christmas set Sheridan Westminster Cathedral official	£40

Continued.....

03.11.09 Christmas M/S Sheridan Westminster Cathedral official	£40
03.11.09 Christmas set & M/S on Double Sheridan Westminster Cathedral official (last one)	£60
03.11.09 Christmas full Generic Sheet on 4 Sheridan Westminster Cathedral officials (16 done, last set)	£65
02.11.10 Christmas set Sheridan St. Mary's Centenary official	£40
02.11.10 Christmas M/S Sheridan St. Mary's Centenary official	£40
02.11.10 Christmas set & M/S Double Sheridan St. Mary's Centenary official (last one)	£60
08.11.11 Christmas set Sheridan Bible Society official	£40
08.11.11 Christmas M/S Sheridan Bible Society official	£40
08.11.11 Christmas set & M/S on Double Sheridan Bible Society official (last one)	£60
06.11.12 Christmas set Sheridan Rainbow Trust official	£40
06.11.12 Christmas M/S Sheridan Rainbow Trust official	£40
06.11.12 Christmas set & M/S Double Sheridan Rainbow Trust official (last one)	£60

07.12.99 Artists Tale on Sheridan Final Christmas Eve Midnight Service of the Millennium Televised by the BBC official (v. scarce)	£55
04.09.01 Punch & Judy on Sheridan Harlequin Puppet Theatre, Colwyn Bay official (only 1)	£50
04.09.01 Punch & Judy on Sheridan Harlequin Puppet Theatre, Colwyn Bay official with Puppet Centre MM (only 1)	£54
04.09.01 Punch & Judy Retail Booklet (full pane with matrix) on Sheridan Harlequin Puppet Theatre, Colwyn Bay official Very light green blade flaw next to Judy stamp (only 1)	£55
04.09.01 Punch & Judy both set and retail booklet on Double Sheridan Harlequin Puppet Theatre, Colwyn Bay official all stamps cancelled with The Harlequin CDS (only 1)	£35
25.03.03 Fun Fruit & Veg (full pane with matrix) on Sheridan Covent Garden official (only 1)	£45
25.03.03 Fun Fruit & Veg (full pane with matrix) on Sheridan Covent Garden official with Harvestime MM (only 1)	£48
26.02.04 LOTR Sheridan King Arthur's Labyrinth official	£45
11.01.05 Farm Animals Sheridan Kentish City Town Farm official (only 1)	£50
10.01.06 Animal Tales Sheridan Crocky Trail official (only 1)	£45
07.02.06 British Journey Sheridan Buttermere Lake, Cumbria official with Lake District National Park MM (only 1)	£48
21.03.06 Ice Age Animals Sheridan Save the Rhino official	£40
21.03.06 Ice Age Animals Sheridan Save the Rhino off. with Friends of the Earth MM (only 1)	£48
31.08.06 Three Kings M/S Sheridan Windsor Castle official (only 1)	£45
31.08.06 Three Kings M/S on Windsor Castle Sheridan official with The Castle MM (only 1)	£48
31.08.06 Three Kings M/S on Sheridan Mulready reproduction official (only 1)	£45
31.08.06 Three Kings M/S on Stuart cover cancelled with Throne CDS (only 1)	£42

Contact: Dot Radley. Tel:07939 832 184. c/o P.O. Box 99, Widnes, Cheshire WA8 0NN
Email: salwals@aol.com

I find I now require a power chair to get around the house, and also outside, so I am selling off many covers from my collection in order to help finance it. I am open to reasonable offers for the covers listed here. Thank you very much.

19.11.85 Xmas full set. Association of Boys' Clubs official signed by Earl Spencer	£75
22.03/88 Sports Dawn official Liverpool Record FA Cup Wins 16 Times	£65
10.01.90 Penny Black Anniv. Sotherby's Silk fdc. Stamps cancelled with Kidderminster CDS	£8
23.01.90 Cats Protection League Muscroft official doubled with '95 cats set & CPL HQ, Horsham (a really lovely cover)	£40
15.09.92 Green Issue Carsington Water official	£15
05.07.94 Golf RM fdc INTERSPORT The Mark of a Real Sports Shop slogan + St. Andrews SH	£20
01.11.94 Xmas Bradbury Durham Dean & Chapter Library, St. Augustine fdc with Durham FDI	£5
20.01.96 Benham coin cover commemorating the Reign of King Edward VIII. 3 different postmarks on 3 different stamps. Cover signed by Viscount Monkton of Brenchley	£15

Continued page 10...

Registration marks on older covers – a key to numbers produced?

While more modern covers were produced in limited editions and are often marked as such, covers from before the 1960's only infrequently have (hand) annotation to say how many were produced. In a GBFDC edition several years back I requested information on getting an idea of how many of the 1957 Scouts Jubilee Jamboree FDC's were registered using the camp skeleton postmark. With interest from the Scouts on Stamps Society and others, we were able to conclude that 576 covers were posted by registered mail on the first day with the distinctive Sutton Coldfield skeleton cds, with registration labels numbering between 0037 and 0613.

So I thought I take a look at 4 groups of FDC's that I have multiple copies of, which are rare and have a limited range of registration numbers, to see if we can piece together a better idea of total numbers for each.

1943 "Jersey Views" – Laurens Brown

The first FDC's are from the German occupation of the Channel Islands, and are for the "Jersey views" pictorial issue of 1943. A certain Mr Laurens Brown sent a number of envelopes on the first day of issue of the 2 1/2d blue and 3d mauve, with the full set of stamps on each. I own 3 copies, each having quite different stamps progressively added, whilst I saw another about 10 years ago on an online auction site.

A1158 - has the full set plus the 1/2d and 1d arms.

A1170 - is similar, but also has two German stamps affixed and cancelled by the German CI cancel.

A1173 - is identical in layout to A1170 (and was seen online – it was endorsed on the reverse "Only 10 covers like this exist. This is one of 8 in my possession")

A1176 – this loses the arms issues, but instead has the full set of 6 in plate number gutter pairs, plus the two German stamps as in A1170. It also has the name and address written in a mix of English and German, plus other odd letters, rather than typed in English as the first two.



So the interest here is if anyone else has examples of this mailing, and perhaps on the later covers examples of the other gutter pairs (my assumption is Mr Brown bought 6 sheets and made up a range of envelopes starting just with the set and some remaining arms issues, through adding German stamps and then finishing with the gutter pairs). It would also appear from the spread of registration numbers that more than 10 exist (assuming they were stamped consecutively)!

Continued.....

1943 “Jersey Views” – A. M. Holmes

The second examples are from a set of large illustrated FDC's produced by A. M. Holmes for the same views pictorial issue. For the second and third issues I have two copies and for the first and the full set a single copy of each. These, like Mr Browns, include several other stamps on them, but in the case of those where I have two, have a much more limited range on their respective registration numbers, as follows:

1/2d & 1d	–	A582
1/2d & 2d	–	A1680 & A1689
2 1/2d & 3d	–	B1892 & B1894
Full Set	-	B1980



Statistically, having such close registration for two independently sampled covers suggests a low edition – maybe 10 or 20 at most – otherwise probability would suggest that the numbers would be further apart.

1951 Festival of Britain – low value “Colour change” definitive - coil sets of 5

Moving on to 1951, an enthusiastic Mr Somers realised that the new low value “changed colours” definitive issue was not only being issued in sheets (and booklets), but also from coil machines. It would appear that all stamps were available from coils on the first day, but only the 1d, 2d and 2 1/2d were initially issued with watermark sideways. He clearly did not have any illustrated covers, so affixed the festival commemoratives, plus the full set of coils (single stamp of each) marking the cover “3WMS” (3 stamps watermark sideways).

The use of the coil stamps on FDI is not catalogued, so this is a rare envelope. Yet as it is uncatalogued, and not illustrated, most people seem to assume it is just the combined Festival commemoratives and the low values on a plain envelope – two have sold recently on eBay for less than 10 pounds each!

Continued.....



Of the two seen on eBay one was registered with London Chief Office cds and the other with Deptford – Evelyn St. Together with the 3 I own, this gives the following registration range:

London Chief Office – London EC 9795

Deptford Evelyn St – Deptford 5 2690, 2782, 2786, 2789

I would be very interested in anyone with additional numbers that might fill out the picture of how many of these covers were produced. Clearly the 3 in the range 2782-2789 suggests these may be part of a separate batch from 2690.

1957 parliamentary Conference – missing time

Lastly and moving into the reign of Queen Elizabeth II comes the somewhat enigmatic 1957 Parliamentary Conference with “Missing time” in the commemorative cancellation. My Benham “Essential Guide to British First Day Covers” mentions that this was only use for registered mail and “deserves a large premium” over the normal cover.



Continued.....

Not only are they particularly uncommon, the cancel is quite light on most, so it isn't immediately obvious that the time is actually missing. I have been looking out for these for many years and have managed to obtain 7. All in my possession are sent by a dealer called J.G. Wickham; 4 have his address handstamped on the front of the cover (there is also a similar one on Buckingham Covers website) and the remaining 3 have typed addresses to Germany, with the Wickham handstamp on reverse. Interestingly the registration numbers align with this difference:

Wickham on front - London SW 6575, 6581, 6599, 6603 (Buckingham website), 6619

German address - London SW 6646, 6651, 6652

While Buckingham covers only put a 50% premium on this cover over the single stamp with time in the cancellation, it is interesting to note that the registration numbers suggest no more than 100 existed – perhaps less if they were done in separate batches. Indeed, by my estimation, perhaps 1 in 80 or less of the Parliamentary Conference covers that come up for sale on eBay are registered blocks of 4, with the special cancel and missing the time.

Additional information gratefully received

In conclusion, if you do have any of the above, do please send me details of their registration numbers to: sermb1@yahoo.co.uk and I'll collate them and revert back in a future edition of the newsletter with any additional information, with, in addition, a different set of cacheted FDC's to look at.

Richard Bennett

Member Cover Dispatch Survey

We are carrying out a member survey to see what you think about how secure and protected the GBFDC official cover is when posted out to you. Obviously this only concerns you if you receive the official cover. We would like your feedback either by letter, email or telephone/voicemail/text (but please leave your name and telephone number if using the telephone.)

Contact any one of the committee, name, address and emails on page 2, and they will pass on your comments to us for publication and review.

How we dispatch the official covers in the future depends upon what feedback we receive, so this may be your only chance to tell us what you think. If you don't, and the present system continues, then you can't really complain about it afterwards. This is your forum. Tell us what you feel or would like to see happen in the future. We don't have to publish your name or address (if you prefer we can put "Name and Address Supplied"), but you need to disclose your name and telephone number please. We will withhold it on request.

All letters will be published in a forthcoming newsletter. The deadline date for your comments is 11th January 2016 so that gives you plenty of time to get your views in to us.

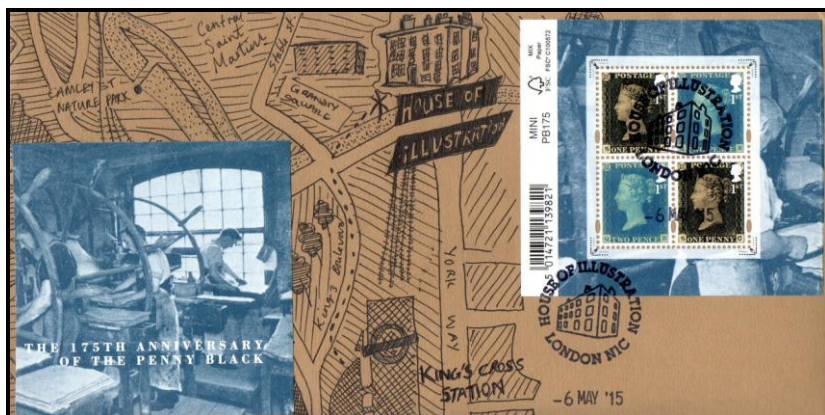
Thank you very much,

Phil & Dot and your committee.

House of Illustration Revisited.....by Colin Young.

As a reply to Ian Balcombe's article on the House of Illustration covers and postmarks. First off I wrote to

the House of Illustration concerning if they were producing an OFFICIAL cover to complement the postmark and the reply came back that they were NOT. After lengthy persistence and phone calls I managed to talk to the person who organised the postmark. She said she would ask one of the artists to draw the part of London with the House of Illustration on the covers



I managed to get FOUR of these OFFICIAL covers of which TWO were done with the Miniature Sheet and ONE was done with the RETAIL BOOK and signed by the artist on the back of the covers.

These were handstamped with the House of Illustration on the 6th May 2015 (BROWN COVERS)



I also managed to get TWO OFFICIAL covers off a reputable dealer who sent me coloured OFFICIAL covers with the same illustration with the MINIATURE SHEET and the RETAIL BOOK with the House of Illustration postmark on the 6th May 2015. (GREEN COVER)



On the last BROWN cover I put on the FULL SET of the First World War issue with the House of Illustration postmark on the 14th May 2015

I have all the correspondence concerning the BROWN covers and wonder if anybody else managed to get any at all on the BROWN covers

Continued.....



Auction Deadlines

- Spring GBFDC May Auction – is the 31st January
- Autumn GBFDC October/November Auction – 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

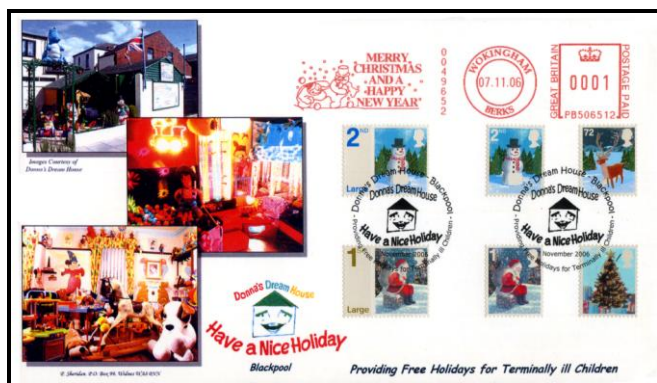
GBFDC Website

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**

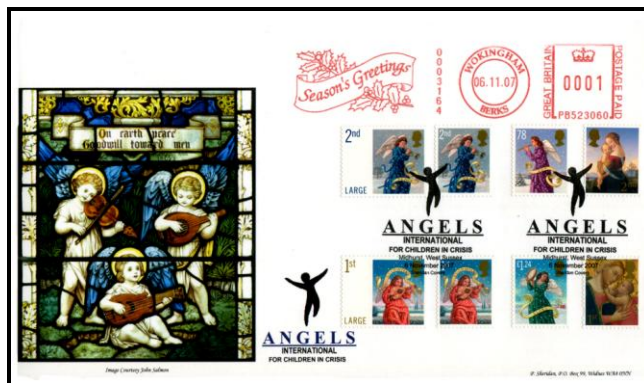
Thank you,

R Park (Chairman)

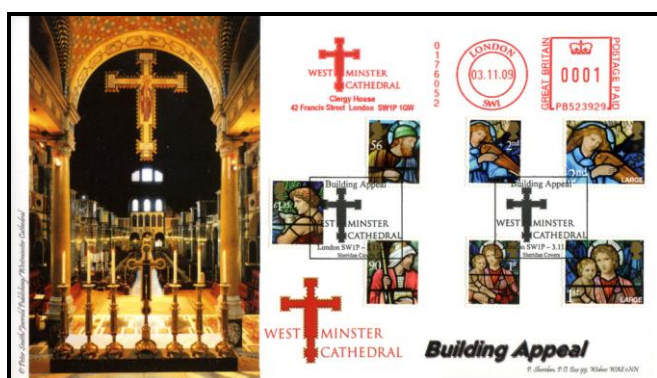
Phil Sheridan, P. O. Box 99, Widnes, Cheshire WA8 0NN



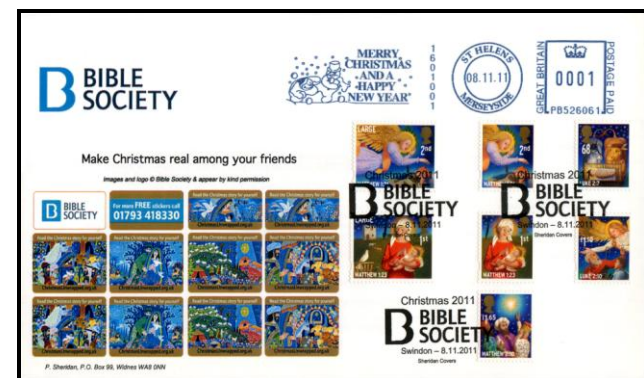
07/11/06 Christmas single set on Donna's Dream House official with Merry Christmas meter mark - Last one - **£45**



06/11/07 Christmas single set on Angels International official with Season's Greetings - Last one - **£45**



03/11/09 Christmas single set on Westminster Cathedral official with Westminster Cathedral meter mark - **£45**



08/11/11 Christmas single set on Bible Society official with Merry Christmas meter mark - last one - **£45**



06/11/12 Christmas single set on Rainbow Trust official with Rainbow Trust meter mark - **£42**



06/11/12 Christmas single set on Rainbow Trust official with Season's Greetings (Snowman) meter mark - **£42**

Special Christmas offer – all 6 covers for £220. A saving of £44

Sheridan Covers will be back around the middle of 2016 and we will be sending out news-sheets to all customers when we know what issue we will be producing a cover for. All outstanding covers for this year will be dispatched by now and customers will have the Bees covers, the last production for this year. We would like to thank you all for your loyalty, patience and understanding, good wishes and support, throughout the last couple of difficult years. We couldn't have done it without you. We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very

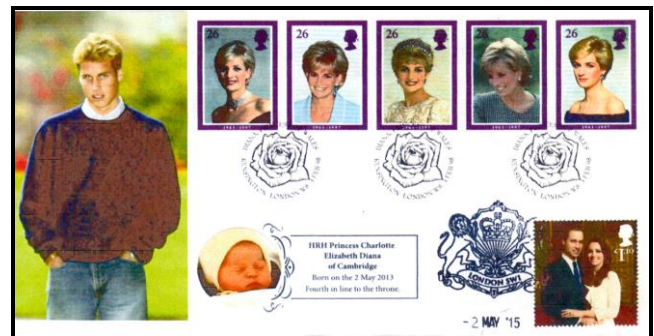
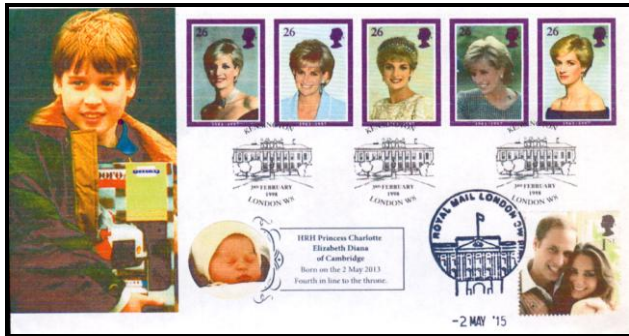
Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy, and Peaceful New Year.

Incorrect Date on Benham official covers

Our attention has been drawn to a set of 4 official covers (below) produced by Benham for Diana 03/02/98, dual dated with both 1st class stamps and £1.10 stamps of the Prince's marriage to Catherine which are cancelled with the date 2 May 2015. The picture of Princess Charlotte is alongside the description "H.R.H. Princess Charlotte, Elizabeth, Diana of Cambridge Born on the 2 May 2013 Fourth in line to the throne".

The date of Princess Charlotte's birth was 02/05/**2015**

Our source reveals that the producers sent out letters asking for the covers to be returned due to an error. As they had already been sent out and paid for, it was the customer's decision whether or not to return them. Our source chose to keep them.



Princess Charlotte was born on 2 May **2015** (not 2013 as shown)

Prince George was born 22 July 2013

Name & address supplied

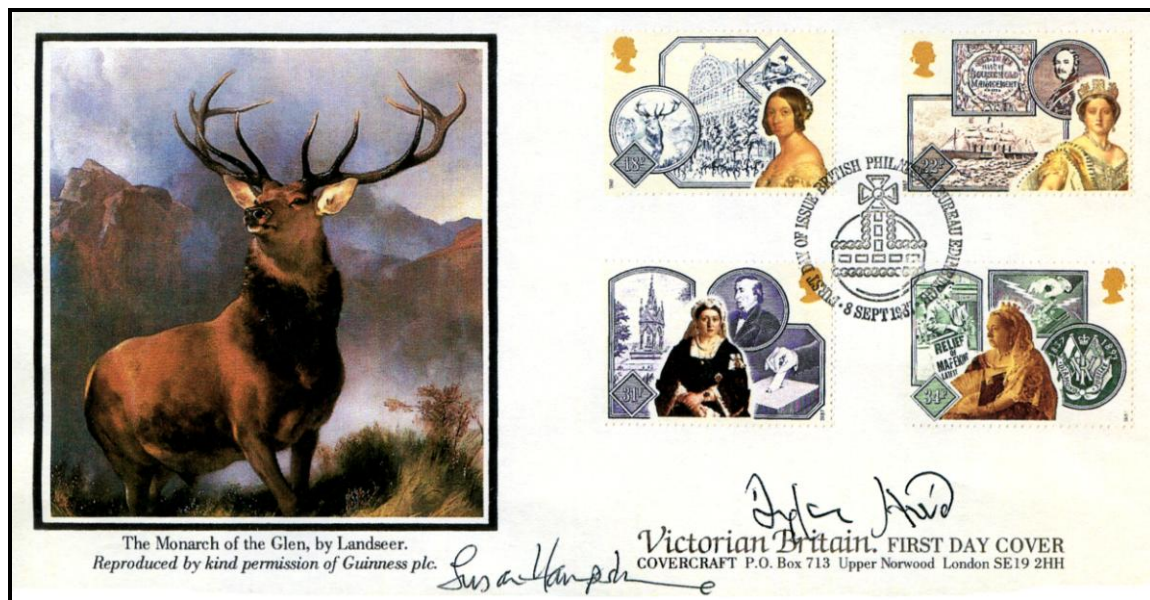


We would like to wish all our members a very Merry Christmas & a Happy, Healthy and Peaceful New Year

From everyone on the GBFDC Committee (See you again in February 2016)

Signed Covers.....by Ian Balcombe

I went to a lecture which was being given by Douglas, now Lord, Hurd – the former Foreign Secretary, on Benjamin Disraeli. He has just co-authored a book on him. I asked him to sign two first day covers. Firstly The Crimean War on which I had previously asked Geoffrey, now Lord, Howe to sign as it has the House of Lords double ring cancellation. Secondly a Victorian Britain cover – one of the stamps includes Disraeli and upon which I had previously asked the actress Susan Hampshire to sign as she was in the TV series Monarch of the Glen which is featured on the cover.



If anyone else has interesting signed covers then do send in good quality colour scans or photocopies, plus a bit of information about them, to the usual address. Above Ian has explained why he asked those signatories to sign and their connection to the cover, stamp, and cancel. It makes very interesting signed covers when there are such good signatures AND connections (Ed..)

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. U.K. Junior	£14 (to receive Newsletter by post) £7 (to receive Newsletter by post)
	U.K. U.K. Junior	£12 (to receive Newsletter by email) £6 (to receive Newsletter by email)
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: Rest of World:	£20 (to receive Newsletter by post) £12 (to receive Newsletter by email)
	Other major currency to the value of	
Non-Member Commercial advertising rates Full page: £30 , artwork £5 extra, total - £35 Half page: £15 , artwork £3 extra, total - £18 Third page: £10 , artwork £2.50 extra, total - £12.50 Quarter page: £8 , artwork £2 extra, total - £10	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.

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DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE 7th January 2016

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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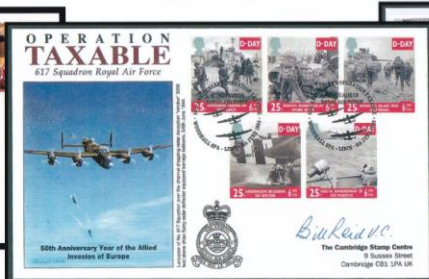
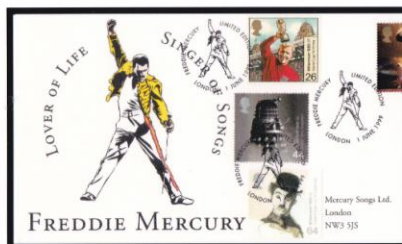
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