## FIRST DAY COVERAGE

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

Issue No 150

December 2019





This cover was produced for sale to members attending the 2019 AGM. The Association has a few spare copies. See Page 10 for details of how to purchase one.

GBFDC, 17 Elderberry Drive, Dereham, Norfolk NR20 3ST

### December 2019

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To advertise in the newsletter please contact the Editor. See advertising rates on Page 24.

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#### **Association Officers**

Subject	Contact				
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Hon. Association Publicity Officer Official Cover Co-ordinator	Ian Balcombe Hon Publicity Officer, 21 The Marlowes London NW8 6NB Email: ianbalc@gmail.com				

## Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the Collingwood Centre on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2019

Richard welcomed the members to the AGM.

Apologies were received from various members.

The minutes of the 2018 AGM were read and accepted.

Proposed by Jonathon Guy and seconded by Ken Brown.

There were no matters arising.

Richard proceeded to give the Chairmans and the Auction reports.

He thanked his fellow committee members for stepping in and producing the Assoc. official covers, which despite some problems, was a success.

Membership increased by 16 in 2019 although we have lost, to date, 8 members at renewal time.

A reason given for these resignations was because of the adverts and sale listing in the newsletter and not enough articles. The newsletter will only be as good as its contributors so please send in your articles, letters etc.

The website is producing new members and in the last year has received 30,898 visitors.

The current auction is available on the website and there are also some hard copy catalogues available.

Damaged or scruffy covers will NOT be entered in to the club auction and a minimum estimate of £5 will apply to future auctions.

Peter gave his Newsletter report advising that he still wanted more articles. No matter how big or small all would be acceptable.

David gave the Treasurers report advising that the Assoc. was in a healthy financial position and that there was no need to increase either the subscriptions or cover costs.

The Treasurers report was accepted on a proposal by Peter Maslak and seconded by Sheila White.

#### Minutes of 2019 AGM - Continued

lan advised in his Publicity officers report that the Assoc. had had a lot of success with the magazines advertising the Assoc.'s activities. Due to the learning curve that we have had to undertake the official covers have not featured as much as we would have liked. However it is hoped that this coming year we will have more success.

Our appearance on facebook is on a regular basis but Ian would like to see more members 'liking' the page.

#### Election of Officers.

The existing committee members were all happy to remain in their positions and were voted in en-bloc.

#### A.O.B.

Richard advised that forgeries produced previously are on display on the top table.

The draw for an AGM cover took place for the newsletter article/letter and was won by Paul Howard.

Jonathon Guy suggested, for articles for the newsletter, dealers history and involvement in the hobby, stories behind the cover (whose idea, how the choices were made etc.) and list stamp fairs. Terry suggested that we should consider using old articles from the newsletters.

The AGM in 2020 will be held on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October at the Collingwood Centre.

Five of the unsold AGM covers were auctioned.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 1.30pm.

## Minutes of the Committee meeting held on Saturday 19th October 2019 at the Holiday Inn Birmingham

Richard welcomed the committee to the meeting and thanked them for giving up their time to attend.

Terry read the minutes of the last Committee meeting.

The constitution was discussed and it was agreed that it would be left as is for the time being with a view to changing it in the future.

Cover production was also discussed. Chris Hockaday had advised that he would be willing to take on the job for a fee of £125 per issue. However it was decided, with some changes, members of the committee will continue to do the Assoc. covers. With this in mind Terry will send illustrations of the future issues of stamps to allow the work to be started in advance of the issues. Ian will make enquiries as to whether we can make use of the key account facilities offered by RM. It was suggested to Peter that some technical changes could be made to improve the look of the covers.

Richard gave his Chairmans report and the Auction report. Membership has increased over the year by 16 although a further 8 have now resigned.

One of the reasons given for the resignations was that not enough articles appear in the newsletter. Richard will remind members that these articles are needed.

He advised that 300 catalogues had been printed and with the on-line facility had produced around 70 bids.

Damaged or scruffy covers will not be entered in to the auction nor will covers with a £5 or less estimate.

Peter gave his Newsletter report. He again requested more articles from members.

Terry suggested that we should reprint some of the articles from previous newsletters and Richard advised that he would contact Mark Gosling to get back the old newsletters.

## Minutes of Committee Meeting held 19th October 2019 — continued

David produced his Treasurers report and concluded that no changes need be made to present costings as the Assoc. was in a very healthy financial position.

David would again make enquiries regarding an on-line facility with the bank.

lan gave his Publicity Officers report and his Official cover report. Ian advised that the magazines are advertising the Associations activities but unfortunately not publishing our covers. Hopefully with the envisaged changes our covers will get more coverage. Ian has also got Association posts on facebook but would like more members to 'like' the posts.

#### A.O.B.

All of the committee members offered themselves up for re-election remaining in their existing positions within the committee.

The 2020 Committee/AGM meetings will be over the weekend of October 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 2020.

No decision could be made as to what issues we will be producing next year as we are still waiting to hear from RM. As soon as received we will be able to make a decision which issues we will be using.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.45pm.

#### From the Editor

It was nice to meet some of you at the AGM and for giving some suggestions for articles and ideas for material you would like to see in the newsletter. I will try to include these in future issues.

At the AGM, Richard had a display of fraudulent FDC's and examples of their use, as well as the original handstamps used, which had been obtained by Norfolk Constabulary. These attracted a lot of interest and I will be including the article Richard wrote in a future issue.

#### Brian Reeves Auction Results

Our 31<sup>st</sup> July auction contained a good selection of early Commonwealth "SPECIMEN" overprints, perhaps the best of these a 1906-31 Federated Malay States collection which fetched £2188.80. A strong Great Britain section included 2 old cases of pre-stamp covers (100s) that sold for £2006.40 & £2310.40. An Edward VII £1 Mint fetched £389.12 and a 1913 £1 Seahorse Mint £972.80. A 1955 Waterlow Castles set on 4 illustrated FDCs sold for £972.80 and a 1960 De La Rue Castles Presentation Pack £729.60. These GB lots were all unreserved.



#### **GBFDC Official Covers for 2020**

As in previous years we have opted to produce three official covers plus the 2020 AGM cover for next year.

At the time of writing we have not decided which issues we will be using for these covers, but will advise as soon as a decision has been made.

The covers will again be limited to the number of applicants so to avoid disappointment please let me have your <u>order and cheque</u>, using the application form below, as soon as possible.

If anyone wishes to pay by any other means please contact me.

## GBFDC ASSOCIATION OFFICIAL COVERS FOR 2020 APPLICATION FORM FOR ALL THREE COVERS

Please send me all three GBFDC official of	covers for 2020 at £49.50
Name	
Address	
Postcode	Tel:
Email address (where applicable)	
CHEQUES WITH ALL ORDER PLEASE, pay	able to 'GBFDC' and send to
Terry Barnett, 7 Mackets Lane, Hunts Cr	oss, Liverpool, L25 0QA
Email: terryhuntsc@yahoo.com	

#### 2019 AGM Report by Ian Balcombe



The AGM and Fair attracted 7 dealers and over 40 members. Each member attending was entitled to purchase the First Day Cover produced specially for the AGM.

The following were elected

Richard Park - Chairman, Terry Barnett - Honorary Secretary, David Cohen - Honorary Treasurer, Peter Herring - Newsletter Editor Ian Balcombe - Honorary Publicity Officer.





Following the conclusion of the Business of the AGM, the Chairman Richard Park gave a talk regarding the Norwich, Norfolk handstamp forgeries. The Association having assisted the Court in the conviction of the Forger, the Association were given evidential material consisting of the Forged First Day Covers and Handstamps and these were on display for members to have a look at as well as other forged handstamps which had been intercepted by the Association.

#### 2019 AGM Report - continued

Further examples of forged covers/postmarks which were on display are shown below.





#### A.G.M Cover (see front cover)

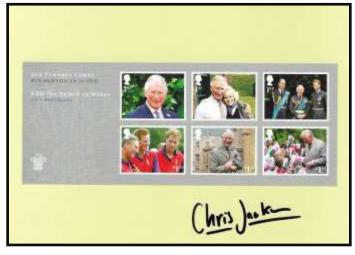
I have a small number of the 2019 AGM covers available at £25 each. If any member would like to purchase one please contact me on <a href="mailto:terryhuntsc@yahoo.com">terryhuntsc@yahoo.com</a> or send me your cheque, payable to 'GBFDC'.

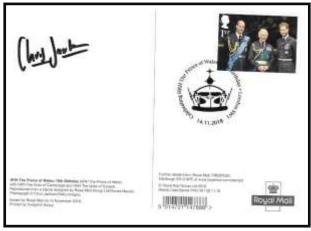
Terry Barnett Hon. Sec.

#### Prince Charles—Ian Balcombe

When invited to attend a signing of a book of Royal Photographs I thought that I would check if the Photographer/Author had taken any of the photographs included in the miniature sheet issued for the 70th Birthday of Prince Charles. I found that he had taken the photograph of Prince Charles and the Princes William and Harry in Uniform which featured in the miniature sheet. He was more than happy to sign the first day cover and cards shown as well as the presentation pack and coin cover not shown. I was able to give him the details of the Royal Mail website so that he could get some of the products, which he was not aware of as the photograph was a stock one and not a commission.





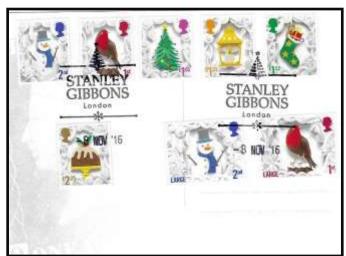


#### Stanley Gibbons - Ian Balcombe

Stanley Gibbons sponsored a rolling date postmark in November and December 2016. This was in conjunction with a post box which they had at their Strand premises. They provided cards to be posted which I discovered came in 2 colours - one with a red background and one with a brown background, which when posted obtained the sponsored postmark. I therefore attached the Christmas Stamps and Souvenir sheet to one of each "variety" of the cards on the first day of issue. Whist I don't think that it was Gibbons intention to produce the cards for the first day of issue, I do think that it makes them officials. Any thoughts?









#### **Collecting British First Day Covers**

#### A Review of the 33<sup>rd</sup> edition 2019 of the Booth Catalogue By Selwyn Goodacre

Oh dear. I had hoped that Jeffrey Booth might have acted on some of my comments on the previous editions of this catalogue in this journal (No. 104, October 2011; No. 117, December 2013 No. 139, June 2017) of the 30<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup> and 32<sup>nd</sup> editions of this fine catalogue, but it would appear not, which seems odd as *First Day Coverage* is the only magazine to concentrate on first day covers. So the Harry Furniss misprint remains, the various pages of 'gems' are still not listed in the List of Contents. – so you still have to search over 500 pages to locate them. His views on 'official' covers remain the same, and the same section of the Introduction simply reprints his earlier comments. I give up, and simply acknowledge that apparently we just do not agree – so his listing of the Palitoy cover in the Year of the Child still lacks any mention of the 'official' cover, which retails at several hundred pounds. Perhaps he reckons he lacks the space to include such vital information. The anomalies I pointed out about the Christmas 1973 Lewis Carroll covers are simply reprinted. His final comment in this section reads "We'll keep you posted on this tricky question" – the same comment that he has been making for a number of years now.

Otherwise the catalogue is of value, as it always has been. Prices are increased generally – one may think the increases are a little arbitrary, but I bow to his superior knowledge of such matters. The pages now number 552, up from the 524 of the preceding edition, but the book is still easily manageable.

#### **Collect British First Day Covers**

#### A Review of the 37<sup>th</sup> edition of the Bradbury Catalogue By Selwyn Goodacre

I reviewed the Bradbury Catalogues back in December 2011 (issue 105) when the 30<sup>th</sup> edition 2011 was published. Adrian has now got as far as the 37<sup>th</sup> edition 2019.

His catalogues continue to hold a mine of information. Every page has beautifully printed colour pictures of many of the covers listed. Adrian now lists 'Official covers' separately only up to 1997 when he adopts the term 'sponsored cover' – I think because many' official covers' were beginning to be organised by more commercial enterprises rather than by private firms and individuals

His notes at the beginning of the catalogues are valuable – if you follow his guidelines, you won't go far wrong. He continues to list all the well known commercial FDC cover producers, I personally would like to see this area extended to include producers like Fleetwood and possibly with more details on certain Railway producers like Festiniog..

He continues to add those delightful touches listing, at the end of some issues, relevant CDSs to look out for.

Adrian has managed to update his listings and still keep the page count at the same 252 – a remarkable achievement. I still think he may have to adopt the *Guinness Book of Records* solution, and become more selective, referring the reader to particular issues of the past. But of course he does have his brilliant website – here you will find many rarities illustrated. There are no space restrictions. This is invaluable for the specialist collector as he supplies so much of the basic information for ongoing searches. For the time being however, we can refer to his wonderful catalogues, and then for further data visit his website.

#### Autographed covers from David Holl (Jersey)

07.05.1935 Silver Jubilee

First Dy Cover signed by Barnett Freedman who designed the stamps.

#### 03.05.1951 Festival of Britain

First day Cover signed by Sir Hugh Casson who was director of architecture for the Festival.



#### 10.07.1967 British Paintings

Postcard of the painting by L. S. Lowry titled "Children coming out of school" with 1s 6d value affixed with Art on Stamps Exhibition handstamp





First day cover with the 2s 6d and 5s stamps signed by Mary Adshead who designed the stamps. Also shown is a letter from Mary Adshead saying the "The Admiralty say the Victory is O.K."





06.05.1940 The Centenary of the Adhesive Postage Stamp

Proofs of the souvenir sheets to be issued at the 27th Philatelic Congress of great Britain signed by Robson Lowe.







19.06.1961 43rd Philatelic congress
Portrait of Queen Elizabeth II signed by
the artist, Pietro Annigoni. The sheet has
subsequently been enhanced by other
issues featuring the Queen.

# 06.04.1948 Silver Wedding Presentation card signed by the then Postmaster General Wilfred Paling.







1968 The British Philatelic Exhibition

Souvenir card with the 1s 6d St Mary-le-Port Church, Bristol stamp issue signed by the artist John Piper.

#### Covers for Sale

Contact details: Jon Cox - joncox999@btinternet.com

Tel: 0121 352 1621 P&P £2 any quantity.

#### <u>Arreton Manor covers, FDI Isle of Wight with posted at Arreton</u> Manor cachet

#### £12 each or all 8 for £75

1977 Christmas

1978 Coronation

1978 Christmas

1979 22<sup>nd</sup> Aug Rowland Hill

1980 9th April London 1989 International Stamp Exhibition

1980 80th Birthday The Queen Mother

1981 Folklore

1982 Charles Darwin

#### London Assurance covers

1957 Parliamentary Conference 46 <sup>th</sup> Parliamentary Conference, London SW1 :			
1960 General Letter Office CDS London EC wavy line cancel			
1962 National Productivity Year National Productivity Year, Nov 1962-63			
1963 Freedom from Hunger	Freedom From Hunger Week 17	'-14 March 1963	£45
1963 Paris Postal Conference	FDI London EC	£30	
1963 Red Cross	Red Cross Centenary - A Centur	ry of Service £45	
1964 Botanical Congress FDI London EC £30			
1965 De Montfort's Parliamen	t Bureau	£30	
1965 ITU	FDI London EC	£45	
1966 900 <sup>th</sup> Westminster Abbe	ey FDI London EC	£40	
1966 1 <sup>st</sup> June World Cup	FDI London EC	£50	

#### Phi1covers

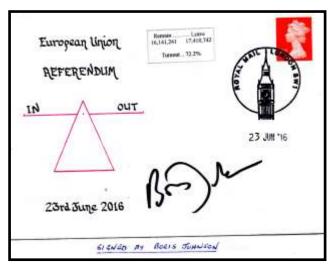
1971 General Anniversaries	Rugby Football Union, Twickenham	£275
1975 European Architecture	Chester Heritage City	£45
1976 Telephone	Telecommunication Museum, Taunton	£45
1979 Elections to European Ass	Strasbourg - Leicester's Twin City	£35
1980 London 1980 Mini Sheet Post	Office Day, London 1980, SW	£35

#### A Different Collecting Theme by Bob French, Tyne & Wear

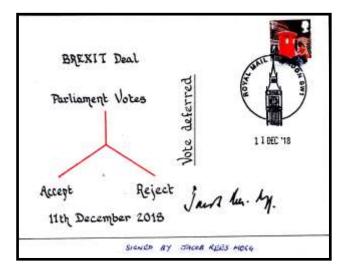
About five years ago I called a halt to my specialist Concorde collection, mainly because the only items coming onto the market were postcards showing Concorde in some form, anniversary covers of various flights and issues of stamps from countries that I would have difficulty finding on a world map. I now produce my own covers relating to anything of social interest which I started doing well before I stopped collecting Concorde material, I also keep newspaper cuttings of these events, and it is interesting to read what other 'newsy' non-related articles have also been reported.

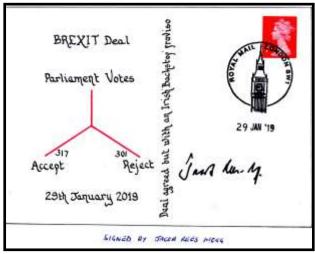
In my wisdom I decided to create a philatelic record of the Brexit dealings, this has turned out to be an epic task, what with missed deadlines, a Prime Minister resigning, a new P.M. installed, voting for the E.U. Parliament, a bielection, proroguing of Parliament, the Supreme Court involvement, and parliamentary shenanigans it has become a much bigger assignment than I first envisaged and it continues to roll on. Like many people I am sick of the word Brexit and want it settled one way or another then I can end this phase of my collection. At the time of writing, 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019, my collection currently consists of 39 covers depicting milestones reached so far in the Brexit saga.

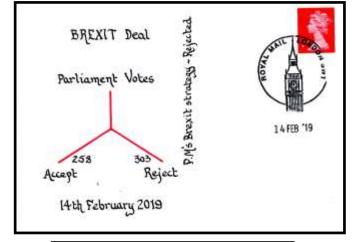
As I am rapidly approaching my 82<sup>nd</sup> birthday I am hoping I live long enough to complete this project.

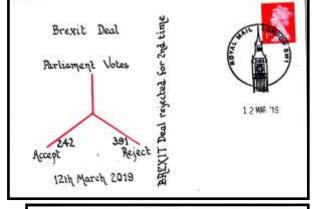


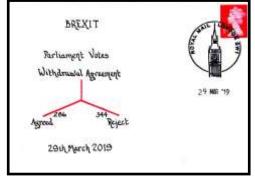










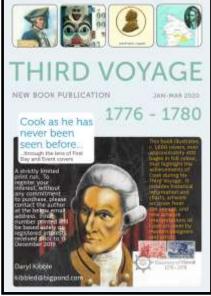




#### New Publications







Collecting British First Day Covers 2019 was published at the end of August. This is the 37th edition.

The new Booth catalogue was published in the middle of October.

Available from Jeffery Booth, First Day Publishing Company.

For more details of Daryl Kibble's book on Cook, Daryl's email is: kibbled@bigpond.com

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

#### WANTED

Derek Williams Covers

GB141 Charles Darwin HMS Beagle enters Sydney Harbour 1838

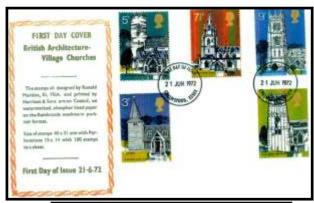
Also double covers
DW38 Working Dogs/Rescue at Sea
DW39 Beatles/Carry on Hammer Films
DW40 Army Uniforms/RAF Uniforms

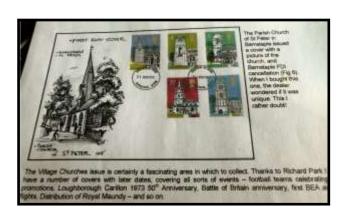
Village Churches 1972

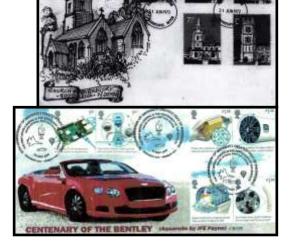
- 10 Text And Border
- 2)St. Peter's Church, Barnstaple
- 3) East Wellow, Hants. Florence Nightingale Hand Painted
- 4) Armed Forces Postal Cover Military Stamp 1312

If you can help, please contact M. Walmsley Phone 01636 612425 / 07860 285638









#### **COVERS FOR SALE**

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

Terry Barnett, tel: 0151 486 2610 email terryhuntsc@yahoo.com . Post Free.

1963 Cable with a London WC envelope fdi. Printed add. Cat £20	£2
1963 Nature with a London WC envelope fdi. Printed add. Cat £20	£2
1965 700th Parl. with a London Bureau cancel Typed add. Cat £10	£1
1965 S. Army PHOS. with Portsmouth fdi Printed label add. Cat £35	£3
1965 Arts PHOS. with a Southampton 'T' cancel Printed add. Cat £100	£12
1965 B of B PHOS. with a London Bureau cancel Typed add. Cat £25	£2
1966 Winners with a Harrow & W. fdi. Printed add.	£2
1970 Anniv. on the Nightingale Committee official. Label add. Cat £50	£5
1977 Energy on the Shell official cover with a Bureau cancel	£3
1977 Jubilee on the Palace of Art official with a Glasgow cancel. Unadd. Cat £40	£4
1977 Jubilee 9p on the Nuneaton official Printed add. Cat £50	£5
1978 Coronation on the Wattisham official with a BFPS1953 cancel. Label add. Cat £60	£6
1979 Christmas on the DF off. Label add. Coventry cancel. Cat £35	£3
1980 Q Mother on the Blackpool official Printed add. Cat £30	£3
1980 Railways on the Bournemouth Museum official. Unadd. with a Bournemouth canc	el
Cat £35	£3
1982 Cars on the Bradbury off. with a Paulersbury cancel. Cat £40	£4
1984 Cattle on the SP official with a Vet. Coll. Cancel Label add.	£1
1984 Christmas with a Nasareth cds on a DF cover Cat £25	£3
1985 Lifeboat on the Appledore official Cat £50	£5
1985 Insects on the Benham BLCS2 official Cat £20	£2
1986 Comm. Games on the Scottish Brewers official Typed add. Cat £15	£2
1986 RAF on the Benham BLCS17 official with a Scampton cancel Cat £30	£3
1986 Christmas on the LFDC56 official with a Glastonbury cancel Cat £12	£1
1989 RSPB on the Covercraft official with a Sandy cancel Cat £25	£2
1990 Q Mother on the covercraft/RT official Cat £30	£3
1992 Gilbert & S. on the Arlington official with a Damart cancel Cat £20	£2

1992 Tennyson on the RAFFDC1 official Cat £10	£1
1993 S. Holmes on the POID official Cat £75	£7
1994 P. of Wales on the Benham BLCS92 official SIGNED	£2
1994 Greetings on the Benham BLCS91 official	£3
1994 C. tunnel on two Benham BLCS94 officials	£3
1994 Medical on the RAFFDC24 official Cat £15	£2
1995 Communications on the ITN official Cat £30	£3
1995 VE Day on the Benham RT2 official	£2
1998 Cars on the RAFLET official Cat £15	£2
1998 Magical W. on the Dawn official Cat £35	£4
1999 Timekeepers m/s on the Benham BLCS172 official £15	£1
2000 Life/Earth on the Bradbury/MPPS official Cat £20	£2
2001 Occasions on the Benham BLCS199 official Cat £15	£1
2001 Flags/Ensigns on the Benham BLCS214 official Cat £15	£1
2001 Nobel P. on the Benham BLCS213 official Cat £15	£1
2002 W. Cup on the Cambridge official 1 of 60 Cat £25 with a Korea cancel	£3
2017 £5 on an RM cover with a Bureau cancel NOT OFTEN SEEN	£8

I have recently purchased a very large collection of first day covers. Among these are many officials. Beside many Cotswold covers there are:

Mercury, 4d Post, Internetstamps, Benham, Sheridan, Derek Williams, GBFDC, Bradbury, Dawn Covers etc. etc..

#### ALL AT £1 EACH'

If you have any wants from 1980 upto 2019 please contact me on <a href="mailto:terryhuntsc@yahoo.com">terryhuntsc@yahoo.com</a> or telephone 0151 486 2610.

It is worth a call as I may just have that missing cover.

**Terry Barnett** 



#### Richard Park

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# FIRST DAY COVERS



Dealer in First Day Covers since 1999 Free illustrated Price List with over 150 pages of First Day Covers and Special Event Covers for sale

It is one of the best and most comprehensive cover lists available for the beginner or specialist cover collector

The Price List is illustrated throughout with covers by the different cover producers and the handstamps available on the covers

Commemorative Covers produced by Royal Mail, Sotheby's, Cotswold, Philart, Stuart, Mercury, Thames, Historic Relics, Abbey, Wessex, Connoisseur, Benham, Buckingham, RNLI, Festiniog Railway and other cover producers Large range of Benham Commemorative Covers FDI, CDS, Slogan and Special Handstamps Early Covers listed by cover producer and cover design Official Covers and Signed Covers Definitive Covers, Benham Definitive Covers Coin Covers, Benham Coin Covers Guernsey, Jersey and Isle of Man Covers Royal Air Force Museum Covers Royalty, Railway, Sport, RAF, Flight, Army, Military, Maritime

STEVEN RILEY 37 BADGER GATE, THRESHFIELD, SKIPTON BD23 5EN

and other Special Event Covers

#### Deadline for next Issue — 13th February 2020

#### Letters and articles

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 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.

In the next issue we are featuring autographed covers. Please send any interesting facts, features, and photographs you would like us to publish.

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, 17 Elderberry Drive, Dereham, Norfolk NR20 3ST

Name and 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. Members' details will not be sold onto other members or dealers.

Your name and 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.

All material published in the newsletter is the copyright of the writer of the item concerned

#### Fees

Non-commercial advertising rates - members only			Membership Fees			
Covers wanted Covers for sale Two or three its	advert:		FREE FREE	U.K. U.K. Junior	£14 £7	To receive Newsletter by post To receive Newsletter by post
		Full page amps accepted	£7.50*	U.K. U.K. Junior	£12 £6	To receive Newsletter by email To receive Newsletter by email
Member comm	nercial	advertising r	ates	Europe	£17	To receive Newsletter by post
Full page Half page	£20 £10	plus artwork plus artwork	£13	Europe	£12	
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