

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

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Number 127



The Association of Great Britain

First Day Cover
Collectors

Membership 225

June 2015

Inside this Issue

Special Features

GBFDC 2015 Battle of Waterloo Cvr 3

Let's Connect 4/5

Help with Signature 5

Help Required Identifying Covers 5/6

Help Required with Signature 8

Misguided, Mishandled, but a gift 15
for hard-up collectors

Festiniog Railway First Day Covers 6

175th Penny Black Anniversary 17
Limited Edition First Day Cover

Regular Features

2 Association Officers &
Editorial

7/8 Letter's to the Editor

9/13 Members Cover Sale

14 Publicity Officer Required/
Date For Your Diary / Auction
Deadlines/GBFDC Website

19 Rates Column

Advertisements

David Millership 3

Phil Sheridan Officials 18

Covercollecting.com 20

Steven Scott 20

From the Editor's Desk



Welcome to the June 2015 edition of First Day Coverage. Before we go any further, we would like to apologise for the late arrival of your June newsletter. It was caused by ill-health and pressure of work. However, we hope you find

this edition an enjoyable read and well worth waiting for.

Well Europhilex is well and truly over and what a success! For the show organizers it was; and for Royal Mail, undoubtedly; for collectors & dealers/producers (who could get to the show), undoubtedly. Although many dealers and cover producers found their allocation of Europhilex numbered sheets was not nearly enough to satisfy their valued customer orders, me as well. I had to look round for someone who had far more sheets than me in order to buy in at well over their original price because I didn't want to disappoint my customers. I was happy to get them to be honest and I would be letting a lot of my customers down had I not been able to obtain them. I am thankful to the dealer who sold them to me but I shouldn't have had to go to such lengths. My order to Royal Mail was not an onerous one but I was still only allocated a third of what I required. This notwithstanding, I think Royal Mail did a wonderful job under very difficult circumstances. I fully

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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Hon. Association Publicity Officer	
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Important Notice

DEADLINE FOR THE AUGUST 2015 EDITION

Items for publication **MUST** be with the editor by
7th July 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.....*

understand why Royal Mail wanted the 7,500 sheets to be sold only to show visitors but it should have realised trade and collectors especially those who couldn't attend the show, would want them. Too few were printed really. Lessons will have been learnt for next time, yes, I am afraid there may be more of this kind of thing in order to help boost attendance to future Stampex shows. But I will leave that for others to worry about.

I attended on the 13th May, the first day of the show. It was a ticket only day but more of the Europhilex Overprinted Penny Black numbered sheets was on sale. I only stayed between 10am and 12midday as I had Dot with me and she really wasn't up to the journey but she came along to get her 3 sheets to help me out.

We have a report on Europhilex by Ian Billings, and an article about rare FDCs Chris Sutcliffe managed to do with his three sheets. Both are good reads. Ian does highlight some of the drawbacks of the show but I think Royal Mail already know the things they could have done better, and they will be making changes.

We want to hear your views on the Europhilex Show. Did you attend? What did you think of it? Did you manage to get your 3 precious sheets? If you couldn't get to the show, how do you feel about not having a chance to acquire even one sheet for your collection? We want to hear from you. Write in with your views and experiences. If you managed to get hold of some rare covers using your Europhilex sheet then let us know about it.

Send in a scan or good colour photocopy of your cover(s). We will be very happy to receive all your letters and articles

Now to inside this edition, we have the Battle of Waterloo GBFDC Association official cover for your information on page 3. It is the last in the series of three covers for 2015. The next official cover will be for the GBFDC AGM2015 and will be for Bees.

We have a Europhilex Report and Europhilex Article on pages 15 & 17. Both are well worth a read.

There is a very full MCS for you this issue as well as a few good letters to the editor.

Nigel McGarry continues with his excellent series, "Let's Connect" on pages 4 & 5. And Bill Norburn asks for members' help in identifying a cover signature.

If you have sent in something for the newsletter, and you haven't seen it published yet, please be assured that we are holding it in hand for the next edition. We like to have material in hand for forthcoming newsletters so, if you have interesting items in your collection then please think about putting an article together for your newsletter, or send in a letter for publication.

Please send in ALL your Europhilex letters (or other letters, of course) and articles for the August Newsletter and we will publish them.

We have been promised a blistering heat wave starting this week but no sign of here in the North West! We are freezing cold up here. We normally have the fire off from mid April but it's still on at the beginning of June. We hope the weather improves where you are, if it has not already done so. On that note we will see you again in August. Until then, Happy Collecting.

Phil Sheridan, Hon. Editor

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

GBFDC No.55 OFFICIAL COVER – 200th Anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo 18 June 2015

This is the third GBFDC official cover of 2015 and it will be a Limited Edition of 78. This is an important battle being remembered by Royal Mail and a highly collectable issue. It is most colourful and we hope the cover will enhance your cover collection.

If you would like to collect GBFDC Association official covers then please let Terry have your order and cheque as soon as possible.

200th Anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo GBFDC official cover shown below for member information (Design may be subject to slight change)



**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: York Racecourse Stand 43 -- July 17th/18th 2015
Autumn Stampex Gallery Bay 23A-- September 16th - 19th 2015
GBFDC AGM Fair – 18th October 2015

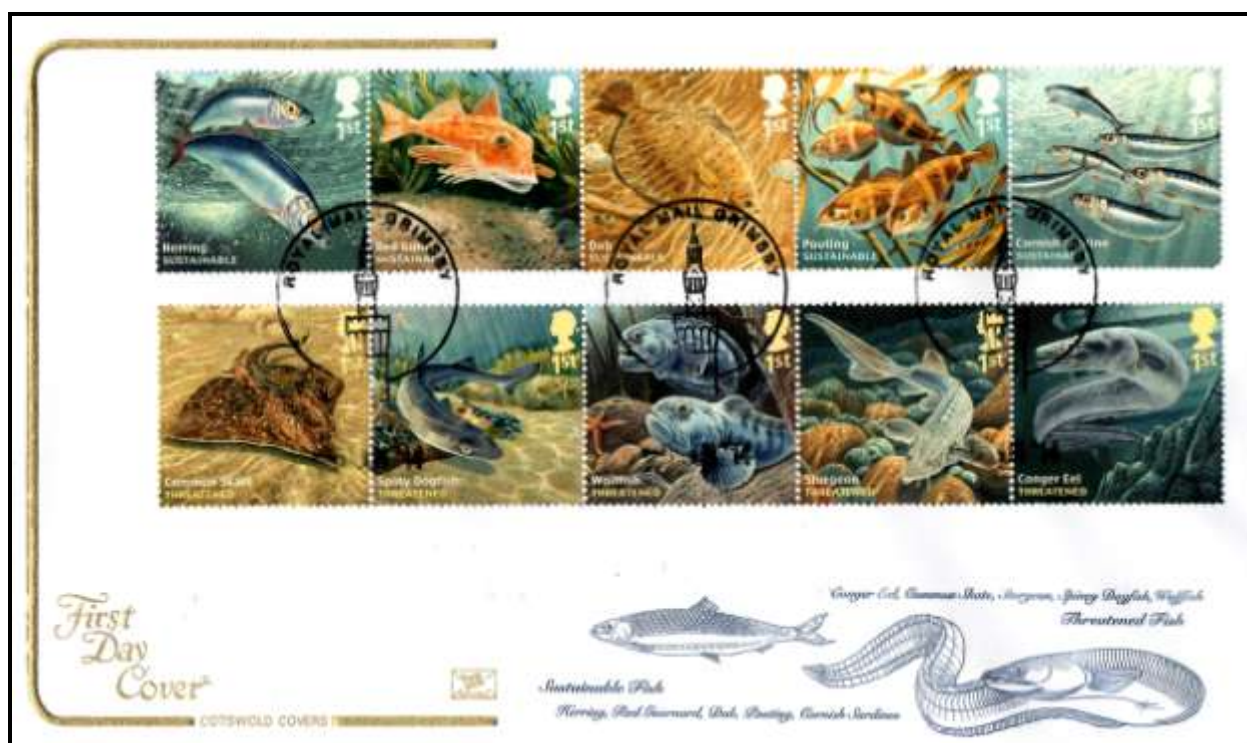
Let's Connect.....by Nigel McGarry



In 1971 three stamps were issued to commemorate giants of British literary history in the shape of John Keats, Thomas Gray and Sir Walter Scott. I have seen Edinburgh FDI handstamp connecting the birthplace of Scott but have also found an excellent FDI handstamp from Cambridge. Thomas Gray attended Peterhouse College and died in Cambridge during 1771 aged 54 - the Philart

My personal preference for special handstamps and permanent philatelic postmarks means I can sometimes produce a quite collectable item without running the risks associated with producing CDS or slogan postmark covers.

A couple of my more recent connections are shown below. The first is the Grimsby permanent postmark applied to the sustainable fish issue from 2014 on an attractive Cotswold cover - Grimsby has always been associated with the UK fishing industry.



Continued.....



Also shown (opposite) are two of the covers I produced for the 2014 Seaside Architecture and Piers issue cancelled with the Brighton permanent postmark. To commemorate the world's longest pleasure pier,

I also had similar covers cancelled by the Southend on Sea permanent postmark.



HELP WITH SIGNATURE PLEASE



Below is a scan of a Stamp Publicity card with the London Union of Youth Clubs Salutes London Sportsmen Handstamp.

The same card was used for the London Landmarks stamps official. As the same logo was used in both handstamps I wonder if any member knows if Stamp Publicity sponsored the October handstamp?

If anyone knows who signed it I would also be much appreciated.

Bill Norburn

Dear Members,

We are looking for someone to help promote the club & it's activities nationally by various means. This would be a voluntary position, and does not necessarily mean the applicant would have to become a member of the GBFDC committee.

Reasonable out of pocket expensive would be reimbursed, for expenses incurred whilst carrying out duties for GBFDC.

Any members interested, Please contact Richard Park **01403 241825** or email **rjpark@btinternet.com**

Richard Park, Chairman.

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

**We have arranged for the 2015 AGM/Cover Fair to be held on Sunday 18th October 2015 at the Collingwood Centre, Great Barr, Birmingham B43 7NF (for Sat Navs).
Tel: 0121 360 1484**

Doors open at 10am. A lunchtime buffet will be laid on with the AGM starting at around 1pm

PLEASE NOTE....The correct time for doors opening is 10am, not 9am as in previous newsletters. Apologies for this error.

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)



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

Dear Editor.....

We apologise to Richard Park for the omission of his letter in the April edition of First Day Coverage. We print it here with apologies.

In reply to Mr D Whalley's letter in the February 2015 newsletter. I am more than happy for a list of realisations to be published in the newsletter. However, producing a list takes a lot of my time, as does the unsold lots list! There was a realisation list produced for auction 23, by one of our members which was printed in the newsletter. I supplied the data, which is quick and easy to email, and he spent time formatting the data into a readable format, so members could understand it. This worked well, but the offer was not forthcoming for the following auction to produce another realisation list. If Mr Whalley's is happy to help by producing a realisation list from the data supplied by me, I would be happy for him to do so. Please get in touch - rjpark@btinternet.com

Richard Park.

Dear Editor.....

I find the articles issued illustrating FDC, and the stories behind the covers very interesting. It is particularly nice to see some of the more unusual covers that collectors have found. The covers shown in the April issue cover a broad range of interests and stories which prompted me to write. Although some of the covers may be rare, I find that the subject and stamps bear no relevance and consequently little interest (to me).

For example the British Cattle issue shown with the Britannia celebration flight cancel appears to have no relevance and hence no attraction for me (apologies if I have missed any connection), whereas the article "Let's connect" showing relevant (but not obvious) links with the stamp issue of more fascination.

Also the Year of the Child covers article was particularly relevant and (for me) makes the covers appealing. If I cannot find a relevance between postmark and stamp, I tend to pay little interest in the cover. I realise this is a purely personal view and it is very fortunate that everyone does have a different point of view. This is perhaps what makes the appeal of the hobby so fascinating, with collectors having different interests, and one reason why so many different postmarks are produced. This is not to detract from the interest by others of any cover. Thank goodness for such variety as at the other extreme only having one postmark for any issue would be extremely boring.

Anne Tucker

Dear Editor.....

On a quiet night I spent a few hours on ebay, just to see what was on sale. It was then that I came across my great ebay find. I suppose you want to know what this great find is. Well, it's a 15/01/69 Ships cover (SG 778/83). The date on the ebay FDC is **15/01/68** with a Brighton FDI. According to the Booth Catalogue (31 Edition) only the 5d stamp is known with a pre-release date of **13/01/69**.

I paid just £9.99, not a King's ransom, but this hobby is not down to the cash (or should not be), but down to the thrill of finding that special FDC. I hope you find your special FDC.

E. Stredwick

Continued.....

Dear Editor.....

Kenneth asked an interesting question in the last newsletter of when is a cover deemed 'Illustrated' and gave several examples for all to ponder.

I've often believed that this area of our hobby would justify an interesting and detailed addendum to the better cover catalogues on offer - lots of photos collated from around the society and other interested parties and a brief history (as is given in Adrian Bradbury's FDC Catalogue)

For me I detail a cover as follows:

- Illustrated (with as much detail of the producer as is available)
- Typed/Printed Display Cover – (Example shown below)
- Plain envelope with stuck on cachet
- Hand illustrated - I love this area
- Plain - including commercial

So I for one am very keen on lots more information on covers and how they were produced.



Nigel McGarry

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

Spare Envelope Stiffeners

FREE - around 60 envelope stiffeners mainly 15x21 cm and 16x24 cm. Received with FDC but reluctant to throw away. **£3.50** to cover P&P. Can split but postage cost remains the same.

Contact details: Anne Tucker email - catucker@btinternet.com Phone 01363 772823

Members Cover Sale

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

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

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

1966	Burns	That man...the world o'er – Glasgow on PO cover. TA. Non phos	£4
1970	Comm Games	FPO 79 on PO cover. Unaddressed	£4
1971	Universities	FDI London EC on Action for the Crippled Chld No:7 cover. U.	£4
1975	S&D Railway	FDI Paddington on Philart cover. Cat £20.Unaddressed	£6
1975	S&D Railway	FDI Swindon on Philart cover. Cat £20.Unaddressed	£6
1977	SJ 4 values	FDI Windsor on Royal Commonwealth Society official cover	£60
1978	Energy	Bureau on PO Cover with Shell overprint. Not seen often.	£9
1978	Cycling	FDI Harrogate on Cyclists Touring Club cover. LA.	£12
1979	Dogs	CDS Barking, Essex on PO cover SLA	£12
1979	Flowers	Bath Europes Floral City slogan on PO cover. Unaddressed.	£45
1979	Horseracing	Codesort comes to Manchester on PO cover. SLA	£9
1979	Police	FPO 999 on North Yorkshire Police official cover	£75
1980	Railway	LSP Ammeraal, Ware, Herts on PO cover	£10
1980	Railway	FDI Bournemouth on Big Four Railway Museum cover. Unadd.	£15
1980	Fam People	Knutsford, Mrs Gaskell's 'Cranford' slogan on PO cover. Unadd.	£24
1980	Conductors	FDI London on British Library official cover No:21	£6
1980	Conductors	Fairfield Croydon on official cover	£12
1980	Sport	Bureau 13½p Rugby stamp on Int Postal Collectors League FDC	
		featuring gold version of same stamp	£8
1991	Scientific A	Computer Innovation, Comparex Arlington official cover	£90

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

1966	Birds PHOS. with a Southampton fdi	£2
1967	EFTA PHOS. with a Southampton fdi	£2
1969	B. Architecture with a Philatex cancel on a Philart cover	£2
1969	B. Architecture with York Minster cancel on the Minster off.	£4
1976	Caxton on the Philart off. with a Paper & Printing cancel	£10
1980	Q. Mother on the Bradbury LFDC 3 off.	£2
1981	R Wedding on LFDC11 with a Caernarvon cancel	£1
1981	R Wedding G/P's on the Cameo official	£2
1984	Mail Coach on a Cotswold cover with a BATH fdi	£2
1985	A. Legends on the BLCS6 official with Winchester cancel	£1
1986	Domesday on the 4 Benham CARDS	£1
1986	Domesday on the 4 Benham SMALL SILKS	£1
1986	Domesday on the Fine Arts official	£10
1986	Domesday with a Great Hall cancel on the Benham official	£1
1986	Domesday with a Isle of Ely cancel on the Benham official	£1
1986	Domesday with a London WC2 on Benham BLCS13b official	£1
1986	Domesday with a Winchester cancel on a Benham official	£1
1986	Domesday with a St Peters Gloucester cancel on the Benham off.	£1

Continued.....

1986 Domesday with an Exeter cancel on the Benham BLCS13 official	£1
1986 RAF on the Fine Arts official	£6
1986 R. Wedding on the Fine Arts official	£2
1988 E Lear set on RFDC66 official signed by R Woodward	£1.50
1989 Greetings on the Benham BLCS39 off. with a Ironbridge cancel	£2
1989 Ind. Arch. M/S on 4 Benham small silks	£2
1989 Ind. Arch. set on the BLCS43 signed Smith (Director Mus.) with an Ironbridge cancel	£1.50.
1989 Ind. Arch. on BLCS43b with a St Agnes cancel	£1
1989 Ind. Arch. on LFDC78 with a Lanark cancel	£1
1991 Christmas on the BLCS69 with a Shrewsbury cancel	£1
1992 Single Euro. Market with a Birmingham CDS	£2
1992 Tolkein prestige book on 4 covers each with a CDS cancel Cat £50	£8
1992 Civil War on the Benham SPG17 with a Nottingham cancel	£2
1993 R. Britain on 4 Benham small silks	£1
1996 Cars on the Mercury off. with a Hyde Park cancel	£1
2005 Christmas on Benham Gold 318 with a Christchurch cancel	£2
2006 Ice Age Mammals on Benham Gold 327 with a Clapham cancel	£2
2007 D. wedding on the Mercury official with a London SW1 cancel	£1

CONTACT DETAILS:- Norman Whatmore TEL: 01905 611778
Email n.whatmore54@btinternet.com

POSTAGE £1 Signed for extra 1985 Xmas - Bethlehem cds on Cotswold cover U/A	£15
1986 Nature - Selborne cds on R.M cover U/A	£6
1990 RSPCA - Black Dog cds on R.M cover small label	£8
1993 Timekeepers - London I.S. Maritime Mail cds small label	£12
1995 Spring - Chestnut Grove cds PPS cover small label	£3
1999 Farmers - Red Cow Village cds + The Highland Cattle Society cachet R.M cvr U/A	£5
2003 Xmas - Holy Island cds R.M cover U/A	£5
2004 Xmas Min Sheet - Greetland cds R.M cover U/A	£4
2005 Heritage - Woodstock cds R.M cover U/A	£4
2005 Tastes - Sandwich cds R.M cover U/A	£4
2006 Animal Tales - Mousehole cds R.M cover U/A	£4
2006 Animal Tales - Bunny cds R.M cover U/A	£4

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

Scarce and short run Sheridan Official Covers

01/05/12 James Bond Souvenir Sheet. 10 stamps and labels on Sheridan official Bond Street FDC (limited to 40 numbered covers)	£60
20/03/12 Comics Sheridan The Beano, Dennis the Menace & Gnasher official cover with Comic Relief M/M (32 done)	£25
28/07/14 Great War. Sheridan Western Front Assoc. Battle of Broodseinde official (40 done)	£40
02/10/01 Nobel Prizes. Sheridan extremely rare Rudyard Kipling (Round image) only 10 done	£80
06/11/07 Xmas Angels + 2 x Madonna & Child stamps on Sheridan small size cover with Madonna & Child/Angels stained lass window image (only 12 done)	£50
19/08/10 Gt. Brit. Railways. Sheridan Special official with NYMR image on cover cancelled with Sheridan Crewe Heritage Centre official postmark (only 20 done)	£50
04/02/14 Working Horses on Special Sheridan Year of the Horse official (only 39 done)	£55
08/01/08 Ian Fleming. Stamps from M/S on Special Sheridan 777/Aces/Dice image cvr (only 6 done)	£75

Continued.....

21/04/05 World Heritage Sites. Sheridan Stonehenge official with both British AND Australian stamps (16 stamps on the one cover – just 28 done)	£60
10/01/06 Animal Tales. Sheridan Crocky Trail official with both British & USA stamps (only 40 done)	£50
09/11/06 Lest We Forget M/S on on Sheridan Cenotaph off cvr. (Only 16 done)	£60
10/06/08 Carry on/Hammer Films on Sheridan Woolton Picture House official cover (60 done) scarce	£40
08/05/10 Machin Exhibition Souvenir Sheet on Sheridan British Empire official (38 done)	£50
07/06/05 TTC single set on Sheridan Queen in Carriage cvr with Queen Elizabeth's M/M Cover not done without a M/M (Only 27 covers produced)	£55
07/06/05 TTC single set on Sheridan Marching Guards official cvr (last one)	£50
09/01/07 Beatles. Sheridan Mersey Beat official cover with 'Making Music Keeps you Young' music notes) M/M (20 done - very scarce)	£55
09/01/07 Beatles. Sheridan Liverpool Music City official cover with 'The Beatles Story', Albert Dock, Liverpool M/M 26 done - (last one)	£55
22/08/08 Olympic Handover. Derek Williams triple dated official cover, 4 x stamps from the M/S, together with 4 x similar China stamps cancelled 24/08/08, triple dated with 4 x Welcome to London Olympic stamps, cancelled London, Stratford 27/07/12 (Only 5 produced)	£75

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

1951	Festival of Britain	London CDS	£12
1953	Coronation	Long Live the Queen Slogan	£16
1954	Scouts	Jubilee Jamboree Slogan	£5
1960	G.L.O.	Lombard Street CDS	£35
1963	F.F.H. .	Freedom From Hunger Week Slogan	£15
1963	Compac	First Day of Issue Slogan	£12
1964	F.R.B.	North Queensferry (Phos.)	£50
1965	Churchill	Bladon FDI	£10
1965	Salvation Army	Southampton 'T' (Phos.)	£25
1965	Battle of Britain	Biggin Hill CDS 1 x 4d, 1 x 9d, 1 x 1/3 (Phos.)	£40
1965	P.O.T	Leicester P. S. (Official Phos.)	£50
1982	Maritime	See the Spectacular Ships Slogan	£25
1982	Technology	New Invention CDS	£6
1982	Motor Cars	Austin CDS	£8
1982	Christmas	St. Stephen CDS	£8
1983	Engineering	Collect British Stamps Slogan	£25
1983	British Army	Sanquhar CDS on official cover	£15
1983	Fairs	NABMA (official) Birmingham	£8
1984	Heraldry	Good News People Martin official	£50
1984	Greenwich	Meridian Day, Swavesley official	£30
1984	Christmas	Hastings Resort For All Seasons Slogan	£25
1985	Trains	Hendon Spitfire BF1857 PS official	£25
1985	Film Year	Dambusters BF2101 PS official	£25
1986	Queen's 60th	G & J Swingler Birmingham official	£24
1986	Parl. Conf.	British Presidency Slogan	£18

Contact Details: Dot Radley, Tel: 0151 257 8874. E-mail: salwals@aol.com

Postage £1 Unless Recorded Signed For or Special Delivery wanted. Then full cost please.

13/10/82 Cars. Austin 7 60 th Anniversary signed by Nigel Mansell, Jackie Stewart and Stirling Moss	£70
10/07/01 Pond Life on Internet Stamps National Trust Scotney Castle Garden signed by Charlie Dimmock, Alan Titchmarsh and Tommy Walsh	£35
13/05/97 Benham 100 Years of Dracula The Whitby Dracula Society, signed by Christopher Lee	£50

Continued.....

05/10/99 Soldiers' Tale Helio Clarity of Vision official (Possibly my best cover) It was issued with just one stamp but around 15 were done with the full set. I have seen it up on ebay for \$400 recently.	£240
02/05/00 Arts & Craft. Peter Payne 225 th Anniversary of Turners Birth official (45 done)	£50
07/12/99 Artists on Philatelic Music Circle official. In Memory of Lord Menuhin (1016-1999) H/S (small size cover)	£45
02/05/00 Art & Craft (small size cover) Karl-Jurgen Schepers British Midland/Lufthansa official	£35
26/05/00 Special Retail Booklet (pane of 2 1 st class Space & Web) on National Postal Museum (outsized cover, Gigantic Wheel, Earls Court image) with NPM Millennium Tribute to Rowland Hill (changeable date) H/S (not listed)	£40
13/03/01 The Weather Concorde Nairobi 75 25 th Anniversary of Supersonic Flight (changeable date) H/S (not listed) Tiny 3/40 in pencil on cover	£40
13/03/01 The Weather Old England XI Woodford Sports official (small size cover)	£35
06/06/00 People & Places Macintyre Dunkirk 60 th Anniversary official (No.48 of 60)	£20

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If anyone can help please contact me on richard.dean1955@gmail.com
or 024 76 387693

WANTS LIST COVERCRAFT FIRST DAY COVERS

- 1983 Royal Commonwealth. DG Taylor official with Windsor FDI postmark signed by Donald Hamilton Fraser.
- 1983 Engineering. AEUW official signed by Terry Duffy (does it exist just signed by Duffy?)
- 1983 Engineering. AEUW official signed by Tony Benn (have slogan version-does it exist with AEUW handstamp?)
- 1983 Engineering. GLC official cancelled by Silverton cds postmark (without DG Taylor or overprint in red)
- 1983 Engineering. GLC official cancelled by Woolwich cds postmark (as above)
- *1983 British Fairs signed by Chairman (NABMA official)
- 1985 Composers. Ultramar single stamp covers (22p, 31p)
- 1985 Christmas. London Palladium signed by Dame Anna Neagle
- 1986 Industry. Industry Prospers-You Profit FDC (unsigned full set)
- 1986 Christmas. Royal Academy of Dancing. Signed by ballet dancers
- 1988 Transport. TGWU official signed by James Knapp
- *1989 Toys & Games. Signed by Caron Keating & Mark Curry
- 1989 Toys & Games. Signed by Caron Keating & Yvette Fielding
- 1989 Penny Black (min sheet) Octagon cds postmark (BPF cover)
- *1990 Penny Black (min sheet) Aveling Barford slogan postmark
- 1993 Sherlock Holmes. POID official with POID slogan (Peterborough FDI)
- 1994 Age of Steam. NYMR official with GWR 66XX Class No 6619 Railway letter (red coaches travelling to left) stamp added (there are 4 versions of stamp)
- 1995 Shakespeare. Official cover with FDI Stratford doubled with Denmark stamps cancelled by Helsingor (I have 3 versions ie small tortoiseshell butterfly, squirrel & sparrows. May exist with other stamps eg badger, black grouse etc.
- 1996 Woman of Achievement. Royal Academy of Dancing Official signed by Dame Margot Fonteyn.

EVENTS COMMEMORATIVE COVERS

- 1987 IAAF 1975. Swedish cover with Stockholm postmark. Missing athlete celebrating with arms raised & steeplechase stamps
- 1989 GMB Centenary. Signed by John Edmunds, Norman Willis & Olga Mean
- 1992 Hampton Court Palace. 37p Roses stamp & definitive also exists with 24p Happy & Glorious stamp
- 1994 First Mail through Eurotunnel cover. Features postman holding UK & French flags in front of Tunnel entrance
- 1995 VE Day Spitfire cover with single 2nd May VE Day & 1986 RAF stamp with French stamps. Exists with various stamps.

Any other variations not shown on website - www.covercraft.co.uk

Contact Details:- Maurice Walmsley – Mwalmsley13@aol.com Tel: 01636 612425 – 07860 285 638. Postage £1.00

2000	GBFDC Association 1	Rowland Hill Official	£18
2001	GBFDC Association 2	Body & Bone Official	£18
2001	GBFDC Association 4	Weather (stamps) Official	£17
2002	GBFDC Association 7	Golden Jubilee Official	£15
2003	GBFDC Association 11	Secret of Life (DNA) Official	£15
2005	GBFDC Association 18	Magic Official	£18
2005	GBFDC Association 20	Trafalgar (stamps) Official	£20
2005	GBFDC Association 20	Trafalgar PSB (set 4) Official	£49
2006	GBFDC Association 21	World Cup Winners Official	£18
2006	GBFDC Association 22	Victoria Cross (stamps) Official	£20
2007	GBFDC Association 25	Christmas Angels Official	£16
2008	GBFDC Association 26	House of Lancaster Official	£25
2009	GBFDC Association 30	British Design Classics Official	£23
2009	GBFDC Association 33	William Gladstone Official	£25
2012	GBFDC Association 44	Victoria Museum Official	£30
2013	GBFDC Association 47	Doctor Who Official	£25
2007	GBFDC Association AGM	Endangered Species (Birds) Official	£145
2009	GBFDC Association AGM	British Naval Uniforms Official	£120
2013	Falkland Islands Referendum Stamps FDC Official		£14
2013	Falkland Islands Referendum Mini Sheet FDC Official		£14
2013	Falkland Islands Margaret Thatcher FDC Official		£14
1997	GB5 Derek Williams	The Great Tudor Official	£24
1997	GB8 Derek Williams	Post Office Official	£20
1997	GB9 Derek Williams	Queen's Golden Jubilee Official	£19
1997	GB10 Derek Williams	Christmas Crackers Official	£19
1998	GB11 Derek Williams	Queen's Beasts Official	£19
1998	GB12 Derek Williams	Skerries Lighthouses Official	£19
1999	GB27 Derek Williams	Scientists Tale Official	£22
1999	GB31 Derek Williams	Christians Official	£25
2000	GB33 Derek Williams	Above & Beyond Official	£18
2000	GB33 Derek Williams	Above & Beyond Official	£18
1997	Derek Williams DW3 (double dated)	Parcels & Pageantry	£25
1997	Derek Williams DW5 (double dated)	Christmas Comedy	£25

And many more, please ask

Wanted:- Top prices paid for Derek Williams GB Covers

1999	GB29	Rugby Pane FDC
2003	GB80A	Transports of Delight M/S
2008	GB129A	James Bond Targets M/S
2008	GB 131	Lifeboats (stamps)
2008	GB134	Carry On/Hammer
2008	GB137	Uniforms (stamps)
2009	GB147	Fire & Rescue
2007	DW38	Working Dogs/Rescue at Sea (Double Dated)
2009	DW39	Beatles/Carry On Hammer (Double Dated)
2009	DW40	Army Uniforms/RAF Uniforms (Double Dated)

- END OF SALE -

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.

Misguided, mishandled, but a gift for hard-up collectors!

Royal Mail first told dealers about the special Europhilex miniature in September 2014. We told them then that the print quantity was unrealistic and that their loyal customers would be upset. Royal Mail responded that the 'limited edition' of 7500 was to encourage collectors to attend the Exhibition. But they had no idea of how the sales would be organised.

Dealers were allowed to pre-order, but all had to be collected from the Exhibition. There was no distribution from Tallents House or before 13 May. Only on 28th April were dealers told of their allocation, with those who had taken the very expensive stands at the show allocated a greater proportion of their order than others.

General sales at the show were to be in two sessions, 10am and 3pm, but, anticipating queues blocking their stand between sessions, Royal Mail decided that all sales would be at 10am only. More would be sold on day 1 when visitors paid to get in. Sales were to be limited to 3 per person *over the four days of the show*. So collectors who had bought off-peak train tickets 3 months in advance arriving at London termini from 11 am, would already have missed at least the first hour of sales, and would have to take their chance that no packs would be on sale when they arrived.

I was not surprised to find a queue at the Royal Mail stand on Thursday, but even before that I had had reports that there was no formal control of sales. Only 3 sheets could be bought in a single transaction, but many people made repeated visits to the stand on day 1 and so were able to buy 15 - 20 sheets. With one dealer advertising well in advance that he would pay at least double the £4.95 cost *at the exhibition*, it was clear that some collectors would buy as many as they could so as to subsidise the ever-increasing cost of their collecting.

We estimated that 1500 were allocated to dealers and cover producers, with around 3000 on sale on day 1, and 1000 per day on the other three days.

This was a Royal Mail initiative – nothing to do with the event organisers – designed to encourage more people to attend the event. While attendance figures are yet to be revealed, there is no evidence to suggest that numbers matched the over 5,000-a-day of London 2010. And while some collectors in an unscientific online poll said that they wouldn't buy it even though they would be at the show, three times as many said they wouldn't be able to go but would have liked the pack.

So was this a success? For FDC producers, no because they couldn't get as many sheets as they needed for their standing order customers. For other UK dealers – none will have lost money, but those who managed to buy far more than Royal Mail indicated they would sell to them will have profited the most. What of the collectors? Well some will be hundreds of pounds better off because they beat the system and have quickly sold on eBay.

And for Royal Mail? Well they sold everything so they haven't lost money, but this misguided and mishandled policy has alienated their loyal customer-base of dealers and collectors alike, especially those outside the UK. The increasing number and increasing cost of stamp issues and the continued problems of 'errors' on Post and Go stamps are causing our customers to consider seriously whether their hard-earned cash would be better spent on older stamps and postal history. This will have only reinforced those views.

I hope that rumours of a similar exercise to boost attendance at Stampex are unfounded.

'Originally published in the July edition of Stamp Magazine and reproduced here with the permission of the editor. (c) Ian Billings.'

Festiniog Railway first day covers

By Selwyn Goodacre

I imagine we all like to have the occasional real rarity in our collection – to have a unique item is even more desirable, and particularly so if the fact has been confirmed in print. One way to satisfy the desire, I suggest, is to look into acquiring certain covers created by 'The Festiniog Company Railway Letter Service'.

It is worth investing in two catalogues for these issues: "The Festiniog Railway Company Railway Letter Service Volume 1 1969-1997" by Harold Creamer; Volume 2 1998-2009 by John Dobson & Robert Smallman.

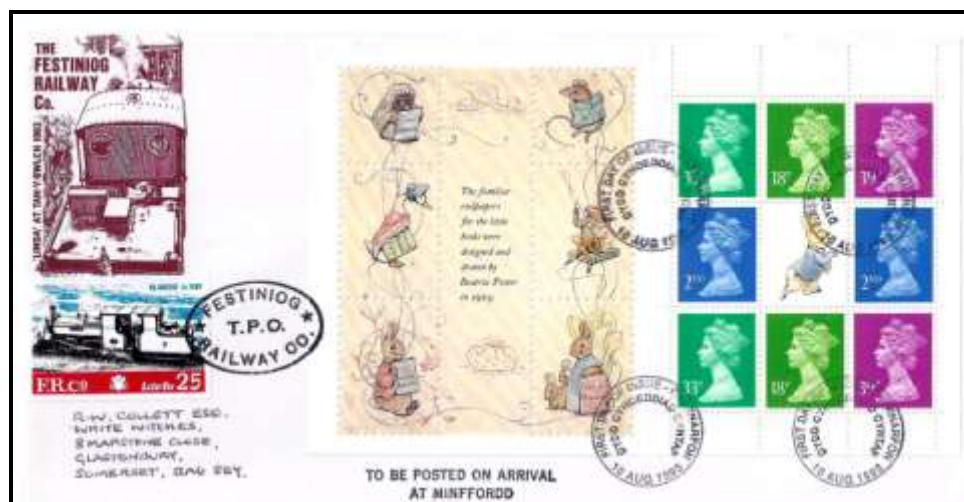
The joy (!) of these covers is that within each issue there are a number of variants – all are detailed in these catalogues, and individual variants can vary in number from one only, to two, three, four or more. For the more popular covers, numbers are rather higher. One of the reasons for the great variety in the one issue, is the varying stations printed on the cover, the number and variety of the 'railway stamps', and the place of cancellation.

Happily for the specialist collector like myself, these years cover all the various issues.



I am interested in. In my own collection I have a number of Festiniog 'Year of the Child' covers – three of them are said to be one of 2 only (one of these is shown), one is one of 3 only, and three are said to be one of 4 only.

If I turn to the 'Story of Beatrix Potter Prestige Booklet' (10 August 1993), here I do have two which are said to be unique – one of these is shown. I am also interested in the Village Churches issue (21 June 1972), and again I have a number of covers – ranging from one of 4 to one of 15.



Indeed this FDC collecting business is of endless fascination.

Acknowledgement: I am most grateful to Brian Reeve Auctions who first alerted me to these covers, and who suggested my buying the two catalogues

175th Anniversary of the Penny Black limited edition First Day Cover

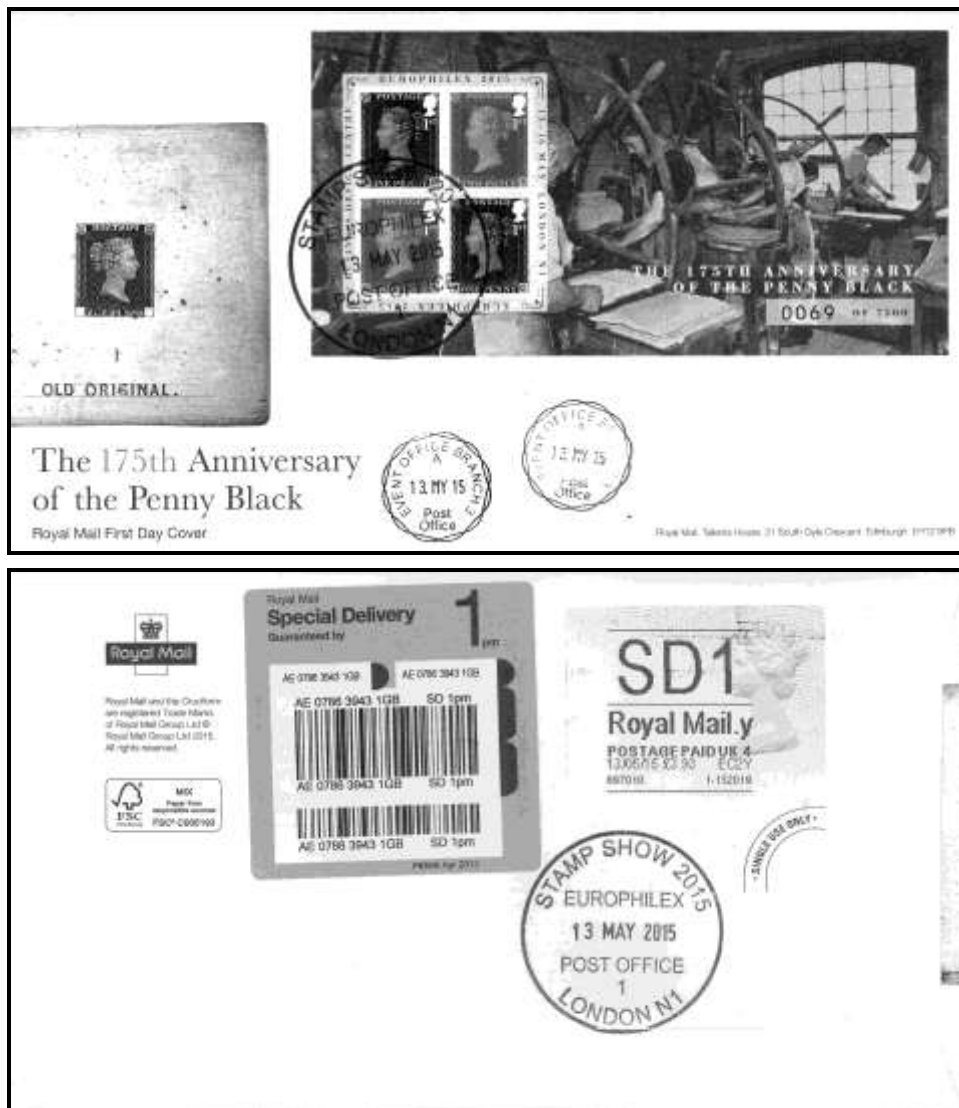
On 13 May 2015, the first day of Europhilex, I went to the stamp show with the intention of purchasing a number of the limited edition miniature sheets for myself and others.

As this was a limited edition of only 7,500 Royal Mail were restricting these to only three per customer. I therefore had to be content with these.

Realising the potential value of these very collectable items, I wondered whether to keep the mint miniature sheets or proceed with my original plan which was to do First Day Cover envelopes, and walk down the road to Islington Post Office and obtain an Islington CDS.

Whilst taking my time walking around the exhibition, I discovered the Post Office had a stand hidden away on the first floor, manned by a very helpful person who was prepared to do whatever I wanted. After discussion, I opted to send the covers by Special Delivery with the following:-

- the miniature sheet cancelled with the Post Office Europhilex postmark
- the Events Office Branch CDS on the envelope
- a Horizon label affixed to the reverse to make up the Special Delivery charge (this was a new version of the Horizon label issued that day).



There will be very few of these unique covers around, and as the Post Office employee was so helpful, I did what I usually do, and brought him tea and cake.

Chris Sutcliffe

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



This year marks the 200th Anniversary of The Battle of Waterloo and we are very honoured to be able to feature The Household Cavalry Museum on our official cover for this year's issue of stamps. I am producing STRICTLY TO ORDER ONLY so, if not on standing order, then place your order as soon as possible.

The Battle of Waterloo 18 June 2015

Full single set on The Household Cavalry Museum official cover

Price - £17.25 (inc. p/p)

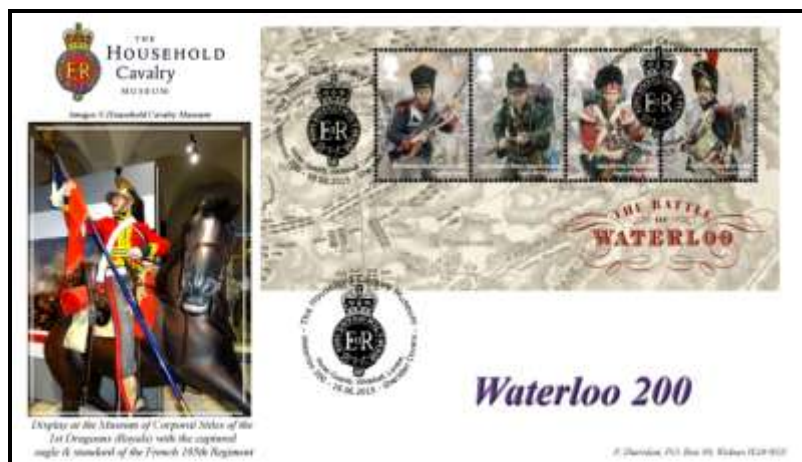
(Limited to 55 numbered covers)

The Battle of Waterloo 18 June 2015

Full Miniature Sheet on The Household Cavalry Museum official cover

Price - £17.25 (inc. p/p)

(Limited to 55 numbered covers)



The Battle of Waterloo 18 June 2015

Full Miniature Sheet & Single Set on The Household Cavalry Museum Double official cover

Price - £22 (inc. p/p)

(Limited to 32 numbered covers)

There will be no PSB sets done for this issue

There will **NOT** be any PSB Pane covers available for this issue. I am sorry to disappoint those who like to collect them but I really don't have the time to do them.

For further details on any of the covers mentioned 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: Sheridanfdds@aol.com**

ANNOUNCEMENT - We apologise for the delay in dispatching Penny Black issues for the 6th & the 13th May, but GBFDC work had to come first, so it has delayed me quite a lot with my own work. Due to various set backs, we are still working on our Gallipoli covers. As soon as we have those out of the way we will start to dispatch the 6th & 13th May issues together. Thank you for your patience.

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)
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	Rest of World:	£20 (to receive Newsletter by post)
	Rest of World:	£12 (to receive Newsletter by email)
Other major currency to the value of		
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		
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DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE 7th July 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



Richard Park

Specialist Philatelic Dealer

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If you collect interesting First Day Covers, then you should really be receiving our excellent First Day Covers catalogues — full of many highly desirable covers ranging from just a few pounds all the way to thousands of pounds and we also have frequent "Special Offer Flyers" that are excellent value and desirable.

Our daily "Email Offers" are frequently sold out within hours, and those items never even get to be listed in our catalogues — Just send us your email address to be added to the distribution list.

If you want to receive our catalogues, then write, phone, fax or email us with your name and address details and we will happily send you the next available catalogue.

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