

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 129



The Association of Great Britain

First Day Cover
Collectors

Membership 225 October 2015

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From the Editor's Desk



Welcome to the October 2015 edition of First Day Coverage. We start by apologising for your newsletter being late again. Unfortunately, at present, we seem to be like a pinball machine, ricocheting from one crisis to another. This time,

apart from trying to catch up with my own covers, our internet connection went down about 11 weeks ago and, more or less, stayed down!

Although we had four Sky engineers out, two new wall sockets, a whole new set up with new hub and wires, plus new wires replacing rusty ones in the box at the bottom of the road, it failed to fix the problem. Our own feeling was it was the phone line coming in to the house that was at fault but we failed to persuade Sky of this. So we had no choice but to change Broadband suppliers. On 1st October we had Virgin Fibre Optic Broadband installed and all seems to be well up to now but it is early days.

Due to Internet problems we think a number of emails were lost, mainly members emailing their lists for the MCS, and those wishing to email bids for the charity auction. If you have been affected then we apologise sincerely. Please resend your lists for sale for the December edition and resend bids for the charity auction.

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 Treasurer	David Cohen Hon. Treasurer GBFDC 24 Penshurst Gardens Edgware Middlesex HA8 9TP
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E-mail: david@cohenfamily.co.uk

Hon. Association Publicity Officer	
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Important Notice

DEADLINE FOR THE DECEMBER 2015 EDITION

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

Due to a poorly supported MCS feature in this issue, Dot and I have trawled through our own collections to see what we could include to fill space. Dot in particular found a number of 4d Post covers, which are becoming highly sought after now, that she could include, and many contain two or more lines of explanation which helps to fill up space.

Please send in your lists of covers for sale for the December newsletter. Christmas will be only a few weeks away and the extra money you might realise could come in handy.

You will also notice an absence of a Letters to the Editor page. It could be that emails lost might have been destined for that feature so, once again, please re-send your emails for the December newsletter.

The draw for the AGM2015 cover will take place on Sunday 18th of this month. So we wish all newsletter article & letter contributors since we announced the new draw in June the very best of luck.

We have shown the cover again on page 3, along with information regarding the auction of any covers remaining after the day to those members who couldn't make the AGM for whatever reason.

You need to start sending in your contributions for the Newsletter from December onwards for your name to be entered into the draw for an AGM2016 official cover.

As mentioned several times here and inside this newsletter, our Internet problems mean we need to run the charity auction for the Europhilex Penny Black sheet again. Those members who sent in email bids were at a distinct disadvantage and we feel it is the only fair thing to do. The auction is shown on page 4.

The usual information regarding, this year's AGM, Location, directions, dealers attending and agenda, are on page 5.

Miles Hobson has sent in a lovely article titled "Why did they do it?" about companies unconnected with Philately issuing first day covers. It's on pages 7 & 8 and it is a very interesting read. Maybe you can help Miles by letting him know if you have any such covers in your collections and what they are.

Ian Balcombe has sent us a very interesting article on the House of illustration, who would have known they had a meter mark! Seriously, I had seen the rolling date House of Illustration hand stamp but was not aware what it was for. It is good to have my curiosity satisfied. If I can get to London again I would like to visit them. I may have to contact them to ask them to let me know when they are next having exhibitions and the dates for 2016.

Ian also tells us about other issues that were available and cancelled during the Europhilex Show, Great War and heraldic Beasts.

Our last article for this edition is from Richard Bennett, about Official, Cinderella Covers and Catalogues. He collects interesting covers pre-1980 and he shows a couple to us on pages 16 & 17 together with some very interesting text.

This month is AGM month (how quickly it comes around these days) and we would love to see as many members there as possible. If you are unable to attend, for whatever reason, you can bid for an AGM cover if there are any remaining after the day. More details on page 3.

Please send in your articles, letters, and lists of covers for sale for the December newsletter. Whilst we have just one or two articles for December it's not nearly enough and we like to have as many in hand as possible.

With that we wish you all, happy collecting. See you in December.

Phil Sheridan, Hon. Editor

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

GBFDC AGM2015 OFFICIAL COVER – BEES – 18th AUGUST 2015

The cost of this cover is £10 and will only be available to members attending the AGM in October.

This AGM cover will be a limited edition of 60 covers. One of these covers will be retained for the Star Letter draw.

Any unsold covers on the day will be offered to members unable to attend the AGM via Auction.

The minimum bid is £40 and all bids must be received by 15th November 2015.

Please post your bids to Terry Barnett, 7 Mackets Lane, Hunts Cross, Liverpool, L25 0QA or by email to: terryhuntsc@tiscali.co.uk.



**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: GBFDC AGM Fair – 18th October 2015

ANNOUNCEMENT - Due to unforeseen circumstances surrounding our lack of Internet connection for 11 weeks, which takes in the vital weeks of the auction, below, we must, in all fairness, run it again. We only obtained a stable internet connection on 1st October when we had Virgin Fibre Optic Broadband installed.

Member's email bids were either lost (fault with ISP) or delayed until after the deadline date. Some members wrote in with bids and some emailed. As our Internet connection was virtually non-existent during the vital weeks, then we feel members emailing in bids were at a distinct disadvantage. We are re-running this auction until **Monday 30th November 2015**. Please re-email your bids to us (apart from those of you who have bid by post, your bids will stand. However you should have received a confirmation telephone call or letter from us. If you haven't then please send in your bid to us again.)

We do apologise about the mess-up over this. We did everything we possibly could to obtain a stable connection, however, even with Sky engineers x 4 out to us throughout the 11 weeks, the fault could not be found. We had to go with Virgin in the end.

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

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

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

The auction is straight forward the highest bid wins the cover. All bids must be received by the **Monday 30th November 2015. The starting estimate is £60. All bids over £60 will be considered.**

Please either post or email your bid to Phil Sheridan, P.O. Box 99, Widnes, Cheshire WA8 0NN, E-mail: sheridanfdcs@aol.com. Phil Sheridan will post out the cover to the winner by Special Delivery free of charge after the 30th November. Thank you and Good Luck.



GBFDC 2015 AGM

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

The following business will be transacted:-

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

Ian Balcombe
Honorary Secretary

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

Location and Directions

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

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



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)

There are no 'Letter's to the Editor' in this edition, so please send in your letters to the usual address and you could win a converted AGM official cover.

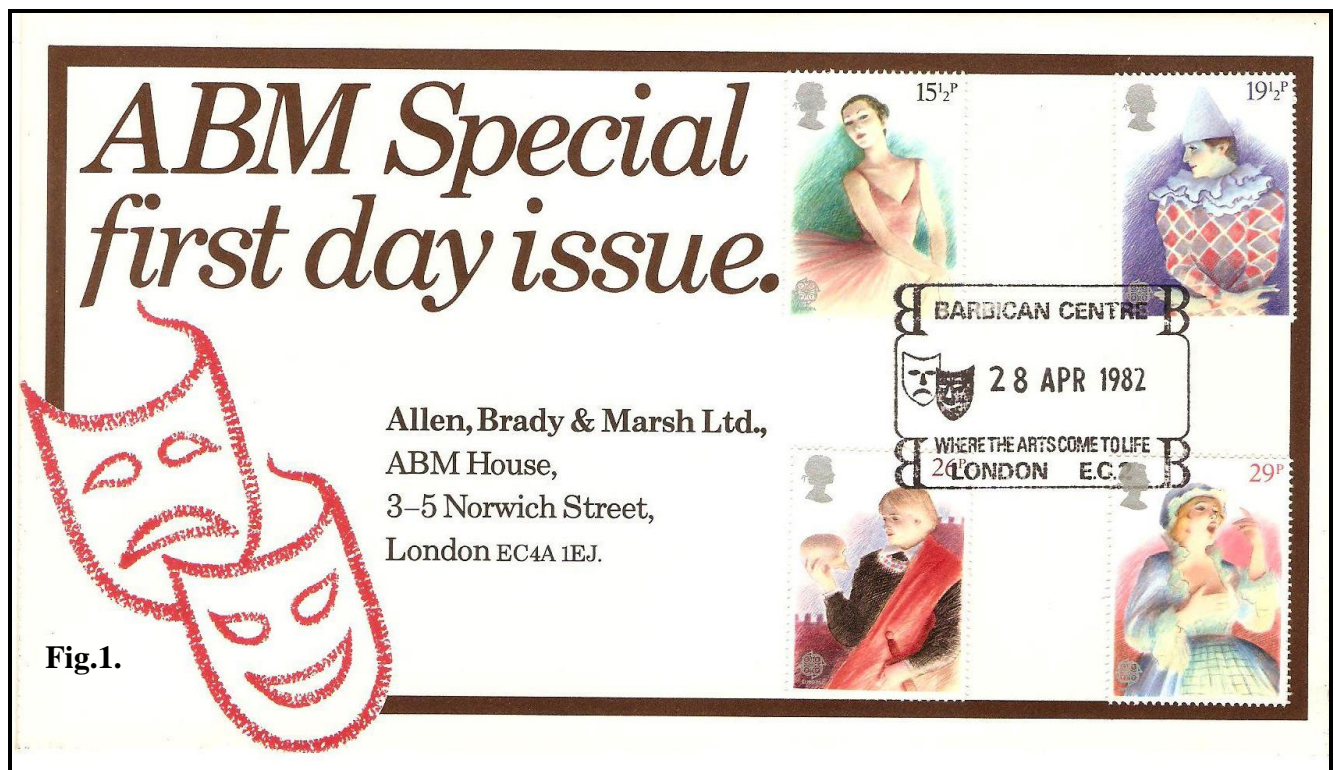
FREE PRIZE DRAW

Don't Forget - Every letter and article published gains free entry into our Prize Draw for a sought after AGM cover. Draw for this year will take place during the AGM 2015 on Sunday 18th October 2015 at the Collingwood Centre, Great Barr, Birmingham, B43 7NF. Tel: 0121 360 1484

Why Did They Do It?.....by Miles Hobson

Over the years there have been many companies, unconnected with philately, who have issued FDCs, either when they had a special event, or if the issue was relevant to them. There have also been a few who have issued FDCs over a number of years as a marketing tool and it has intrigued me as to why FDCs were chosen? This article is as much a request for information as providing it. I would be pleased to hear from anyone who has any information about these covers.

The first company that I became aware of was Allen, Brady & Marsh Ltd (fig.1), which was an advertising agency. They issued covers around the early eighties. A different design was produced for each issue and inside the cover was a 'with compliments' card. The covers were addressed to themselves and presumably sent to the recipients with marketing material. I believe the same cancel was used for all the covers for an issue but for some issues they used a special handstamp and others an ordinary London EC FDI.



Dermal Laboratories Ltd. issued covers (fig.2) from the early eighties into this millennium. They may still be issuing them. There was not a different cover for each issue but I am aware of at least four different designs over the years. The early covers featured a diagram of hair roots, a second design was produced to celebrate the company's 25 years in 1988, during 1990 they changed to the design featured in the photo and during 1997 the design changed to one with Dermal and a large 1st over the outline of a stamp. All the covers I have seen have a typed address to a medical practitioner. Some of the covers I have include the personalised letter to the addressee promoting a product. The letter for the Travellers' Tale said that as "Royal Mail have gone slightly overboard" with the number of issues, which cost over £1.50, they would be missing out four issues. With this in mind I was slightly surprised to see a cover (I think a new design) from the mid 2000s. I would have thought the costs involved would have killed their interest in issuing any covers before then! I believe all the covers up to the millennium issues were cancelled with a FDI (Paddington or Coventry) and those for the millennium issues had the alternative bureau cancel applied.

Continued.....

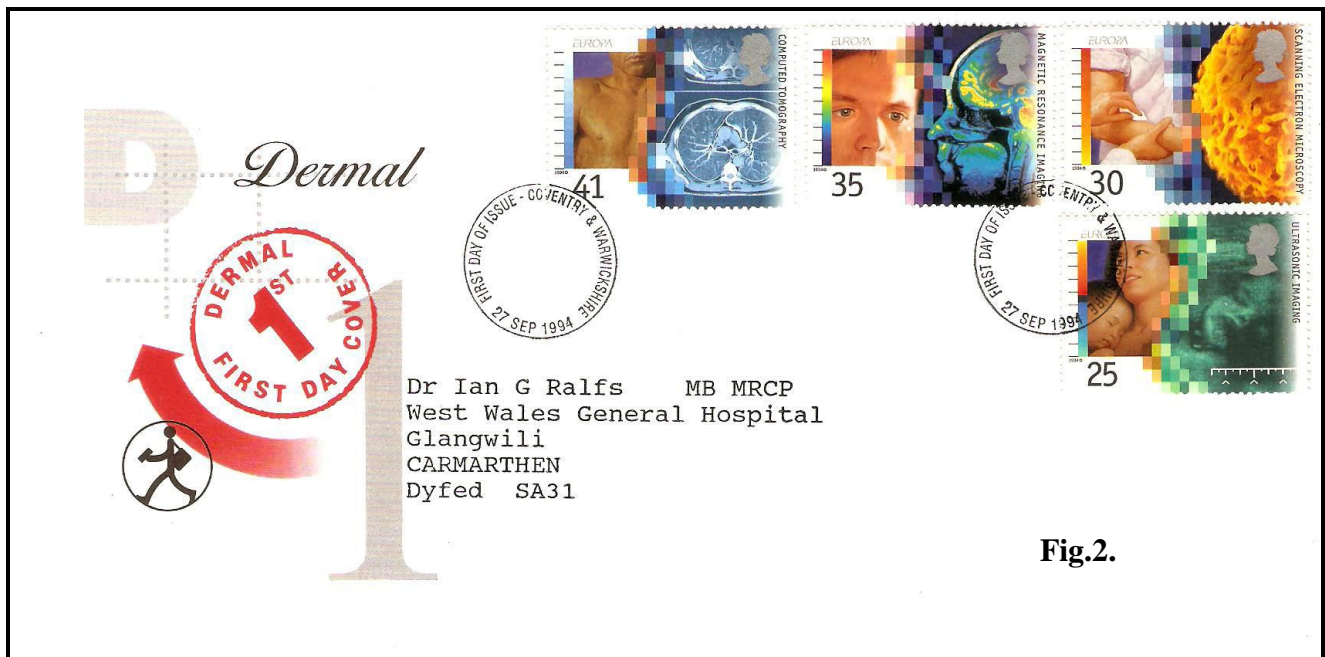


Fig.2.

A third company that issued covers was Pye Telecom (Fig.3.) (part of Philips since 1966). They produced them in the mid 1980s. I am only aware of the one cover design. None of the covers I have seen are addressed, so presumably, like the Allen, Brady & Marsh covers, they were sent to recipients with other marketing material. I do not know defiantly that the covers were produced for marketing as none of the covers I have contain anything, but I can not think of another reason. The covers were cancelled with the Cambridge FDI cancel, where the company was based.

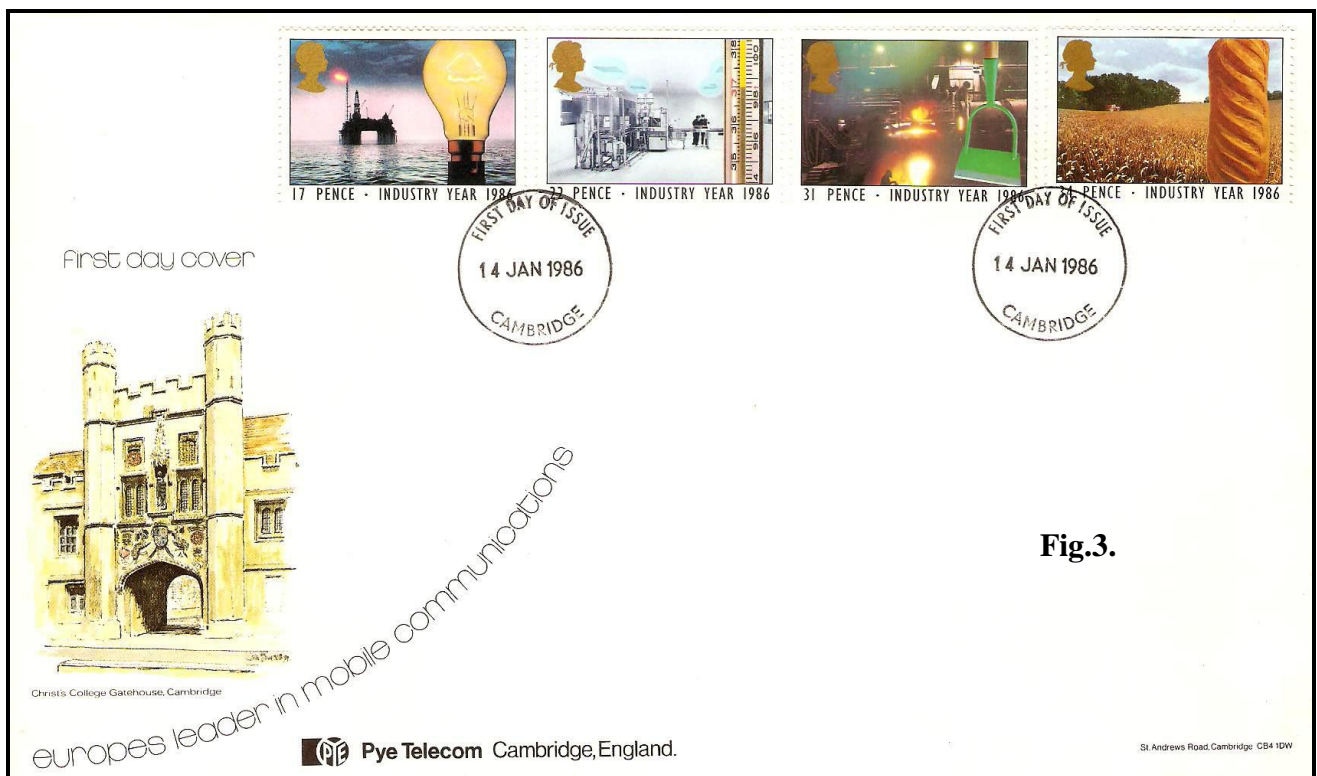


Fig.3.

Members Cover Sale

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

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

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

1988	Sports	Meadow Lane CDS on official league cover	£15
1988	Lear M/S.	Guide Dog Week slogan	£8
1991	Dogs	Stamp Way to the World Glasgow	£5
1991	Sport	William Shakespeare Stratford upon Avon	£5
1991	Roses	Earls Court BF2292PS	£5
1991	Christmas	Happy Christmas City of London	£3
1990	Europa	Europe '92 City of London	£4
1993	Time keepers	COG Lane CDS	£7
1993	Art	British Council Abroad official	£7
1993	Roman Britain	Museum of Antiquities Newcastle official	£12
1993	Christmas	New Lanark Visitors Centre	£5
1993	Christmas	Happy Christmas, News of the World official	£6
1994	Postcards	Britain's Northernmost Post Office Unst	£6
1994	D-Day	Frog Island CDS	£6
1994	Summertime	Robin Hood Nottingham	£5
1994	Medical	Blackburn Rovers First Season in Europe	£4
1995	Christmas	Travelling Post Office CDS	£6
1996	R. Burns	Spring Stampex	£4
1996	R. Burns	My Luve's Like a Red Red Rose + Kyle/Carrick library M. Mark	£8
1996	Greetings (Feb)	W H Smith Nice Day Andover	£5
1996	Wildfowl	Historic Channel Tunnel	£5
1996	Wildfowl	Bluebell Railway – Where Steam Lives	£5
1996	Cinema	Royal Mail Celebrate the Legend slogan	£6
1996	Cinema	Glasgow Concert Hall slogan	£6
1996	Football	Wembley Middlesex (rugby) official	£9
1996	Football	Snickers – Proud to Sponsor Euro	£6
1996	Football	Football Legends Bolton official	£8
1996	Olympic	Thank You for Choosing Royal Mail slogan	£6

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

terryhunts@tiscali.co.uk

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

ALL POSTAGE FREE

1/9/36 Ed. 8 th on Ill. cover with a Glasgow cds Neat h/w add.	£30
1974 7p postage due on a Cotswold cover with a Marshfield CDS	£8
15/11/88 Christmas with a Washing Red Apples slogan	£3

Continued.....

13/3/90 50p defin with a Windsor cancel	75p
02/3/93 £10 with a Windsor cds	£5
27/4/93 6p x 4 defin with a Windsor cancel	50p
08/6/93 1/5/10p defin in pairs with a Windsor cancel	50p
17/8/93 35p defin with a Windsor cancel	50p
07/9/93 block of 4 2 nd class with a Windsor cancel	£1
1993 Autumn with a Mountain Ash cds	£2
19/10/93 1 st self adhesive with a Windsor cancel	75p
26/10/93 19/25/29/36/38/41 defin with a Windsor cancel	£1
14/12/93 4/20/50p defin with a Windsor cancel	£1
19/7/94 19p x 2 with a Windsor cancel	50p
26/7/94 N. Ireland p/b pane with a Belfast cancel	50p
26/7/94 N. Ireland 4 p/b panes with Dungannon, Belfast, Bushmills & Newcastle Co. Down cds's	£6
17/8/94 Boots label with a Windsor cancel	50p
1998 Queens Beasts on BLCS139	

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

I have managed to buy in some of my most scarce official covers so I only have one each of these. Please contact me asap as such covers do get snapped up quickly. Discounts on large orders available. Postage £1

Scarce and short run Sheridan Official Covers

10/04/01 Submarines on Sheridan HMS Onyx official cover (scarce - only one)	£55
19/06/01 Hats on Sheridan Hatworks (Museum) official cover (scarce - only one)	£55
04/09/01 Puppets single set strip of 6 + full S/A Retail Booklet (full pane on cover) on Sheridan Double Harlequin Puppet Theatre official (28 done - only one)	£60
06/11/01 Christmas Robin (the first S/Adhesive Xmas stamps) on Sheridan alternate Robin official cover (very rare – just 8 done – only one)	£80
15/01/02 Just So Stories on Sheridan Knowsley Safari Park official cover (full pane 10 stamps including matrix affixed on cover – only one)	£50
14/01/03 Birds of Prey on Sheridan Hoo Farm official (only one)	£50
07/10/03 British Museum on Sheridan Egyptian Art official cover (Scarce only one)	£50
07/06/05 TTC single set on Sheridan (Household Cavalry Marching) official cover (only one)	£50
07/06/05 TTC full set & M/S on Sheridan official TTC double cover (28 done - only one)	£60
19/07/05 Motor Cycles on Sheridan Sammy Miller Motorcycle Museum official (Only one)	£50
17/07/07 Harry Potter full set of 7 stamp strip + full M/S on Sheridan official cover but with Harry Potter, Hogwarts, Alnwick handstamp (this is a 'special' cover, just 12 done – only one)	£55
22/10/09 Olympics on Sheridan Field Archery Assoc. 40 th Anniversary official cover	£35
22/10/09 Olympics on Sheridan Field Archery Assoc. 40 th Anniversary official cover & Sport England meter mark (25 done)	£40
22/10/09 Olympics on Sheridan Field Archery Assoc. 40 th Anniversary official cover & British Olympic Assoc. meter mark (32 done)	£40
22/10/09 Olympics on Archery GB own cover with Archery The Sport for All meter mark cancelled with Sheridan Field Archery Assoc. 40 th Anniversary official H/S (14 done)	£25
22/10/09 Olympics Stuart official cover & Cotswold/Stuart official Shuttlecock H/S with Badminton England meter mark	£15
27/07/10 Olympics on Sheridan International Mountain Biking Assoc. UK (IMBA) official	£35
27/07/10 Olympics on Sheridan International Mountain Biking Assoc. UK (IMBA) official With British Cycling meter mark	£40
27/07/11 Olympics on Sheridan Liverpool Yacht Club (LYC) official	£35
27/07/11 Olympics on Sheridan Liverpool Yacht Club (LYC) official & RYA.ORG.UK (Royal Yachting Association) meter mark	£40

Continued.....

27/07/11 Olympics on Sheridan Liverpool Yacht Club (LYC) official & British Olympic Association meter mark	£40
27/07/11 Olympics on Sheridan Liverpool Yacht Club (LYC) 'All over Cover Design' official (Very rare – only 26 done)	£60
11/01/11 Jerry Anderson Thunderbirds single set on Sheridan Ilkley Toy Museum official	£35
11/01/11 Jerry Anderson Thunderbirds M/S on Sheridan Ilkley Toy Museum official	£35
11/01/11 Jerry Anderson Thunderbirds single set + M/S on Sheridan Ilkley Toy Museum Double official	£55
11/01/11 Jerry Anderson Thunderbirds Retail Book on Sheridan Ilkley Toy Museum official	£35
11/03/10 Battersea Cats & Dogs Home on National Pet Register official & RSPCA M/M (only 3 official covers done with this M/M) this is No.2	£65
01/05/12 James Bond Souvenir Sheet. 10 stamps and labels on Sheridan official Bond Street FDC (limited to 40 numbered covers)	£60
26/03/13 Dr. Who (all 11 stamps) on Sheridan TVARK Classic Cult TV official cover	£30
26/03/13 Dr. Who (M/S inside retro TV design) on Sheridan TVARK Classic Cult TV off. cover	£30
26/03/13 Dr. Who Retail Booklet on Sheridan TVARK Classic Cult TV off. Cover (40 done)	£30
26/03/13 Dr. Who M/S on Sheridan TVARK Retail Book cover Classic Cult TV off. (16 done)	£40
26/03/13 Dr. Who (M/S & set) on Sheridan TVARK Classic Cult TV Double official (35 done)	£55
26/03/13 Dr. Who (all 11 stamps) on Sheridan TVARK Classic Cult TV official cover & Equity meter mark	£35
26/03/13 Dr. Who (all 11 stamps) on Sheridan TVARK Classic Cult TV official cover & BAFTA meter mark	£35
18/06/13 Locomotives of N.I.M/S on Sheridan Railway Preservation Soc. of Ireland (RPSI) Off.	£30
18/06/13 Locomotives of N.I. Retail Book on Sheridan RPSI Official (cover as above).	£30
18/06/13 Locomotives of N.I.M/S on Sheridan Railway Preservation Soc. of Ireland (RPSI) alternate official just 24 done – last one	£40

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

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

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
25/06/96 England Defins on 4d Round Tower, Windsor fdc with red ink NPM Maltese Cross S/H. Doubled with 26p from new booklet, Windsor Philatelic Counter 08/07/96 tiny A/L	£4.75
25/06/96 England Defins on 4d Round Tower, Windsor fdc cancelled with FDI Windsor (3 Lions) S/H. Doubled with 26p New Booklets for Postal Rates, Windsor 08/07/96 U/A	£4.75
25/06/96 England Defins on 4d Post Round Tower, Windsor fdc with New Postal Rates from 8 July Slogan Tiny A/L	£4
25/06/96 England Defins on 4d Post Round Tower, Windsor fdc cancelled with Windsor Philatelic Counter P/S/H tiny A/L	£4
12/03/96 Wildfowl on 4d fdc with GB First Day Cover Collectors, Slimbridge. Tiny A/L	£4
12/03/96 Wildfowl on 4d Post fdc with Doncaster Rovers & Mallard Famous Locos, Doncaster S/H. Doubled with 41p Wildlife Habitat Trust, Strangford 28/06/96 Tiny A/L	£4
12/03/96 Wildfowl on 4d Post fdc with Teamwork 96 Postcode Event, Harrow. Tiny A/L	£4.50
12/03/96 Wildfowl on 4d Post fdc with 45th Anniv. of Fairey FDI BFPS2502 Tiny A/L	£4
16/04/96 Cinema on 4d Post fdc cancelled with Battle of Culloden, Inverness tiny A/L	£4
16/04/96 Cinema on 4d Post fdc with NPM Post Haste Exhibition tiny A/L	£4
16/04/96 Cinema on 4d Post fdc with The Dam Busters BFPS 2501. Tiny A/L	£4
15/06/96 Queen's Birthday Label on 4d Post Windsor fdc cancelled Windsor Philatelic Counter SHS + doubled with 15/06/96 Official Birthday, Windsor SHS	£4
07/09/96 Olympics on 4d cover cancelled Kodak (Olympic Torch) SHS tiny A/L	£3
08/07/97 All The Queen's Horses on Mel Harris designed golden seal limited edition official 4d Post cover with The King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery, Whitehall postmark. Signed by Mel Harris	£15

Continued.....

03/02/98 Diana on 4d fdc cancelled Kensington Gardens SHS	£4
03/02/98 Diana on 4d fdc cancelled Althorp SHS	£4
29/09/98 Speed on 4d Post fdc with Shell Research & Technology Centre meter mark & Malcolm Campbell, Castle Donnington SHS	£5
12/01/99 inventions on 4d post cover with James watt CDS	£3
06/04/99 Settlers on 4d Post fdc with The Nautical Institute meter mark & Plymouth SHS	£5.50
03/08/99 Scientists on 4d fdc with Royal Observatory, Blackford Hill, Edinburgh meter mark cancelled with Blackford Ave, Edinburgh CDS	£5
07/03/00 Water & Coast on 4d fdc cancelled Isle of Pabay (Otter) SHS	£3
05/09/00 Mind & Matter on 4d fdc cancelled Freedom of Flight (Butterfly), Bristol SHS	£4
13/02/01 Cats & Dogs on 4d (cat) fdc with RSPCA Ban Hunting with dogs meter mark cancelled Cats Protection, Horsham SHS	£6
02/10/01 Nobel Prizes on 4d fdc with British Red Cross meter mark & red ink Henri Dunant, London SHS. (Rare cover)	£10
24/09/02 Astronomy 4 PSB Panes on 4d Post covers cancelled with The Blue Planet (blue ink) postmark. (Very rare set of covers. No.1 of only 4 sets done)	£40
05/11/02 Christmas Winter greenery on 4d post cover cancelled ivy bush CDS	£6
25/02/03 DNA set of 4 PSB Panes on 4d Post covers cancelled 50th Anniversary of the Discovery of DNA, Cambridge	£25
02/07/03 coronation 4d post cover throne CDS	£15
27/03/03 Airmail Defins booklet 4 worldwide stamps with Airmail labels on backing card + one single worldwide stamp and one single Europe stamp on 4d Post Windsor cover cancelled with Send CDS	£20
27/03/03 Airmail Defins booklet 4 Europe Airmail stamps on backing card + one single worldwide stamp and one single Europe stamp on 4d Post Windsor cover cancelled with Send CDS + Neopost (letter logo) meter mark	£20
27/03/03 Airmail Europe booklet with Airmail labels on backing card + one single Europe airmail stamp and one Worldwide Airmail stamp cancelled Send CDS on 4d Post Windsor cover	£15

- END OF SALE -

HELP WANTED PLEASE



**Queen's Jubilee
6/2/02.**

A lovely cover by
CoverCraft but can
anyone tell me who
signed it please?

Many thanks.

Dot R.

NEWSLETTERS BY E-MAIL

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

MCS How to submit your covers for sale

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

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

- 1)** Please list them in a Microsoft Word Document (NOT in a table though). The more details you include then the less space there will be for your covers and less covers will be listed.
- 2)** Either email your list or send it by post to Phil Sheridan. Hon. Editor, GBFDC Association, P.O. Box 99, Widnes, Cheshire WA8 0NN. E-mail: sheridanfdcs@aol.com When posting hand-written lists please make sure we can read them. It is probably best to print all lists.
- 3)** Deadline for all items for inclusion in to any newsletter is ALWAYS 7th of the previous month to the newsletter publication. Please see top of page 2 and inside back page in EVERY newsletter

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

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

The House of Illustration.....by Ian Balcombe

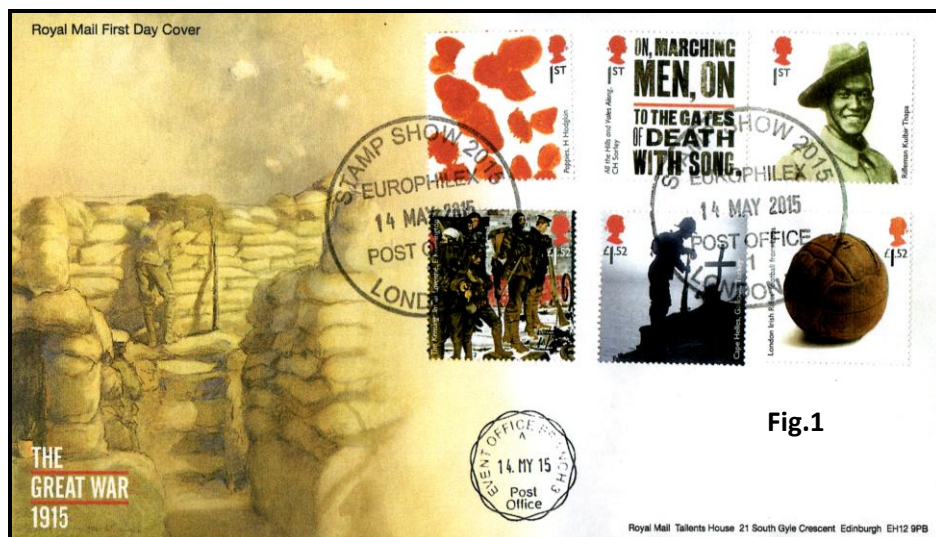
The House of Illustration which is just celebrating its first birthday, and based just north of King's Cross in the newly developed, and developing, Granary Square, had an exhibition from the 6th to the 16th May 2015 entitled, "Pushing the Envelope". They had invited artists from all over the world to illustrate envelopes and then post these to them, which were then exhibited. Envelopes were then provided at the exhibition for the public to illustrate and post to themselves. The envelopes would then be handstamped with the rolling postmark they had sponsored.

I visited the exhibition and it was excellent. I did enquire about official first day covers but these were not available. They very kindly franked one of the exhibition envelopes for me (fig.1). In addition they have a postcard with their logo on (fig.2) – the illustration was Paul Rego's design for the Jane Eyre 2nd class stamp – which I thought was quite appropriate. I then had both the cover and postcard handstamped with the rolling postmark on the first day of use, and first day of issue, of the 175th Anniversary of the Penny Black issue. I also asked Sir Quentin Blake, who is the founding trustee and prime mover behind the House of Illustration, to sign both for me. There are two stamp issues for which Sir Quentin Blake has been the illustrator, Roald Dahl and the Dickens Christmas Carol issues.

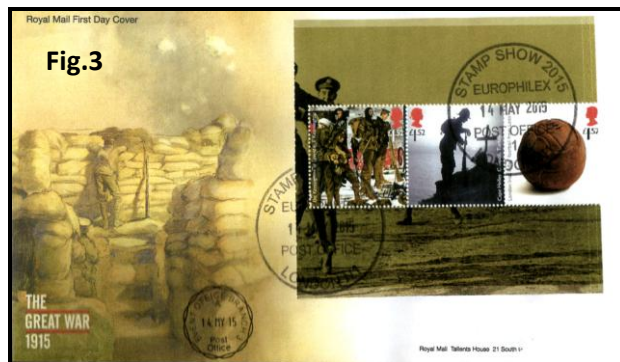


Fig.2

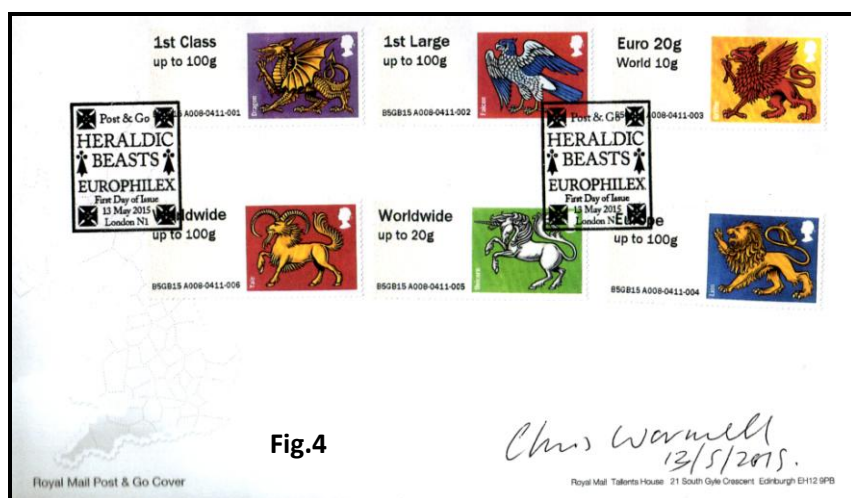
Europhilex Revisited.....by Ian Balcombe



Following on from the Europhilex article in the last newsletter, (FDCoverage No.128, August 2015) there were other issues during the exhibition. I got the Great War covers postmarked with the Post Office exhibition handstamp (Fig.1) as well as the PSB panes (Figs. 2 & 3).



Similarly the Post & Go Machin Overprint exhibition issue and Heraldic Beasts issue. In respect of the Heraldic Beasts, the illustrator, Chris Wormald, was present on the Royal Mail stand and he signed a cover for me (Fig.4), as well as the previous post and Go issues which he illustrated, and the farm animals set also. Jersey Post also had the engraver Martin Morck to sign the Churchill issue and I had several Monaco issues for him to sign also.



Similarly the Post & Go Machin Overprint exhibition issue and Heraldic Beasts (Fig.4) issue. In respect of the Heraldic Beasts, the illustrator, Chris Wormald, was present on the Royal Mail stand and he signed a cover for me (Fig.5), as well as the previous post and Go issues which he illustrated, and the farm animals set also. Jersey Post also had the engraver Martin Morck to sign the Churchill issue and I had several Monaco issues for him to sign also.

I noticed that the May 2015 addition of the Philatelic Bulletin had been posted in a special envelope. I obtained a mint example and had the alternative Tallents House postmark applied (Fig.5). This is an official or Cinderella cover.

Continued.....

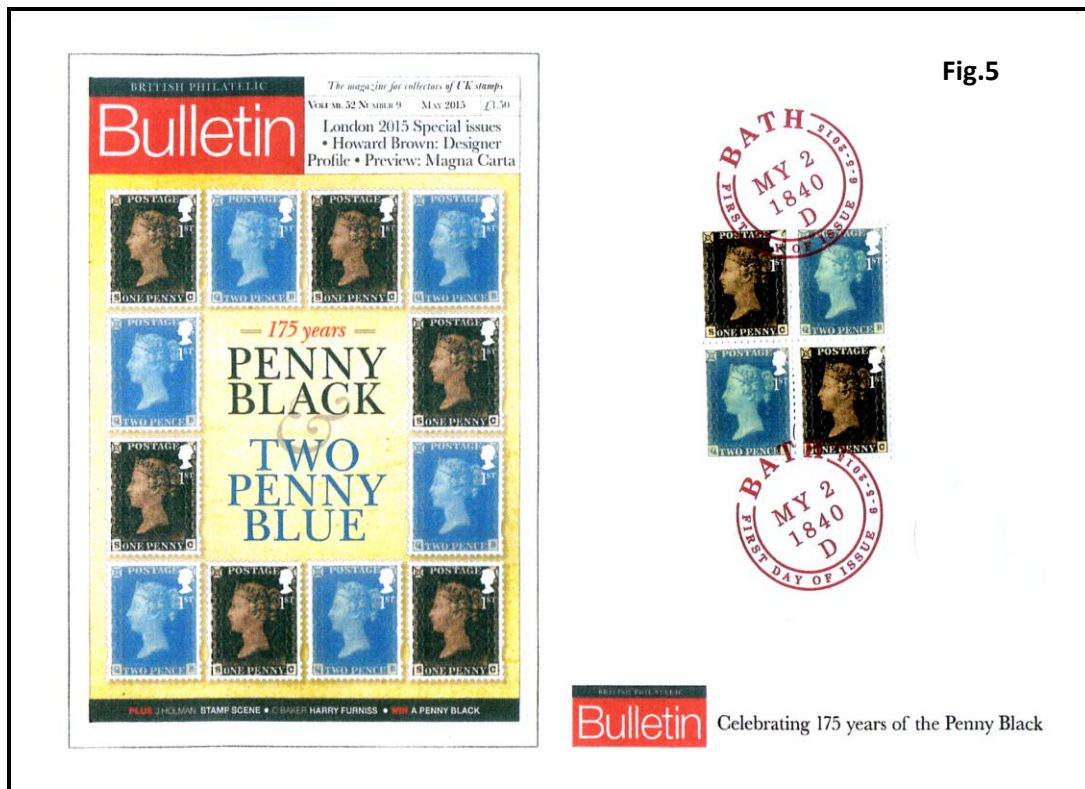


Fig.5

Official covers, Cinderellas and Catalogues

Selwyns articles in the December newsletter triggered me to add some thoughts of my own around “officials” and catalogues. I only collect pre-1980 covers, so the hype around “officials” has little relevance to me – it just makes it very difficult to obtain some of the rare pre-1980 covers out there – such as the Palitoy cover Selwyn mentions. Others, often with lower production, which are not catalogued, or only priced in Porters comprehensive 2 volume catalogue (last produced in 2004), sell for just a few pounds.

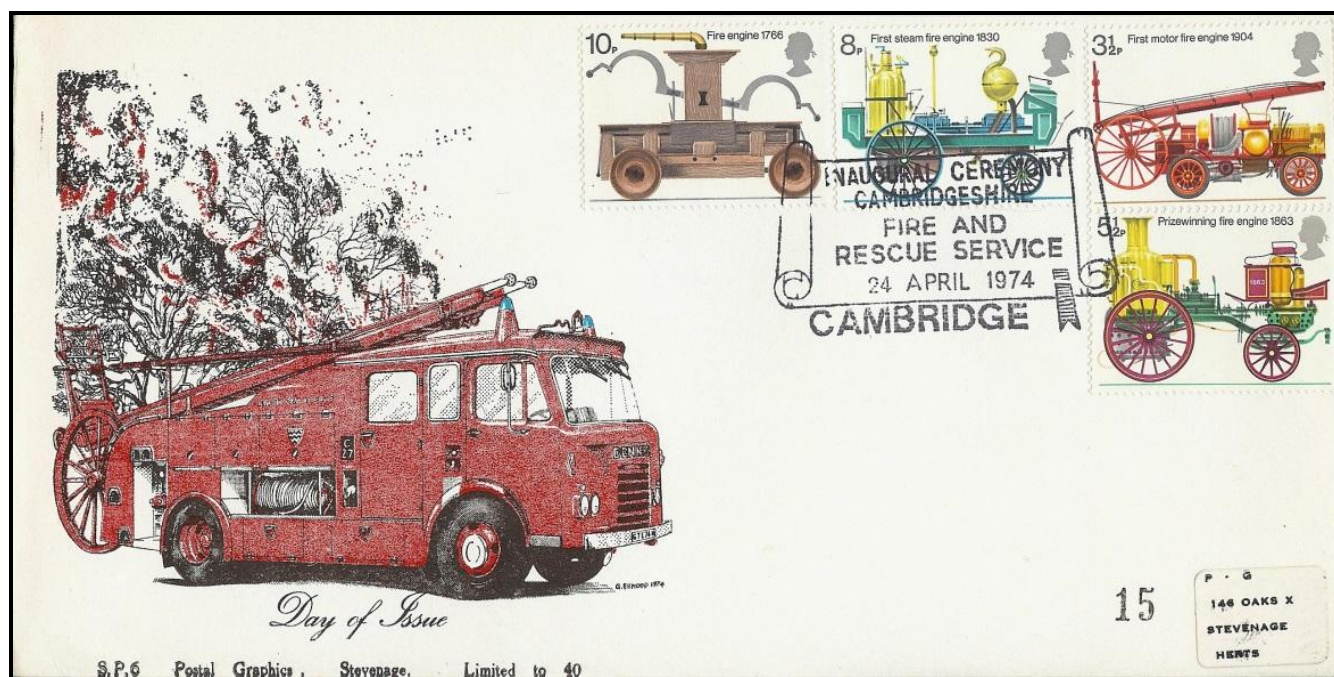


Collecting older FDC's is a wonderfully absorbing hobby – and coming across new illustrations from cover producers of 50 or 60 years ago is, to me, much more fun than ticking off boxes in a FDC catalogue. Also, in my mind, covers sponsored for a particular charity event, like the set produced by the Bedford Round Table in 1972, are much more “official” (despite the fact they *only* have a plain Bedford FDI), than some of the garish covers produced over the past 30 years or so which conform to the current definition of “official”.

To me they are not “Cinderellas” – they are just as official as any other cover produced for a charity or other celebration, despite the fact that the postmark is not also sponsored by the cover producer. A request was made some years ago in this newsletter to make the variety of the earlier designs of

Continued.....

pre-1980 covers more visible, so I have spent time to scan more than 2000 items from my collection and have provided these to Adrian Bradbury as Reference covers for his excellent website - www.bfdc.co.uk – in order to give FDC collectors an appreciation of the variety of covers that exist from before the “official” era. And not just “Cinderellas”, but also covers from small producers in the 60’s and 70’s, who in some cases only produced 100 covers per issue or even less, and then only for a year or two. The example below is by Postal Graphics of Stevenage, who seem to have only produced 6 designs between 1972 Silver Wedding and 1974 Churchill, mostly in limited editions of 100 – this Fire Service one is an exception, being a numbered edition of just 40.



The reality is that no one individual has the same taste in FDC's as another. Some may collect all the variations found in a specific issue, whilst others focus on particular date ranges, producers or only “officials”. For me Jeremy Booth’s catalogue gives broad coverage of earlier issues, postal stationary, Middle Eastern overprints and provides some truly exceptional pictures of rare covers. Adrian Bradburys catalogue, on the other hand, has a quite different focus – namely on providing a reference for the full range of (dominantly post -1980) “officials”, plus some earlier FDC's that others would term Cinderellas. While the two books form a comprehensive view on the range of covers available, I must confess it would be good to see more coverage of the variety of older covers, both “Cinderella” and also from lesser known cover producers, such as those illustrated.

The biggest issue with the catalogues that I see is the valuations, which might be aligned with what you would expect from a dealer, but in many cases no longer reflect the prices FDC's are selling for on online auction sites. It can no longer be suggested that such covers are cheap, only because they are second class, because many dealers now offer FDC's on eBay, often at huge discounts to catalogue value. When a cover like the Benham 1978 Horses Maidenhead “official” catalogued at £65 regularly sells for less than £5 (I have two bought from eBay, in superb condition, with the two different printed addresses, each of which cost less than £4), then it's about time some thought was given to a revision of prices – in particular to most of the early Benham covers - to reflect true market value. Similarly many of the 1980's and 1990's special postmarks rarely sell, and only then at 10% of catalogue or less. Such unrealistic catalogue prices can often put new collectors off starting – or indeed leave them thinking they have a bargain, when in fact they do not, which can also very quickly turn them off this great hobby.

Richard Bennett

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

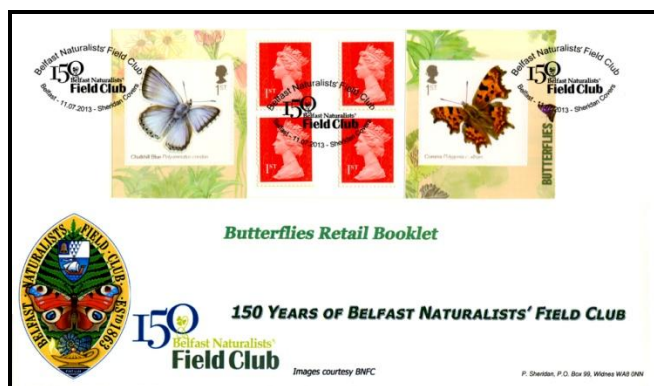
2013 Issues while stocks last – I have around 4 of each cover available at these prices for this edition. Discounts are available



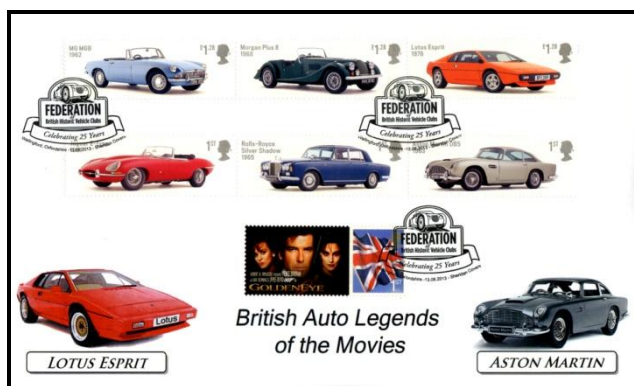
11/07/13 Butterflies single set on 150 Years of Belfast Naturalists' Field Club official - **£30 each**



11/07/13 Butterflies single set on 150 Years of Belfast Naturalists' Field Club official with Butterfly Conservation meter mark - **£35 each**



11/07/13 Butterflies Retail Booklet on 150 Years of Belfast Naturalists' Field Club official - **£30 each**



13/08/13 British Auto Legends single set + James Bond label & Union Flag stamp on official produced for private collection – **Only 8** produced. I have **4 available** to anyone interested in such low run items. **£50 each**

For further details on any of the covers mentioned here, please contact: **Tel: 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: Sheridanfcds@aol.com**

ANNOUNCEMENT – We are still working to get all outstanding covers out to customers. We are getting Waterloo and Penny Black May Generic Sheet issues ready for dispatch so, hopefully, you should have them by the end of October. Bees issue will follow after that. We are very grateful for your patience and understanding during a difficult time for us.

We have also had no stable Internet connection for the last 11 weeks, and we apologise if we have omitted anyone's contribution to the newsletter, be it article or letter to the editor. We have been unable to access our emails except for very sporadic intervals of a few minutes now and then. We expect emails have been lost and for this we are very sorry. Please resend your email if we have not replied to the email you sent to us. We now have a Virgin Fibre Optic Broadband connection so we HOPE there will not be a repeat of such an appalling service. **We also need to alert you to the fact that we will not have a landline telephone from the 14th October. After that date please use either of the 2 mobile numbers above.** Thank you very much for your understanding.

Phil.

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 November 2015

Notice for all Advertisers

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

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

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

Letters and Articles for inclusion into the Newsletter

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

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

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



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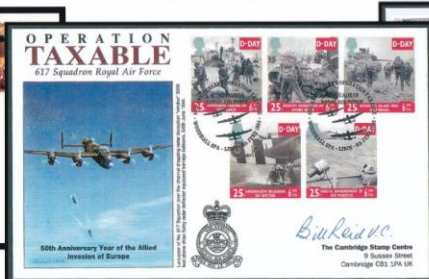
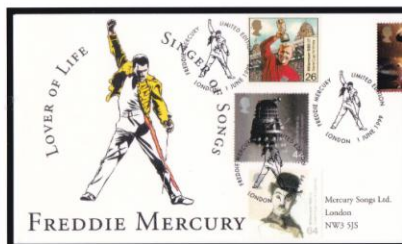
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