# 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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# From the Editor's Desk



**Welcome** to the December Edition of First Day Coverage. Christmas is just around the corner again and I can't believe another year has almost gone! 2012 has been an eventful year for Great Britain with both the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations and Olympic & Paralympic Games – what a

summer it has been!

Philatelically we have seen some very interesting and exciting stamp issues, and I think most collectors have been gripped by the feel-good factor generated by this summers events. My award for the best effort of 2012 goes to the Royal Mail Olympic Team, who performed miracles in getting the Gold Medal Winners stamps issued within 24 hours of the win. My 'Shooting Themselves in the Foot' award goes to the Olympic Village Post Office, who could have done wonders but, sadly, missed the plot totally! Hopefully the feel-good, and proud to be British, factor will spill over into 2013.

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 2012/13

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).

Queries to: Terry Barnett, Hon. Assistant Secretary, 7 Mackets Lane, Hunts Cross, Liverpool L25 0QA

# **Association Officers**

#### PLEASE CONTACT THE RIGHT PERSON

Association
Chairman & all
matters concerning

Subject

Address

Richard Park Hon. Chairman GBFDC 2 Chaffinch Close the GBFDC Auction Horsham, W. Sussex RH12 5HA

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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## Important Notice

## **DEADLINE FOR THE FEBRUARY 2013 EDITION** Items for publication MUST be with the editor by 7th January 2013

Thank you to everyone who has sent in material for publication. If you haven't seen your article in this newsletter, please be assured that we will use it in a future edition. We require more articles and features so that we have them in have for forthcoming newsletters

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

The Philatelic year starts off with a superb stamp issue for the 150th anniversary of the London Underground. This issue is eagerly awaited by many collectors and I. personally, look forward to producing covers for it.

Royal Mail has kept to its promise of only 12 issues for 2013. I also believe the stamp sets will be a little cheaper due to the re-introduction of the 2<sup>nd</sup> class stamp.

We show the first GBFDC official cover of the year on page 3. It is for London Underground. You will find the usual application form on page 3 for all four covers so please get your orders in to Terry as early as possible to avoid disappointment.

We have several very healthy MCS pages for you this time so have a browse and see if you can pick up a bargain.

Your Committee has debated the pros and cons of the AGM cover and has decided to re-introduce it for 2013, with some changes to help those members who cannot attend the AGM acquire one. Please see page 15 for further details.

The minutes of the Committee Meeting on Saturday 6th October and for the AGM on Sunday 7th October are on pages 17, 18, and 19. Please read them for an update on what is happening within your association. In order for us to know if we are getting it

right we need your feedback. So if there is anything you wish to comment on then please send your letter to the editor for publication.

We have several items in this newsletter related to the Olympics issues so it has not all been plain sailing for some of you. The whole event was a massive undertaking for Royal Mail staff and I think, under the circumstances, they pulled it off very well. The SHCs were inundated with work and I am sure they are still handstamping Olympic & Paralympic covers even now.

From a personal point of view, I found that, because the Olympic issues (especially the Memories M/S) were issued late, it has had a knock-on effect with my subsequent covers being late. Sometimes logistical problems can't be helped though.

We are pleased to have a 24 page newsletter for you this time and we thank everyone who has sent in articles and features for their kind help. We have one article for the February 2013 edition so please dig deep and send in your material for us to publish. Christmas & New Year is a time when GBFDC can be forgotten so please keep your newsletter in mind during your time off for the festive season.

Well all that remains is for us to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a healthy, happy & peaceful New Year. Please continue to send in your items for publication - we desperately need them!

Phil Sheridan, Hon. Editor.

# The Association of Great Britain First Day Cover Collectors Official Covers 2013

# GBFDC No.46 OFFICIAL COVER – 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the London Underground 09 January 2013

This is the first GBFDC official cover for 2013 and it will be a Limited Edition of 70. To avoid disappointment please let Terry have your order and cheque, using the application form below, as soon as possible.

London Underground single set GBFDC official cover shown below for member information



# **GBFDC Association Official Cover 2013 Application form For All Four Covers**

Locomotives of N.I), Butterflies & Auto Legends [Issues si	<b>5</b> ,
£	
NameAdd	
PostcodeTel:	
Email address (where applicable)	

## CHEQUES WITH ALL ORDERS PLEASE

Make cheques payable to 'GBFDC' and send to:

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

Email: terryhuntsc@tiscali.co.uk

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

# **2012 Overprinted Miniature Sheets**

With further reference to the FDC of the Diamond Jubilee Definitives sheet with Stampex 'overprint' submitted by 'Chris' and shown in the August edition of the Newsletter, members may be interested in the following items which were found being advertised for sale on eBay in mid-October.

Whilst these are all mint sheets rather than on covers, they do seem to indicate that there is clearly something of an 'industry' out there concocting dubious items of philatelic material which might 'mis-inform' less experienced philatelists! At least 3 different dealers were noted as being involved, including one well-known name. Allied to this activity, of course, is the recent 'controversy' surrounding the 'engineered' miss-cut DJ sheet FDCs created from Press Sheets and covered in recent editions of the Newsletter.

One is left wondering how those with responsibility for running and protecting (at least) the 'Stampex' name and brand can allow this sort of action to occur. Surely the brand and related image format must be 'registered' in some way? Given that the 'Stampex' sheets involved have absolutely no connection with any Stampex event, then the use of the Stampex colour and 'logo' must be verging on illegality. Perhaps one or more of our dealer members should raise this with the appropriate personnel associated with Stampex (and any other relevant organisations, including Royal Mail Key Accounts) for investigation and action as deemed appropriate?

#### Mike Cross









### Reply by Terry Barnett.

As a PTS member and a member of the PTS Council Phil asked me to look in to Mikes query. In the first instance it should be noted that the company concerned did obtain permission to use this logo on the sheetlet.

This is not a new thing as sheetlets have been produced for various Exhibitions since, as far as I am aware, 1937. Some of the sheetlets have been produced specifically for the Exhibition (using labels as opposed to stamps) whilst others have used stamp sheetlets and had them overprinted. As far as Stampex is concerned it is of course another way of advertising what is the biggest and best Stamp Show in the U.K..

It would seem that there is a thriving market for these items as I have been asked for these sheetlets on cover on numerous occasions.

## **Terry Barnett Member 201**

# Olympic Village CDS - The short version of a long story.

I have a relative who volunteered to be a games maker. On the Friday before the start of the games s he was told that she would be working in the Olympic village. That weekend we had a very long telephone conversation about how to do a cds cover by R.M. Special Delivery. Anyone who has tried to explain in person to uninterested PO counter staff what you require will appreciate how difficult that was to do to someone who knows what a FDC is but no more.

During the next few days images of the oval cachet/cancel started to appear on the interweb so I then had to add information about that to my 'instructions'.

Luckily my games maker was required to visit the village one day early for a training day so she visited the P.O. to see if she would be able to get a cover done. She rang me to say that because of the UPU sponsorship deal R.M. could not do Special Delivery! It was left that she would do the best she could after her shift on the day of issue.

On the Friday she rang. The P.O. had run out of stamps! Lots of demand from athletes as souvenirs apparently (particularly from Korea China etc.) They had sent for more supplies. If she came back in the morning they would do one back-dated for her. She was required to work a games shift the next morning but luckily one of the other games makers had come with her to see what she was doing and he was not required until the afternoon so he offered to come in and get it for her. Probably just as well that she is young and single.

One day late the cover was duly obtained, as were three others, one for each of my two assistants and another for the family who were providing games makers London accommodation. Another cover was left as she had been instructed by P.O. staff, where it should have received a cachet and a R.M. handstamp (where all the athletes were leaving theirs). That one duly arrived through the post without any postmark or cachet at all.

Some of the athletes were doing a lot of covers and my helper thinks that similar covers may have found their way abroad particularly to the far east.

After all the trouble she had to go to to obtain a Welcome cover I did not think it fair to ask her to get involved with the Gold Medal covers. A lot of work and much frustration was involved but I did get one decent cover.

#### **Bill Norburn**





## Dear Editor.....

I ordered the Olympics collection of Miniature Sheets and First Day Covers from the Philatelic Bureau which I have now received and am very happy with. I was not intending to order the Paralympics issue but when I received their offer of 50% discount on the Mini Sheets an 60p off the price of each First Day Cover I decided to order them.

I received the mini sheets a few days ago and the set of 34 First Day Covers yesterday. The Paralympic Winners stamps were not all issued the day after the gold medal was won and I was not sure of the issue dates and whether the postmarks on the covers were correct, as there seemed to be some discrepancies, with the stamps for medals won on the same day sometimes having postmarks of differing dates. I was saved by the Norvic Philatelics website which had all the issue dates listed.

All of my covers were correctly postmarked except for one interesting anomily. The stamps for David Stone's win in cycling on the 8<sup>th</sup> September were issued on the 10<sup>th</sup> but my cover was postmarked 7<sup>th</sup> September, the day before he won his gold medal!

I phoned the Bureau and they have sent me a replacement with the correct date which I received in the post today. I also queried with them when I would receive the 2 Olympic albums for storing the FDC's and sheets which I ordered a month ago and was told these would be at least another couple of weeks.

I have not received back the Welcome to the Paralympics FDC and PHQ's which I sent to the London Handstamping Centre on the day of issue for postmarking. I have phoned them and they are going to send me replacements, although I was informed there will be a delay as they are waiting for replacement stock of these items.

I also had a problem with the Welcome to the

Olympics issue. I received the FDC and PHQ card with single stamps on the back okay, but the PHQ card with the mini sheet on was missing. On this occasion I phoned the Philatelic Bureau and they sent me a replacement card and mini sheet. I posted this off to London Handstamp Centre with a covering letter. I received the card back very promptly, but with a note saying the postmark I had chosen was not valid for that date. Although the Postmark Bulletin showed it with the correct date below. it showed a different date on the illustration. They also provided a 2<sup>nd</sup> replacement card, as the one I sent had become creased, along with a 2<sup>nd</sup> replacement mini sheet. I sent it off again with a different choice of postmark. I duly received the card back after some delay correctly postmarked, luckily as I had forgotten to put my address label on the card when sending it in for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time!



## £20 Star Letter

Although getting the Olympics/Paralympics issues I wanted has been somewhat of a trial, I suppose it was only to be expected with the quantity of items they are dealing with. However I must say that the staff at the Bureau and the Handstamp Centre are always very helpful when I speak to them and so far have always provided me with replacements for any missing items satisfactorily.

I for one am relieved that there will be fewer first day issues in 2013. I stopped collecting Presentation Packs, mint PHQ's and Yearpacks at the end of 2010, as much for a lack of space as for cost.

Maybe if any other readers have bought Olympic and Paralympic FDC's from the Bureau they should take a close look at the dates of the postmarks, it would be interesting to find out if there were any more mistakes made

#### Jane Price

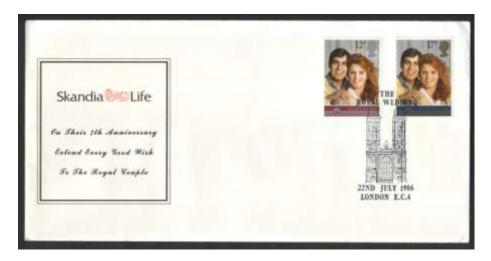
### Dear Editor.....

As my letter in the last edition did not bring forth any response as to identity of the Arlington 1986 Royal Wedding EC4 cover I will tentatively make a suggestion.

Please see illustration below.

The only elements which suggest to me that it might be the official is the fact that Arlington specialised in producing covers for commercial organisations and that it is printed on a conqueror brand envelope as are others they produced.

Instead of an insert card it contains a letter from Skandia Life which indicates it was given to Insurance Brokers who sold their products rather than sold which would support the covers scarcity. Does anyone know anything which may help verify or otherwise this cover?



**Bill Norburn** 



£20 Star Letter

If we give your letter the STAR treatment then you could win £20, so there is a great reason to write in with your news and views.

# DayOneCovers

We sell **Benham** covers mostly below half catalogue.
We also carry an extensive stock of **Railway, Football, Coin** and **SIGNED** covers.

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email us at john@dayonecovers.com

See our eBay Shop: http://stores.ebay.co.uk/DayOneCovers

DayOneCovers

# **Stolen Cover**



The above First Day Cover was stolen from my pre-decimal FDC album at the ASPS Convention Ardingly on 13<sup>th</sup> October. Any information leading to the safe return of the cover would be grateful appreciated.

I do have my suspicions as to who has taken it. If the cover or the cost of it, £50 is returned to me promptly, the matter will not be taken any further.

Regards Richard Park, Cover Collecting, 2 Chaffinch Close, Horsham, West Sussex RH12 5HA Te: 01403 241825 Email ripark@btinternet.com

### **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 <u>don't forget to let us know if you change your email address.</u>

## Can Anyone Identify the signature?

The cover shown below is one from my own collection. As my memory is not what it was (old age creeping on) I can't remember who one of the signatures belongs to. I know the black oblique signature is Kirk Douglas but can anyone tell me who the thicker felt tipped pen signature belongs to please?

Incidentally, I have learnt from my mistakes and it is always worth making a note of the people who the signatures belong to and putting it inside the cover for future reference. With the best will in the world, what one might think one will remember at the time of purchase, I can guarantee one won't remember it 10 years down the line!

#### Dot R.



### 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 <a href="mailto:sheridanfdcs@aol.com">sheridanfdcs@aol.com</a>. 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: <a href="mailto:sheridanfdcs@aol.com">sheridanfdcs@aol.com</a> 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

## **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 Road NG8 1FQ

1994	Greetings	Evening Sentinal Official (on 10 covers)	£32
1994	Prince of Wales	Football Loco Sunderland Official	£9
1994	Christmas	National Postal Museum Official	£12
1995	Greetings	Team Work Royal Mail Official	£16
1995	National Trust	Llangollen Post Museum Official	£25
1995	Christmas	Season's Greetings Middlesborough Official	£11
1995	Peace	Nene Valley Railway Official	£12
1996	Greetings	Greetings from Manchester (5 covers) Official	£20
1996	Football	Man. Utd F.C. Museum Official	£20
1996	Christmas	South Yorks Supertram Official	£12
2001	Future	Hope Primary School Official	£17
2001	Weather	Exmouth Stamp Club Official	£17
2001	Punch & Judy	Nat. West Philatelic Society Official	£20
2002	Coastlines	Coast View Official	£16
2002	Circus	Circus of Horrors Official	£23
2002	Q. Mum	Wellington, Barnes Wallis Official	£18
2003	Birds of Prey	Classic British Films Official (2 cover)	£25
2003	Occasions	Cent. Year of Powered Flight Official	£15
2003	Secret/Life	Cavendish Laboratory Official	£18
2003	Fun Fruit & Veg	Sticker St.Austell Official	£22
2003	Coronation	Coronation Tram BlackpoolOfficial	£20
2003	Scotland	Classic British Films Official	£18

# Covers for Sale Please contact Rob Swettenham 0161 973 4657 or email r.swettenham@sky.com

£15
£20
£15
£20
£15
£25
£8
£8
£20
£25
£70
£40
£15
£25
£50
£20
£80

#### Tel: 01905 611778. 1984 Cattle RM cover. Unadd. Cattle Market CDS 1984 Cattle RM cover. Label. Horn Street CDS £10 RM cover. Label. Bull Bay CDS 1984 Cattle £10 Arnolfini Official Rubber Stamped Prince Street, Bristol CDS 1984 Urban £10 RM cover Rubber Stamped Herstmonceux CDS 1986 Comet £10 RM cover. Unadd. Selbourne CDS 1986 Nature £8 RM cover. Rubber Stamped Bisley CDS £8 1986 Games 1988 Armada RM cover. Rubber Stamped Cowes CDS £9 RM cover. Label. Fair Isle CDS £9 1989 Birds 1990 Penny Post RM cover. Label. House of Commons CDS £15 1990 RSPCA RM cover. Label. Bunny CDS £10 1990 RSPCA RM cover. Rubber Stamped Ducklington CDS £10 1990 RSPCA RM cover. Label. Black Dog CDS £10 RM cover, Label, Kew Gardens MSPO CDS 1990 Kew £15 RM cover. Label. Isle of Dogs CDS 1991 Dogs £10 1991 Dogs RM cover. Label. Birmingham N.E.C. CDS £10 RM cover.Rubber Stamped. Dog & Gun CDS 1991 Dogs £10 RM cover. Label. London I.S. Maritime Mail CDS 1993 Marine £15 1993 Romans RM cover. Unadd. The Camp CDS £8 1997 Horror RM cover. Unadd. Purfleet CDS £7 1997 Air RM cover. Unadd. MarstonCDS £7 **POST & PACKING EXTRA ON THE ABOVE** ...... Contact Details: Nick Stuart. nick stuart@talk21.com Tel: 01932 229316 FDCs (All illustrated unless stated) Commemoratives 1963 Paris Postal Conf. Centenary with Dover Packet Service SHS (Official) Printed Add. £12 1978 Historical Buildings MS. London EC HS. GPO cover **d**05 1980 London Landmarks stamps on Bradbury FDC. London Stamp Fair SHS. Printed add. £10 1984 Europa Boulogne S/Mer CDS with Paquebot and Posted at Sea M V Horsa cachets. RM FDC. Label £10 1984 Royal Mail Coaches: Official Royal Mail Vans FDC with Royal Mail Transport SHS.P/A £1 Royal Mail Coaches: Philart FDC with House of Commons DRC. Pencil add. £4 1984 350yrs of Royal Mail: RM FDC with Buckingham Palace CDS. H/W address £14 1984 1989 Industrial Archaeology MS on RM FDC with PB HS £1 Penny Post Anni. 20p Kidderminster HS doubled with Sub Post Offices NPM 1990 £20 SHS on Covercraft FDC **Definitives** Festival Low values + Festival Commem set with Battersea CDS 7 M/C. Neatly slit 1951 open. H/W add £24 16<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2/1 Bklt Pane 2x 4d + 2 labels on GPO FDC. Windsor large CDS. Label 1968 £5 As above but on Philart Illustrated FDC with Windsor DRC. Typed add. 1968 £15 16<sup>th</sup> October 6x 4d pane ex Woodpecker Bklt.on Philart cover. Canterbury cds. Label 1968 £30 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb. High Values on GPO cover with PB HS. Typed address £1 1977 10<sup>th</sup> Jan. Penny Black Anni. With 'Liverpool is a Mechanised Post Office' slogan 1990 and Liverpool DRC RM FDC. Printed add. £8Pennt Post Anni. MS on BPF official FDC and BPF SHS £12 1990 1992 Castles set on RM FDC with Windsor SHS. Typed add. £8 1994 £1 bklt pane Cyl B4 on RM FDC with Windsor FDI. Blank £1 Bank of England label on Bradbury FDC with Britannia cds 1994 £7 1995 Spitfire Label on Bradbury FDC with Southampton SHS and signed by designer Mark Postlethwaite £12 6<sup>th</sup> April: 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> NVI SAs on Royal Naval Cover. Sinking of HMS Watchman SHS 1998 and signed by cover artist £8

Contact Details: Norman Whatmore, 3 Milret Close, Merrimans Hill, Worcester WR3 8XF.

1999 199	9 <sup>th</sup> March. High Values on Illustrated cover of Windsor Castle. Windsor SHS. Blar 21 <sup>st</sup> Sept. Retail Book No.2 on Benham BLCS167 cover doubled with Ploughing		6
	Horse stamp with SHS dated 7 <sup>th</sup> Sept 1991	£	:5
	ct Details: Phil Sheridan, P.O. Box 99, Widnes WA8 0NN. Tel: 0151 257 8874. : <a href="mailto:sheridanfdcs@aol.com">sheridanfdcs@aol.com</a> All CDS strikes perfect.		
13/03/0	O1 Weather set 4d Post fdc Wellington College M/M & Wellington CDS O1 Weather set 4d Post fdc Weatherby M/M & Fog Lane CDS O1 Punch & Judy Booklet. Full book affixed on RM fdc. Green ink 'Blade' fault	£10 £8	
down b	pooklet on Judy stamp side. Ideal item for collector of faults on cover D2 Airliners Retail Booklet full booklet on RM fdc FRA (Flight Refuelling	£10	
17/06/0	ity) M/M & Concorde, Heathrow, Hounslow SHS 03 Prince William RM fdc Princess of Wales M/M & Caernarfon SHS 03 Pub Signs Stuart 'The Scotsman' fdc Scotch Malt Whisky Soc. M/M &	£9 £7	
	St. CDS	£10	
	O3 Coronation 4d Post fdc Throne CDS (lovely cover)	£10	
02/07/0	O3 Coronation 4d Post fdc Coronation Parade <b>CDS</b> (lovely cover) O3 Coronation RM fdc with Royal Warrant Holders Assoc. M/M & Coronation	£10	
Parade 18/09/0	e CDS  O3 Transports of Delight set Cotswold fdc Hornby Hobbies M/M & Hornby,	£10	
Margat		£9	
	05 Trafalgar set Cotswold fdc White Ensign Association M/M & Royal Naval		
	m SHS	£8	
	05 Trafalgar set RM fdc Nelson & Napoleon M/M & Whitehall SHS	£9	
	06 England Journey RM fdc St. Paul's Cathedral M/M & St. Paul's Cathedral SHS		
	06 England Journey RM fdc Isle of Wight 10 Years M/M & Cowes, I of W SHS	£6.50	
	07 Birds Cotswold fdc RSPB M/M & Exmouth, Devon SHS	£7.50	
04/11/0	08 Olympic Handover M/S Stuart fdc British Olympic Assoc. M/M & Stratford <b>CDS</b> 08 Xmas single set Stuart fdc Grand Theatre, Blackpool M/M & Grand Theatre,		
	pool SHS	£7.50	
	08 Trio of Poppy sheet stamps on Cotswold fdc with Western Front Assoc.	00	
06/11/0	matching SHS  08 Trio of Poppy sheet stamps on Cotswold fdc with Nat. Army Museum M/M &	£8	
12/02/0	n Front Association SHS 09 Darwin set Stuart fdc Charles Darwin School M/M & Darwin Centenary,	£8	
	illy SHS	£8	
16/06/0	09 Kew Gardens M/S Cotswold fdc Kew Gardens 250 <sup>th</sup> M/M & Kew Gdns SHS 09 Mythical Creatures Cotswold 'Mermaid' fdc Dreams M/M & Sea,	£8	
	er (Mermaid) SHS 10 Battersea Dogs & Cats Home Stuart fdc RSPCA M/M & Missing Pet's	£8	
Registe		£7.50	
_	er SHS are Sheridan officials	£7.50	
•	09 Darwin set FoE Cool Fuel? Official (only 11 done) Very nice cover	£40	
	09 Darwin M/S FoE Cool Fuel? Official (only 4 done) Very nice cover	£50	
19/08/	10 British Railways Crewe Heritage Centre official (NYMR Train) only 20 done	£40 £40	
	ct: David Dooley Tel 0788 419 6952 or email david.dooley1@talktalk.net ers are on Cotswold UA envelopes except where stated.		
12/12/7	79 – Definitives – 1p, 2p PCP & 8p Enschede - Windsor -	£1	
16/1/80	O – Coil – 10p multi value – Windsor - – Varieties – 10p phosphor centre band – Windsor -	£3 £1	

	£1
27/8/80 – Book Pane + Varieties – 10p Chambon London 1980 Booklet & 11p phosphor	
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20/4/02 The Queen Would C// Biotomey Fanci of Emilion 207 of 000	~1
Covers For Sala Blaces contact Town, Bornett 0454 406 2640 or small	
Covers For Sale Please contact Terry Barnett 0151 486 2610 or email terryhuntsc@tiscali.co.uk	
POST FREE. If you would like a scan of any cover please contact me.	
•	0.4
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2000 Spirit Faith on BLCS194 Downpatrick Cancel	£1
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1991 33p booklet pane on Benham D169 Windsor cancel	£1
1991 39p booklet pane on Benham D170 Windsor cancel	£1
1993 £10 defin. on Benham D195 Porth cancel	£4
3	£2
3	£5
	£2
	£3
·	£4
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	£6
	£2
·	£2
1999 'E' booklet pane on Benham SP6b Waterloo cancel	£2

# Contact Details: Dot Radley, Te; 07939 832 184. E-mail: <a href="mailto:salwals@aol.com">salwals@aol.com</a> CDS strikes perfect unless otherwise stated.

06/08/96 W of A GBCovers No.3 Margot Fonteyn, Covent Gdn official (No.88 of 150) 01/10/96 Classic Cars GBCovers No.4 Morgan Cars, Malvern official (No.94 of 200) 30/10/95 Xmas Robins RM fdc with RSPB M/M & Christmas, Canterbury SHS 08/07/97 Queen's Horses 4d Post official signed by Mel Harris	£40 £35 £8 £12
12/08/97 Sub Post Offices RM fdc cancelled with The Lizard (double ring) <b>CDS</b> . The Lizard, Cornwall, Britain's most southerly Post Office cachet on cover	£9
03/02/98 Diana 4d Post official England's Rose, Postcombe, Oxford	£8
23/06/98 Health RM fdc National Blood Service M/M & National Blood Service SHS 29/09/98 Speed 4d Post Bluebird Pendine official signed by Don Wales (comes with compliment slip written by, & signed again, by Don Wales to show provenance)	£8
V. Rare!	£60
02/03/99 Patents Victoria Hospital Deal official (No.23 of only 100 covers done) 03/08/99 Scientists 4d Post fdc with Linnean Society M/M and Botanic Gardens,	£18
Belfast CDS DATED 3 Aug. 66 (Ideal cover for collectors of such items)	£20
11/08/99 Eclipse M/S 4d Post fdc cancelled Truro CDS	£10
06/06/00 People & Place Wistaston Junior School official	£8
04/08/00 Q. Mother (stamps from M/S) Glamis Castle M/M & Glamis, Forfar, CDS	£18
03/10/00 Body & Bone RM fdc with Millennium Dome CDS	£18
03/10/00 Body & Bone RM fdc Limbs & Things M/M & Orthopaedic Hospital CDS	£18
13/03/01 Weather set Woodford Sports 'Old England XI', St. Albans official 22/10/01 Flags & Ensigns Boat Brewery 'Special' cover with Boat Brewery SHS	£15
(only 12 covers done for Private collection – rare)	£15
16/07/00 Stone & Soil SHOAH official cover	£18

## **GBFDC A.G.M. Cover**

Following much discussion between members and your committee it has been decided to reinstate the first day cover issued for the AGM.

The cover must be self financing as the Assoc. cannot afford for it to be a drain on our resources.

Hopefully the following will appease the members who are unable to attend the AGM and give those members an opportunity to purchase the cover.

We will produce 57 covers of which a maximum of 48 will be offered to the first 48 members attending the AGM at £15 each.

The remaining covers will be offered, ONLY, to members who are unable to attend the AGM at a minimum price of £25 each.

How will it work ???

Members should send the amount that they wish to pay (bids) for their cover. These bids must be received by 15th October 2013.

The average price of these bids will be ascertained and the covers will be offered to all applicants at the average price.

If there are more bidders than covers the names will go into a hat.

We are aware that this seems a complicated way of doing things but we feel that this is the fairest way which allows everyone to pay the same price and gives those unable to attend the AGM an equal opportunity to obtain one of these covers.

Any unsold covers will be put into the Assoc. auction with the average price reserve and sold for the benefit of the Association.

### **Terry Barnett on behalf of the Committee**

# **FIRST DAY COVERS**

# **Specialist in Great Britain First Day Covers**



If you collect covers, please request a free price list. It contains over 100 pages of covers. It is a must for all cover collectors and has something for everyone from beginner to specialist.

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

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

### INCENTIVE SCHEME TO RECRUIT NEW MEMBERS

You may have read in the minutes from the AGM that the GBFDC membership is in decline. Currently we are losing approximately 3% of members per year which are not being replaced by new members. We cannot allow this trend to continue, if we value our hobby for future years.

To this end it has been agreed by the committee to introduce an incentive scheme for all current members to participate in. The Association will pay members £5.00 for every new member introduced that joins GBFDC.

The way the incentive scheme will work:- Some simple rules.

The incentive scheme starts when you read this notice and there is no limit to the number of new members you can introduce.

Members can register the name, address & email where possible, of any potential new member with the chairman or secretary before they join.

Notification after a new member has joined will not be accepted.

Registering the name of ex member whose membership has lapsed will not count either.

In the case of more than one member registering the same name, it will be the first member to register the new member that will receive the payment.

You will also need to mention at the time of registering whether or not the secretary needs to follow up on the inquiry or whether payment for membership is in the post!

You can register any potential new members at <a href="mailto:secretary@gbfdc.co.uk">secretary@gbfdc.co.uk</a> or if you are not on line phone 01403 241825. So come on, get involved, here's a good opportunity to increase our membership this coming year, and make some money for yourself.

Richard Park, Chairman.

# MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY 6TH OCTOBER 2012

All committee members present.

Richard welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending.

The minutes of the telephone conference meeting held on Sunday 5th February 2012 were read. There being no matters arising they were accepted as being a true and correct record as proposed by Dot Radley and seconded by John Chidgey.

Richard opened the meeting by advising that following a review of the membership, year on year, it would appear that we are losing members by around 3% per year. We need to try and reverse this trend and it was suggested that we ask members to help out by getting cover collectors known to our members to join the Assoc.. The member would then be reward with a £5 payment.

Richard then went on to advise that the new website was getting around 15 hits per day lasting under 1 1/2 minutes per hit. This would indicate that the visitors were not fdc collectors but casual or curious lookers. Disappointingly only 30 members had signed up to the website and not one member had used the 'blog' feature. Back issues of the newsletter are available to members on the website - after you have signed up of course. Richard thanked Jonathon Guy for all his work and support with the website.

David Cohen presented the year end accounts. Following explanations of various points and savings that had been made he advised that this had been a year of inactivity with regard to the accounts and they were near enough the same as last year. On a proposal from John Chidgey and seconded by Phil Sheridan the accounts were unanimously accepted.

Phil and Dot presented the newsletter report. The main problem was getting members to send in articles for the newsletter. It was suggested (tongue in cheek) that if no articles were forthcoming the newsletter be sent out with blank pages. The MCS was turning over although more covers from members would be needed.

The Association covers continue to be a success using the standing order list. It is hoped, again, to have four Assoc. covers in 2013. PROVISIONAL choices are London Underground, Classic TV, Butterflies and Auto. Legends. A reserve issue would be the Northern Ireland Train issue. It should be noted that a final decision has yet to be made and that a final list and standing order application form appears elsewhere in this Newsletter.

Advertising the Association and its covers would continue to be done by John although the Assoc. was dependant on the philatelic magazines advertising our wares. John specifically requested that all and any advertising be done by him.

Website - Terry suggested that we all send to Richard scans of covers. They do not have to be official covers or anything fancy just nice clean copies to be shown on the website.

Auction - Richard advised that due to the increase in printing and postage the commission rate for members and non members would increase by 5%. Richard will consider taking paid advertising in the auction catalogue to help offset the cost of the running of the auction.

Terry advised the state of play with regard to the membership renewals. He advised that a bank account was especially set up for members to pay their subs in to and details were also given for members to pay via PayPal. This seems to have been a success as around 25% of member used these methods. At the time of this meeting 5 members had advised that they would not be renewing and around 55 had not replied. Terry advised that he would chase these members in due course.

Contin	ued	
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Due to comments made by various members the subject of an AGM cover was again discussed. It was decided that the matter would be raised at the AGM tomorrow for further consideration. David advised that whatever decision is made the cover MUST pay for itself as it is too much of a drain on the Assoc. resources.

Secretaries position - Ian Balcombe was invited to join the committee as the Hon. Secretary. It was agreed that Ian would take on all of the 'jobs' that Terry presently does with the exception of the despatching of the newsletter and the Assoc. covers.

Terry reminded committee members that they should not use the membership list of names and addresses to promote their own businesses. It is one of the few valuable assets that the committee has and it MUST be protected. For this reason also the lists should not be divulged to anyone else.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11.15pm

# MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON SUNDAY 7TH OCTOBER 2012 AT THE COLLINGWOOD CENTRE BIRMINGHAM

Richard Park welcomed the members and thanked them for attending.

Apologies were received from various members.

The minutes of the A.G.M. held on Sunday 2nd October 2011 were read and accepted on a proposal from Peter Maslak and seconded by Jonathon Guy.

There were no matters arising.

## Chairman's Report

Richard advised of his concern for the continued drop in the number of members. He advised that year on year membership was dropping at a rate of 3% per annum. As an incentive it has been decided to offer members an incentive to encourage fellow collectors to join the Association. Any member responsible for attracting a new member will be paid £5.

Richard advised his disappointment at the number of members using and registering on the website. He hopes that members will make use of the website and thanked Jonathon Guy for all of his hard work in setting up the website.

Richard advised that Jeffrey Booth has offered any GBFDC member's that buys his new catalogue will be given a discount on the retail price.

The meeting was advised that due to ever increasing costs the commission rates for the GBFDC auction will rise by 5% for both members and non members.

Any member wishing to take an advert in the auction catalogue may do so at a cost of around £25 for a 1/2 page of an A5 page.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

David Cohen offered the year end accounts to the membership with various explanations regarding items shown in the accounts. One of the items discussed was the AGM cover. David pointed out that if this is to be readopted it must be self financing as the Association could not sustain the costs involved. David advised that these accounts reflected an accurate position of the finances as all the official covers are included in this years account. The accounts were accepted on a proposal from Richard Howe and seconded by Elke Andreson.

### **Newsletter Report**

Phil and Dot both appealed for articles for publication in the newsletter. Phil said that there must be many members who can submit an article about their aspect of cover collecting, their own collection, their own scarce cover/s, how they got started or any snippet of information which can be shared with other members. If you do not wish to have your details published this would be acceptable and the articles do not have to be typed out or emailed. Understandable hand written notes which can be expanded into an article would be most welcome. The MCS has also dropped off a little so again please send in your lists.

## **Association Cover Update**

The Association cover seems to be as popular as ever and the standing order list seems to be the right way of doing things. The covers for 2013 will again be four in number with London Underground, Classic TV, Butterflies and Auto Legends being the preferred subjects. These are of course subject to change (the application form and subjects chosen appear elsewhere in this newsletter). The subject of an AGM cover was also discussed and again notification appears elsewhere in this newsletter.

#### **Election of Officers**

As you know we have been advertising for a new Hon. Secretary for some time and are please to say that Ian Balcombe has volunteered for this post. He will take over most of duties from Terry Barnett who will remain as Assistant Hon. Secretary. On a proposal from Terry Hurlstone and seconded by Mike Cross Ian Balcombe was voted in as Hon. Secretary. On a proposal by Ken Brown and seconded by John Nixon Terry Barnett was voted in as Asst. Hon. Secretary. Terry will be responsible for sending out the newsletter and the Assoc. official cover whilst Ian will be responsible for all other aspects of the Secretaries position.

#### **A.O.B**.

Henry Pugh asked about increasing the number of dealers attending the cover fair. Terry Barnett advised that we are restricted by the room available and that there is no point in having too many dealers as it will restrict the amount of money being spent in the room.

Richard advised that the Auction was available to view on line and that he had catalogues with him if any member required one.

John Chidgey thanked Terry Barnett for his work over the past 13 years.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 1.55pm

------ END ------



Seasonal Good Wishes From your Committee

# The Enid Blyton issue of 9 September 1997

### by Selwyn Goodacre

Enid Blyton is the most prolific author of children's books, by a very long way. She most justifiably had a special issue of stamp in 1997 in honour of the centenary of her birth.

It is a pity that the stamps themselves are, to my mind at least, rather disappointing. They are poorly coloured and over fussy. It would have been far better if they had used one of Blyton's own illustrators – such as Dorothy Wheeler for the *Faraway Tree* books, Eileen Soper for the *Famous Five*, or Stuart Tresilian for the *Adventure* series.

It should be noted that the GPO committed the most wonderful howler with their standard cover. It features a picture of two children – with the caption ''Enid Blyton's Famous Five'. In fact the picture is of two of the children from the dust wrapper of *The Mountain of Adventure* by Stuart Tresilian. The *Adventure* series is of course completely different from the *Famous Five* books.

The issue was very popular – especially amongst dealers. One of the huge bonuses as far as they were concerned was that there is actually a village in Lincolnshire near Gainsborough, called 'Blyton'. Dealers jumped at the opportunity.

Adrian Bradbury issued two 'official covers' – 'Children's Stories for Sunny Days, Blyton Gainsborough' PHS (girl singing). This cover features a delightful picture by Malcolm Greensmith featuring interpretations of Noddy and Big Ears and a number of less easily identifiable Enid Blyton characters.

Adrian's second cover, with 'The World's Favourite Aunt and Children's Writer Blyton Gainsborough' PHS (girl skipping), features a nice picture of what look like characters from Edwardian Children's literature (era of E Nesbit) cascading out of the open pages of a book. Very enterprisingly Adrian persuaded Enid Blyton's daughter Gillian Baverstock to sign 210 of these. But he was not the only dealer to arrange for her to sign covers (see below).



Scott's catalogue lists two 'official covers' issued by Westminster Collections. The first has a 'Centenary of the birth of Enid Blyton, Blyton, Lincs' PHS (girl with ponytail reading book). In fact this has no mention of Westminster Collections on the cover, so we must rely on the accuracy of the Scott assignment. Their other

cover has an 'Enid Blyton, Blyton Gainsborough Autographed Editions' SHS – a cover that celebrates Spike Milligan – and all (?) are actually signed by him, Scott suggest there were 200 produced.

There are more 'village of Blyton' covers -

The RNLI issued an official cover with an 'Enid Blyton Anniversary, Blyton, Gainsborough, Lincs' PHS - and it is possible to find covers with a 'Blyton, Gainsborough' CDS – the only examples I know of are the standard GPO cover and the 'Fourpenny Post Series No. 8 1997'. These CDS covers can also be

found with rather nice meter marks (I have a GPO cover with 'The Children's Society' meter mark, and one with 'The British Library' meter mark, which I am told is one of only 7).



Enid Blyton spent most of her adult life at her famous home 'Green Hedges' in Beaconsfield. Again dealers leapt at the opportunity. The Children's Film & Television Foundation issued an official cover with 'Centenary of the Birth of Enid Blyton Beaconsfield' PHS (doll and teddy). This is quite rare; I am told there were only 50 issued.

One of the GPO's cancellations was also a Beaconsfield PHS (a strange picture of a partly eaten biscuit!). Benham issued no less than eight different official covers; one of them features their own Beaconsfield PHS (a picture of an open book). You can also find covers with a Beaconsfield CDS.

Benham's BLCS132 cover, with a London NW1 PHS (Noddy riding his car) is probably their most common one. Some they arranged to be signed by Gillian Baverstock - just how many is not specified.

Enid Blyton's first teaching post was in Bickley – and yes, there are two Bickley cancellations to be found. One of Benham's productions has a 'Centenary Enid Blyton Bickley, Bromley' PHS (Noddy riding his car again). A Bickley CDS cover can be found, though Sajal Cover Auctions said 'probably only 12 covers were serviced'.

A number of other places connected with Enid Blyton also had FDCs in their honour – Corfe Castle (the possible 'origin' for the Famous Five's Kirrin Castle); Dulwich; and Surbiton.

The Variety Club of London (self styled 'The Greatest Children's Charity in the World'!) issued their own Official cover, and arranged for a number of 'celebrities' to sign individual covers. I have seven, but there are quite few more.

Adrian Bradbury is fond of listing CDS's and PHS's related to the issue in question. So I do have a 'Child's Way' PHS (a Steven Scott cover); a 'Fivehead, Taunton, Somerset' CDS, and a 'Fiveways, Tunbridge Wells' CDS. There are more 'out there' that I haven't as yet located. The search continues.

David Millership (A Tom Green Associate) 29, Richmond Road, Pontnewydd, Cwmbran, Torfaen NP44 1EQ

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









## **Christmas 6 November 2012**

Single set of 7 self-adhesive stamps on Rainbow Trust official cover

Price - £17.25 (inc. p/p)

(Limited to 50 numbered covers)

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### **Christmas 6 November 2012**

Full PVA miniature sheet on Rainbow Trust official cover

Price - £17.25 (inc. p/p)

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I have double Rainbow Trust official covers available with both M/S and single set on for £21.00 each

# London Underground 9 January 2013

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Single set of 6 stamps on London Transport Museum official cover

Price - £17.25 (inc. p/p)

# (Limited to 50 numbered covers

London Underground

# 9 January 2013 Full miniature sheet on

Full miniature sheet on London Transport Museum official cover

Price - £17.25 (inc. p/p)

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Member Co	Member Commercial advertising rates  Full page: £20, artwork £5 extra, total - £25		£17 (to receive Newsletter by post) £12 (to receive Newsletter by email)
Half page: Third page: Quarter page:	£10, artwork £3 extra, total - £13 £7, artwork £2.50 extra, total - £9.50 £5, artwork £2 extra, total - £7	Rest of World: Rest of World:	£20 (to receive Newsletter by post) £12 (to receive Newsletter by email)
Fifth page:	e: £4, artwork £1 extra, total - £5	Other	major currency to the value of
Non-Member Commercial advertising rates Full page: £30, artwork £5 extra, total - £35 Half page: £15, artwork £3 extra, total - £18 Third page: £10, artwork £2.50 extra, total - £12.50 Quarter page: £8, artwork £2 extra, total - £10		Junior	rates apply for children up to 16 years of age
		All advertisements must be accompanied by the appropriate fee, otherwise your advert will not be published – Sorry, but no exceptions	

#### **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

Name & address of contributor is printed with each item, as it is assumed members do not object to this information being given to other members through the Newsletter. At no point will members' names & addresses be sold on to other members or dealers. Your name & address may be supplied to another member if we think it is a genuine enquiry. If you object to this then please advise the editor. Only your name, address & membership number is recorded on the computer hard disk, no other information is recorded with it.

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# **DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE 7th January 2013**

#### **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:

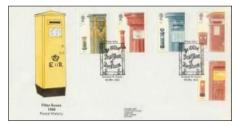
The Editor, GBFDC Association, P.O. Box 99, Widnes, Cheshire WA8 0NN

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