

FIRST DAY COVERAGE

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

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Number 114



The Association of Great Britain

First Day Cover
Collectors

Membership 255

June 2013

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From the Editor's Desk



Welcome to the June 2013 Edition of First Day Coverage. It has been very quiet on the philatelic front of late so we have little to report on at the moment.

By the time this newsletter hits your letter boxes, we will have seen six stamp issues

plus new definitives issued by Royal Mail. Of the six commemorative issues I, personally, have only been interested in two, London Underground and Doctor Who, both massive issues and extremely popular. I have avoided Football Heroes and The Queen's Portraits because I feel they are not as popular as they once were. Royal issues have been 'done to death' over the last few years and it seems like every year there is a football set of some kind or other. I am looking forward to the last half of the year through. Issues like Butterflies, British Auto Legends, Merchant Navy, and Dinosaurs, all beautiful stamps, well thought out and presented. My two favourite will be Butterflies and Auto Legends.

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 2013

*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

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Important Notice

DEADLINE FOR THE AUGUST 2013 EDITION

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

Doctor Who's Tardis stamp has thrown up some interesting differences. The Retail Booklet, Miniature Sheet, PSB Pane and Generic Sheet Tardis stamps are all slightly different. See page 8 for further details. Our grateful thanks go to Ian Billings for allowing us to reproduce his article which appears on his website blog.

We have great pleasure in showing you the third GBFDC official cover for Butterflies on 11 July 2013. We are delighted to feature the National Wildflower Centre, Liverpool and we hope you like the cover.

The 2013 AGM will be held at the usual place this year, Collingwood Centre, Great Barr, Birmingham on Sunday 6th October. We hope to see as many members as can attend. We are reinstating the AGM cover this year at a cost of £15 to those members attending the AGM. It will be a very limited edition but a few covers will be available for auction to those members unable to attend. Please see *First Day Coverage*, December 2012, page 15 for full details.

Peter Middleton recounts his experience attending the Café Royal Exhibition in the 70's and has promised to write again about his extensive travelling around Britain to various fairs and the experiences he has had. We look forward to reading about them Peter.

We have our usual Member Cover Sale on pages 9 to 12 but not as many vendors as we would like for this edition. Please send us your list of covers for sale for future newsletters. I am sure most of our members have covers they would like to sell or exchange so have a look and send in your lists.

Geoff Childs has set up a website purely as a resource tool and he is asking for your help by submitting cover scans to him for inclusion. See page 13 for more details.

Information regarding the Club Auction is on page 14 so please read it if you intend to submit covers to Richard for inclusion.

We have a very interesting article about the Wilkinson Machine by David Holl on pages 15 to 17. David has a lovely collection of items franked by the Wilkinson Machine. I expect these covers to be very valuable items indeed, and we are very grateful to be able to publish David's article.

This is the kind of comprehensive article we require for future newsletters. If you have a similar themed collection then please photocopy the pages and send them in to us for publication.

That's it from us for this edition. So for now, happy collecting and see you in August. Enjoy the nice weather, when it comes!

Phil Sheridan, Hon. Editor.

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

GBFDC No.48 OFFICIAL COVER – Butterflies – 11 July 2013

This is the third GBFDC official cover for 2013 and it will be a Limited Edition of 79. If you would like to collect forthcoming covers for this year then please contact Terry Barnett.

Butterflies National Wildflower Centre official GBFDC cover shown below for member information



Date for your Diary

The 2013 AGM will be held in the Collingwood Centre, Great Barr, Birmingham on Sunday 6th October 2013. Details on page 4.

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

Tel: 01633-793014 Mobile: 07866-816567

~ Quarterly Postal Auction of fine First Day and signed

Please send for free catalogue

Fairs:

Autumn Stampex Gallery Bay 23A Design Centre, Islington – Sept' 18th – 21st 2013

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

We have arranged for the 2013 AGM/Cover Fair to be held on Sunday 6th October 2013 at the Collingwood Centre, Great Barr, Birmingham B43 7NF (for Sat Navs).
Tel: 0121 360 1484

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

We hope that you will support the fair and look forward to seeing you all.

A list of dealers will be announced in the August Newsletter

The GBFDC club table will also be there for general enquiries and for selling the Association official unsold covers.

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.



Fair Do's by Peter Middleton

News of the demise of the Café Royal in London awakens memories for me of my early association with exhibitions. In the 1970's, my wife and I would cover many thousands of miles to set up our table at stamp fairs. There are very few towns that have not been graced by our presence, from Land's End to John O' Groats (including both of these).

The 1970's/80's was a time of philatelic boom with heaving attendance and revenue to match. Unfortunately in the current climate there are too many fairs, where, at the end of the day I will look at 'wifey' and utter the dreaded words, "well, that was a waste of time".

The financial outlay today precludes touring the country and staying overnight, whereas in the seventies the cost of hotels, table rent and petrol was minimal by comparison. A typical 'stamp tour' for us was:-

Saturday – York
Sunday – Newcastle
Monday – Edinburgh
Tuesday – Glasgow
Wednesday – Perth
Thursday – Aberdeen
Friday - Inverness

After the final fair closed, the stock was loaded into the car and we drove back to Nottingham. A couple of weeks later off we went again, as follows:-

Sunday – Bournemouth
Monday – Weymouth
Tuesday – Sidmouth
Wednesday – Exeter
Thursday – Plymouth
Friday – Newquay
Saturday – Weston-Super-Mare

This programme was repeated at regular intervals with different towns involved en route.

There certainly was plenty of loading and unloading over the years we have patronised several fair organisers, who had different approach to 'setting up'.

I remember a particular fair in Coventry where we had booked a 10 foot table – (any size from 6foot upwards, in foot increments was allowed in those days). We were allocated space across one end of a central island. This meant that two 6' tables were placed together and the organiser told us not to use 12 inches at each end of the tables or he would charge us for 12' – don't laugh – it's true.

During the fair I noticed the organiser wandering past our tables, and I feel sure it was to make certain there was a 'space' at each end left unused.

One of the organisers I supported was Eric Syrett of Showpiece Fairs. These were always prestigious events, culminating in the exhibition at the Café Royal in central London over 5 days. The table cost in those days (1976) was over £700 with car parking at £16 per day – a huge expense at the time. I hit on a bright idea to defray some of the expense. At this time we used to go camping abroad, and as there was a very good site at Chigwell, we decided to stay there for the week. The site was very close to the London Underground line that took us into central London 100 yards from the Café Royal. This site compared very favourably with continental sites as regards facilities – shops, laundry, hot showers, excellent toilet facilities. What more could you ask for. So, on the Monday before the fair opened we drove to London and set up camp at Chigwell. I remember the glorious summer evening as we walked around the site. The lower end looked across rolling countryside with magnificent views; unfortunately the present day outlook is of thundering traffic on the M25 – so much for progress.

Continued.....

On the Tuesday morning we drove into central London and parked at the rear entrance of the Café Royal where unloading facilities had been granted by the Chief Constable (according to Eric Syrett). After a few trips upstairs with my stock, I came down and the doorman came up to me and said "sorry mate but the Police have just towed your car away" - what a joker I thought, until I saw the space where my car had been. I shot upstairs and had a word with Eric, who in turn contacted the relevant authority, who assured me my car would be released without penalty. Off I shot to Hyde Park Underground Police Pound where a queue of disgruntled motorists were paying their release fees. When I reached the head of the queue I explained to the 'Jobsworth' at the desk the situation but all I got from him was "I'll have to check, sit down over there". After one hour and the passage of many 'parking infringers' of all nationalities, I was called over and my car keys were slapped on the counter.

My worries were over, or so I thought. I parked the car and walked back to the Café Royal. When I got there my wife greeted me with some disturbing news. One of the dealers at the fair had complained to the organiser about the wording of my advert in the fair brochure. I had always taken a lighthearted outlook towards my advertising wording, but this particular fella didn't take kindly to a lad from the Midlands muscling in on 'Big Boys' territory. In due course he simmered down (after a few words from Eric) and nothing else was said. So ended my forage into the philatelic jungle of big time fairs. In due course I will relate more interesting experiences encountered in my many years 'on the road' and the amusing people I have met.

✉ *Our thanks to Peter for sending in this article. Might I ask what was the wording on your advert that so upset a fellow dealer at the Café Royal Fair Peter? I am intrigued to say the least. We very much look forward to reading more about Peter's time 'on the road' during his many years attending stamp fairs.*

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See our eBay Shop:

<http://stores.ebay.co.uk/DayOneCovers>

DayOneCovers



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

Dear Editor.....

I noticed in the introductory section of Chris Sutcliffe's article about obtaining postmark cancellations from relevant local post offices on First Day Covers he commented that there is a body of opinion that believe that **FDC collecting is in decline**. Then I read on the BBC News site that the interest in the Doctor Who stamp issue has spread well beyond the traditional stamp collecting fraternity. This prompted me to think about how **interest in FDC collecting could be stimulated**.

I have thought of a number of measures that could be taken to boost interest in the pastime. Detailed below are some of my thoughts. I am sure other members might have equally interesting thoughts or perhaps some might think I am moving too far away from the founding principles for commemorative stamp issues.

My major recommendation is that stamp issues should be linked with major interests in Britain – just as Doctor Who has done and probably the Olympics. While the Hanoverian Kings of England produced an excellent set of stamps such an issue is not likely to catch the imagination of the public or engage too many interest groups such as history societies.

Therefore I would suggest that commemorative issues could feature, for example, achievements of Manchester United, who not only have a large support in Britain but across the world. A separate issue could commemorate the history of the Premier league – again something with international appeal.

The Post Office may have to think somewhat imaginatively to hit the topics that will generate a demand for the stamps beyond FDC collectors. Perhaps caravanning could be such a topic, plenty of great images to exploit while caravanning has a very big following, dogs and Crufts might also be a suitable topic.

But I would like to go beyond picking

imaginative issue topics and add some 'excitement' to the pastime. Members might like to comment on some of these ideas and even add so of their own.

- Issues are timed to appear at the opening of key events – for example the opening of Crufts or the start of the football season.
- Perhaps alternatively they could be issued immediately at the conclusion of a competition or event with the winners celebrated on one of the stamps – in a similar fashion to the Olympic Gold medal winners. The winners of Strictly Come Dancing, the X Factor or Britain's Got Talent.
- Additionally there is no need to have a 'full' set of stamps every time there is an issue. Stamps could celebrate the birth of a royal baby or royal wedding – featuring an 'immediate' up to date image.

In conjunction with these ideas I would like to see a reduction in the number of annual issues. If the post office genuinely believed this would improve stamp sales into the collecting world they might be prepared to adopt the policy. A reduced number of issues would give the remaining issues added prominence and importance and allow the post office to market them more effectively to the wider community.

I would ask members to help develop these ideas so we can as an Association perhaps present a thoughtful and powerful set of ideas to the appropriate people.

David Dooley



£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.

Doctor Who gets more complex: Tardis has two perforations!

In an earlier report we calculated that there were 30 different stamps in the Doctor Who issue, although there is still some confusion about who printed what.

But amongst all the confusion we dealers and collectors often forget philatelic basics - and we have to acknowledge that we were not the ones to discover that **the Tardis stamps exist with two different perforations!** The stamp from the miniature sheet is perforated $14\frac{3}{4} \times 14$, whilst the one from the miniature sheet pane in the prestige stamp book is $14\frac{3}{4} \times 15$. (The perforations of the 2nd class 'Enemies' stamps are the same from both sources.)

The difference is easy to spot without even resorting to a perforation gauge because the miniature

sheet stamp has 11 holes above the elliptical one, and the pane stamp has 12. The stamps in the Retail Booklet & Generic Smilers Sheet also have 11 holes.



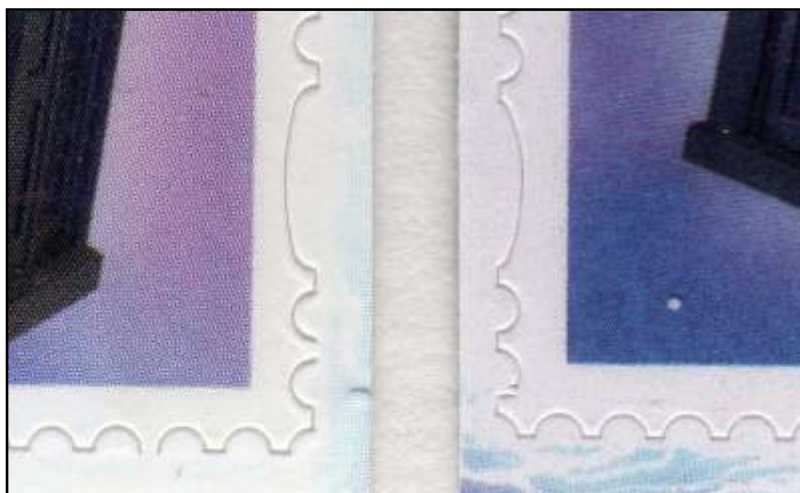
Addition

Royal Mail have usually made it easy for the self-adhesive sheets and panes to be removed from the backing paper for fixing to FDCs (or even postal packets) by ensuring that the die-cut perforations are interrupted. And this factor also demonstrates that perforators were used. On the Miniature sheet the Tardis stamp

perfs are interrupted on the end of the 3rd tooth in from the corners, on each side, except that the interruption is on the 2nd tooth from the bottom on each vertical side (8 in total).

On the PSB pane there are just four interruptions: top left and top right are on the lower side of the

first tooth, lower left is on the upper side of the last tooth, and lower right is on the lower side of the last tooth. There are no interruptions on the short side of the stamp.



Thus 3 are within the sides, and the lower right is right on the corner. This can be seen in the images as an uneven tear of the paper, rather than a clean die-cut, most noticeable on the top of the right-hand stamp in the image.

Similar differences occur on the 2nd class stamps. The MS has interruptions on the top of the 4th tooth on each side (hence 8 in total). The stamps on the PSB pane have just 4 interruptions, in various positions and various sizes, on the last tooth on each vertical side (as with the Tardis).

Incidentally the size of the Tardis stamp image is different on the Retail Booklet.

The stamp design on the Retail Booklet is 17.5×21.5 mm but on the stamps on the Generic Sheet, Miniature Sheet, and MS pane from the PSB have images only 17×21 mm.

Ian Billings. www.norphil.co.uk

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

Slogan Listing - at £3 each (postage appreciated)

1989	Food & Farming	Wild About Worcestershire
1989	Food & Farming	Hooked on Herefordshire
1989	Ind. Arch.	Aveline Barford Machines
1989	Ind. Arch. M/S	Inst. Of Machine Engineers
1989	Lord Mayor Show	Collect British Stamps
1989	Christmas	BBC Children In Need
1990	Penny Black Anniv.	Great Expectations
1990	Europa	Royal Burgh of Lanark
1990	Queen's Award	Stamp World
1990	Queen's Award	Invest in Sunderland
1990	Kew Gardens	Hovertravel Portsmouth / IoW
1990	Kew Gardens	Steam Railway Country Fair
1990	Thomas Hardy	Write Now – Say it better in a Letter
1990	Thomas Hardy	Royal Mail Uxbridge
1990	Thomas Hardy	Write Now – Say it better in a Letter
1990	Queen Mother	Alder Hey 75 th Birthday
1990	Gallantry	RAF Finningley Air Show
1990	Gallantry	Royal Engineers Museum
1990	Astronomy	Visit the Isle of Skye
1990	Astronomy	Post Office Mercury Card
1990	Christmas	Stampway to the World
1990	Christmas	Birmingham Cathedral Appeal
1991	Dogs	Stampway to the World
1991	Scientific	Philips 100 Years Ahead
1991	Europe in Space	Loughborough University
1991	Sport	Birmingham Olympic Committee
1991	Roses	Don't Miss the Mansfield Show
1991	Maps	Help Build the Yellow Brick Road
1991	Christmas	Send a Video Letter
1991	Christmas	Shopping in Full Bloom
1992	Happy & Glorious	MK Celebrating Achievement
1992	Europa	A Fresh Dale Farm
1992	Civil War	Chester Cathedral Centenary
1992	Gilbert & Sullivan	Don't Miss the Mansfield Show
1992	Green Issue	Collect British Stamps
1992	Green Issue	Leicester Britain's 1 st Environment City
1992	Single Market	Royal Mail Supports Children in Cities
1992	Single Market	The Visa Service, Passports Renewed

Contact Details: Phil Sheridan, P.O. Box 99, Widnes WA8 0NN. Tel: 0151 257 8874.

E-mail: sheridanfdc@aol.com Postage £1.50

25/03/03 Fruit & Veg Cotswold fdc Apple Freight M/M & Appledore, Kent CDS	£7
07/11/06 Xmas set Donna's Dream House Sheridan official with Merry Christmas & Happy New Year M/M	£35
15/04/08 Insects Cotswold fdc Royal Entomological Society M/M & London NW1 SHS	£7
10/06/08 Carry On /Hammer Stuart fdc BAFTA M/M & Hammersmith CDS £8.50	
10/06/08 Carry On /Hammer RM fdc & Hammersmith CDS	£7
18/09/08 RAF Uniforms Stuart fdc For Your Eyes Only Ian Fleming & James Bond IWM M/M & Yorkshire Air Museum, York (Cotswold sponsored SHS making an official)	£9
06/11/08 Lest we Forget Armistice M/S Cotswold fdc National Army Museum M/M & Cenotaph, London SHS	£7
Sheridan officials	
06/11/08 Lest we Forget Armistice Generic Sheet x 4 Sheridan official covers (full sheet Between 4 covers) Set No.2 of 15. (Last set)	£50
07/01/10 Classic Album covers single set Music for All Sheridan official	£25
07/01/10 Classic Album covers stamps in pane from Souvenir Sheet Music for All Sheridan official	£25
07/01/10 Classic Album covers PSB set 4 Music for All Sheridan officials (Panes from booklet with stitch holes margin - Last set)	£50
* Special offer – all 3 formats for £85	
01/05/12 50 Years James Bond Souvenir Sheet all 10 stamps & labels on one Sheridan official cover. No.6 of only 40 produced. (Last one)	£50
07/02/06 England Journey on Sheridan Buttermere Lake official cover	£30
07/02/06 England Journey Buttermere, Cumbria official with Lake District National Park meter mark	£35
Last set * Special offer – both covers for £55	
07/06/05 TTC single set on Sheridan Guards official cover	£30
07/06/05 TTC M/S Sheridan official (Queen in Carriage cover - scarce)	£35
07/06/05 TTC Set Sheridan official (Queen in Carriage cover - scarce) With Queen Elizabeth's meter mark (only 27 done - rare)	£35
Last set * Special offer – all 3 covers for £85	
18/10/05 Trafalgar single set Sheridan Royal Naval Museum, Portsmouth Official cover	£30
18/10/05 Trafalgar M/S Sheridan Royal Naval Museum, Portsmouth Official cover	£30
Last set * Special offer – both covers for £50	
23/02/06 Brunel single set on Brunel University 40 th Anniversary Sheridan official cover	£30
23/02/06 Brunel single set Sheridan Brunel University 40 th Anniversary Official with Brunel University meter mark	£35
23/02/06 Brunel M/S Sheridan Brunel University 40 th Anniversary Official cover	£30
Last set * Special offer – all 3 covers for £80	
31/08/06 Three Kings M/S on Windsor Castle Sheridan official cover	£30
31/08/06 Three Kings M/S Sheridan Windsor Castle official with The Castle meter mark	£35
31/08/06 Three Kings M/S Sheridan Mulready Reproduction alternate Official cover (40 done)	£30
Last set * Special offer – all 3 covers for £80	
09/01/13 London Underground single set on Sheridan London Transport Museum off.	£18
09/01/13 London Underground M/S on Sheridan London Transport Museum off.	£18
09/01/13 London Underground Retail Book on Sheridan London Transport Museum off.	£18
09/01/13 London Underground single set on Sheridan London Transport Museum off.	£18
09/01/13 London Underground single set on Sheridan London Transport Museum Official with London TravelWatch M/M	£20

*** Special offer – all 5 covers for £85**

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.

1966 Burns Phos. with an Alloway cancel T/A	£2
1977 S Jubilee with a Buckingham Pal. Cds neat h/w	£35
1979 Horse Racing on BOCS11 Epsom cancel	£1
1983 Comm. Day on the Bradbury LFDC24	£2
1985 Insects on BLCS2 Hist. Mus. Cancel	£2
1985 A. Legends on RFDC38 with BFPS1880 cancel	£2
1986 Nature on the CTNC official	£3
1987 Flowers on LFDC57 with BFPS2150 cancel	£2
1988 E Lear set on the Hull Schools official	£2
1990 Europa on LFDC85 with Edinburgh cancel	£1.50
1990 Gallantry on BLCS7 with Hawkinge cancel	£3
1994 Med. Disc. On the Bradbury off. with BMA London	£4
1997 Tudor on 7 Westminster covers	£3
1997 G. Wedding on 4 Benham covers BS34b-37b	£2
1998 P of Wales sheetlet Tetbury cancel	£1.50
1999 Profile on Print 3 1st class panes on t/a R.M.	£3
2000 Mind/Matter on BLCS190b Norwich cancel	£2
2000 Sound/Vision on BLCS196b Cardiff cancel	£2
2000 1st & 26p double dated on Nat. Space Centre cover	£1
2001 The Future on the Covercraft official CHF cancel	£2
2001 The Future on BLCS197b London EC2 cancel	£2
2001 N. Prizes on BLCS213b London SW7 cancel	£2
2001 Christmas on BLCS217b with Walcot cancel	£2
2001 Hats on the Covercraft official Luton cancel	£2
2001 Pond Life on the Covercraft official Scot W'life Tst	£2
2002 Q Mother on the Covercraft with London SW1	£2
2002 Circus on the Covercraft official CFA cancel	£2
2000 People/Place on the GBFDC No. 1 official	£15
2000 Body/Bone on the GBFDC No. 2 official	£15

I have recently acquired a quantity of Pilgrim covers (these are the ones with the photographs) as listed below.

I do not think that any of them are officials but they are all clean and are mainly limited editions of either 300 or 500.

If you are interested in any of them they are £2 each or all of them for £150.

Terry Barnett – tel: 0151 486 2610 email: terryhuntsc@tiscali.co.uk

1985 – Trains – Insects – Composers – R Mail – A Legends – Films – Christmas
 1986 – Industry – Halleys C – Queens 60th B'day – Nature – Medieval Life – R Wedding x 2 – Parl. Conf. – RAF – Christmas set & 12p
 1987 – Flowers – Newton – Architects – St Johns Amb. – Heraldry – Vic. Brit. – Pottery – Christmas
 1988 – Linnean Soc. – Welsh Bible – Transport – Aust. Bicent. – Armada – E Lear – E Lear m/s – Christmas
 1989 – Birds – Food & F. – Anniversaries – Games & Toys – Ind. Arch. – Ind. Arch. m/s – Microscopes – L Mayor – Christmas
 1990 - RSPCA – Q Awards – Penny Black m/s – Kew – Hardy – Q Mother – Gallantry – Astronomy – Christmas
 1991 – Dogs – Scientific Ach. – Europa – Sport – Roses – Dinosaurs – Maps – Christmas
 1992 – Wintertime – Europa – Civil War – Gilbert and S. – Single Euro. Market – Christmas
 1993 – Swans - M. Timekeepers – Art – R Britain – Canals – Autumn – S Holmes – Christmas
 1994 – Steam – P of Wales – Postcards – Medical Disc. – Christmas
 1995 – Cats – Springtime – Nat. Trust – Peace Freedom – S Fiction – Communications – R League – Christmas

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

CDS strikes perfect unless otherwise stated. Postage £1.50

16/04/96 Cinema RM fdc Pinewood Studios Set for the Future M/M & Shepperton Studios SHS	£7
28/10/96 Xmas RM fdc Modern Jesus Army M/M & Bethlehem SHS	£6
28/10/96 Xmas set of 5 PHQ cards stamps on back cancelled with different handstamp plus: 2 nd class - ChildLine's 10 th Birthday slogan 1 st class – Westminster Abbey meter mark 31p – Cathedral Liverpool meter mark label 43p – St. Paul's Cathedral meter mark (dated 22/11/96) 63p – Modern Jesus Army meter mark	£6
21/01/97 Great Tudor RM fdc Henry VIII Hotel M/M & Hampton Court SHS	£8
21/01/97 Great Tudor RM fdc Mary Rose, Portsmouth M/M & Mary Rose, Portsmouth SHS	£10
21/01/97 Great Tudor 4d Post fdc Hever Castle M/M & FDI London SHS	£9
03/02/98 Diana RM fdc British Lung Foundation M/M & Wales CDS (Gutter strip of 2 sets Showing 6 stamps & gutter on front and four stamps on back (Registered)	£12
03/02/98 Diana RM fdc British Red Cross M/M & Kensington Palace SHS	£10
03/02/98 Diana RM fdc Royal National Rose Society M/M & Kensington SHS (stamps complete with top margin showing printer & Cyl. No's)	£10
29/09/98 Speed RM fdc Association of Old Vehicle Clubs M/M & Pendine SHS	£5
29/09/98 Speed RM fdc Jordon Grand Prix M/M & Silverstone SHS (Rare)	£20
29/09/98 Speed The Fast Ball, North Devon Cricket Club official numbered No.172 of 175 Also signed by David Shepherd, Test Umpire.	£18
06/07/99 Citizens' 4d Post fdc Equality in Education M/M & Education for All, Birmingham SHS	£7
06/07/99 Citizens' 4d Post fdc Liberty M/M & Magna Carta, Runnymede SHS	£7
02/11/99 Xmas RM fdc Christian Aid M/M & Holy Island CDS	£7
02/11/99 Xmas RM fdc York Minster M/M & Christchurch CDS	£7
06/03/01 N.I. Pictorial Defins 4d Post fdc Lisburn Borough Council M/M (Irish Linen Centre, Lisburn, Co. Antrim cachet on cover) & Lisburn (large rubber) CDS	£7
23/04/01 English Pictorials 4d Post fdc Tudor Rose M/M & Tudor Sq. CDS (cover bears pair of all four stamps – 8 stamps)	£8
06/02/02 Jubilee RM fdc Corgi Classics M/M & Balmoral, Heysham CDS	£8
06/02/02 Jubilee RM fdc Crown Service M/M & Windsor, Berks CDS	£18
06/02/02 Jubilee RM fdc Queen Elizabeth's (blue) M/M & Windsor, Berks SHS	£8
25/04/02 Q. Mother RM fdc with full set of Jubilee stamps (9 stamps) all cancelled with Mey, Caithness CDS	£12
25/04/02 Q. Mother 4d Post Windsor Castle fdc Queen Elizabeth's (blue) M/M & Windsor SHS	£8
05/06/02 *Golden Defini Booklet 4d Post fdc Let's Celebrate Queen's Jubilee M/M & The Queen's Jubilee, Buckingham Palace Rd SHS	£8
(*Full booklet with backing card affixed on cover)	
05/12/00 Sound & Vision BT own envelope BT M/M & Bell Lane CDS (Registered)	£9

Norman Whatmore, 3 Milret Close, Merrimans Hill, Worcester WR3 8XF. Tel: 01905 611778
For June

1998	Diana –	4d Post FDC – Kensington High St. CDS	LA	£20
1998	Lighthouses-	4d Post FDC – Plymouth CDS	LA	£5
1998	Comedy -	4d post FDC Collyhurst CDS	LA	£7
1998	Christmas -	4d post FDC Jerusalem CDS	UA	£8
2001	Hats -	4d post FDC Ascot CDS	UA	£6
2002	World Cup M/S -	4d post FDC St. Georges Cross CDS	UA	£5
2002	Christmas -	4d post FDC Ivy Bush CDS	UA	£4
2003	Prince William -	4d post FDC Tetbury CDS	UA	£7

- END OF SALE -

GBCOVER COLLECTOR WEBSITE

Being a collector for some years now of Great Britain (GB) Covers, First Day, Illustrated Special Events (also known as Commemorative or Souvenir), Special Event postmarks on plain cover and Slogans both General and Local Publicity it has become noticeable that First Day are well covered for research and reference by a number of websites yet the remainder are not.

The questions I had, how many, if any different illustrated event covers were produced for a specific special Handstamp Postmark? Is there an illustrated cover for every postmark?

We have the invaluable publications of Parsons, Peachey, Pearson and Finch to which I give my sincere acknowledgement and thanks.

My thanks also to the British Postmark Society

The purpose of the GBCC website is to fill this electronic void.

The aim is that over the forthcoming years the site will build, with the help of other collectors in to becoming the definitive site to visit to research and reference visually these Event, Slogan covers and postmarks

The numbers quoted at the end of each cover/postmark description is, in respect of Special Event Postmarks the 'PEARSON' number and for slogans the catalogue reference number taken from the publications of the above named. My thanks to Colin Peachey for authorising the use of these numbers.

If on visiting the site you note any illustrated cover not displayed that you have in your collection please consider sending scanned copies to me at info@gbcovercollector.co.uk so that I can upload the image on to the site.

If you wish to send me paper copies please use the contact form and I will supply you with my address.

Enjoy the site and I would appreciate you leaving any comments /feedback you feel as appropriate again via the contact form

This is a site created and managed by a collector for collectors.

Geoff Childs

(28/04/2013 -Currently please only send copies of illustrated events as I am in the process of scanning and uploading plain event & slogan covers)

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

Auction Deadline

- Spring GBFDC auction April/May is 28th February
- 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

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The GBFDC FDC Auction No.23 is available on the club website www.gbfdc.co.uk/auction
If you would like a Catalogue please phone Richard Park on 01403 241825.
The auction ends on the 6th June 2013. The unsold lots will be posted on the website shortly after this date and lots can be purchased at the reserve price until 27th June 2013. After this date any sensible offers on remaining lots will be considered.
Richard Park Auctioneer

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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.

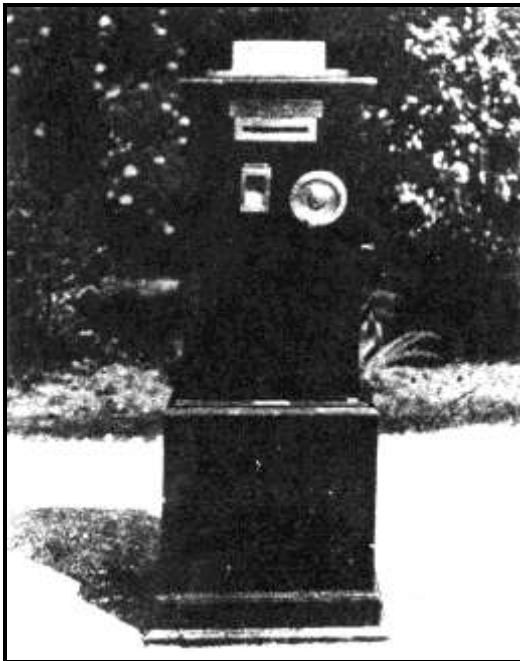
Emailing the newsletter also saves your association money in paying for the newsletter printing and in postage costs. At the time of writing we are emailing the newsletter to 100 members and are keen to increase this number.

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.

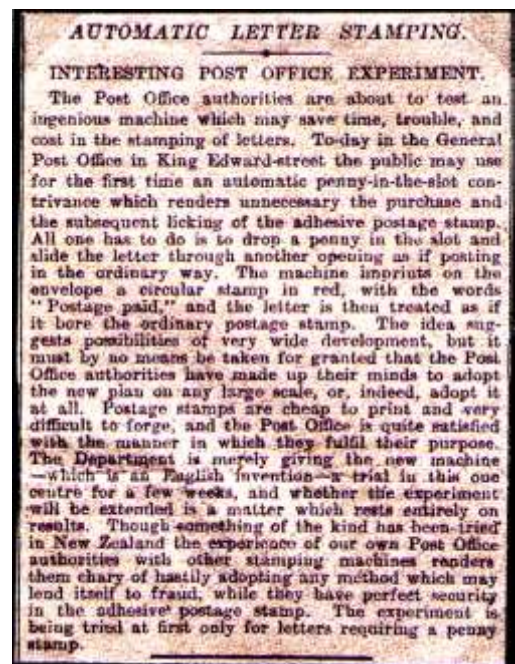
If you already receive your newsletter by email then please don't forget to let us know if you change your email address.

The Wilkinson Machine

By David Holl



This machine was invented by Mr. F. Wilkinson of Braintree, Essex and after several years spent in improving the machine, the inventor managed to persuade the G.P.O. to give it a public trial at the Chief Post Office in King Edward Street. The first day of use was 25th January 1912. The method of operation was that a letter was placed face upwards in the slot at the top and the handle turned after a penny had been inserted; the cover, thus franked was taken into the machine. The box was cleared every hour by a Postal Inspector, and the contents taken to the E. C. office where each item was date stamped, usually with a double circle handstamped LONDON E.C./172 At first black ink was used for the handstamp but by early February the colour was changed to red. The machine could only frank the one penny value.

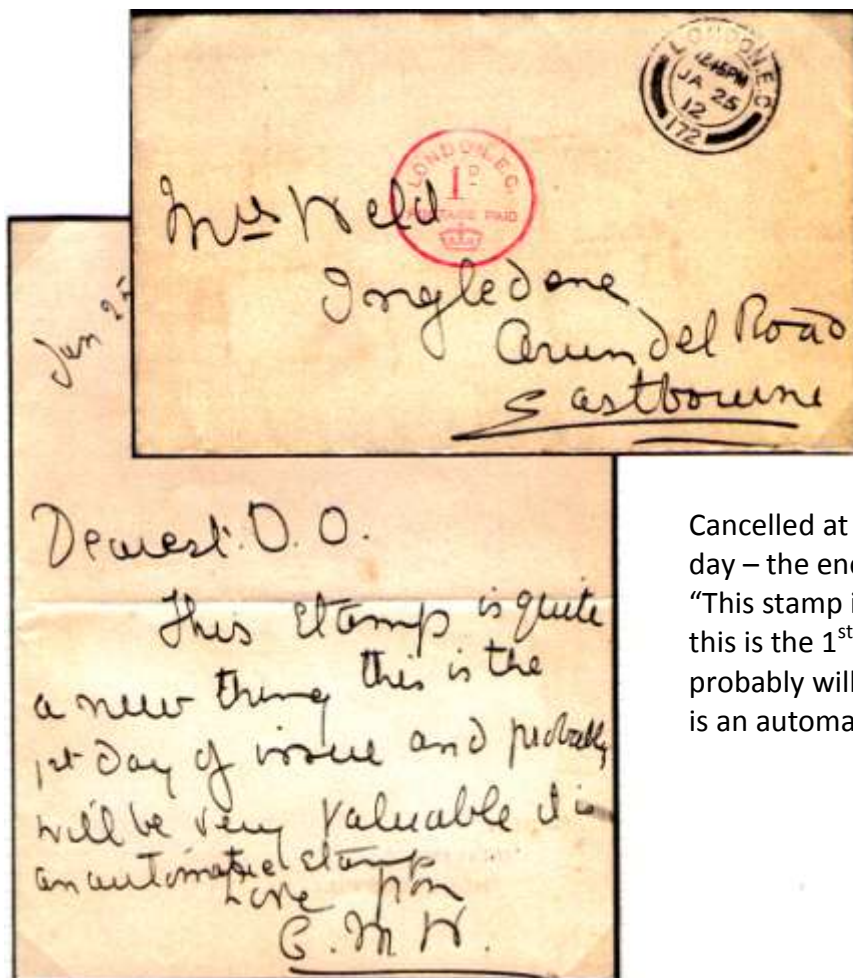


The First Day of use was January 25th 1912. On that day covers were franked by the machine. Along side is a cutting taken from the Morning Post announcing the introduction of Wilkinson's machine. It reads:

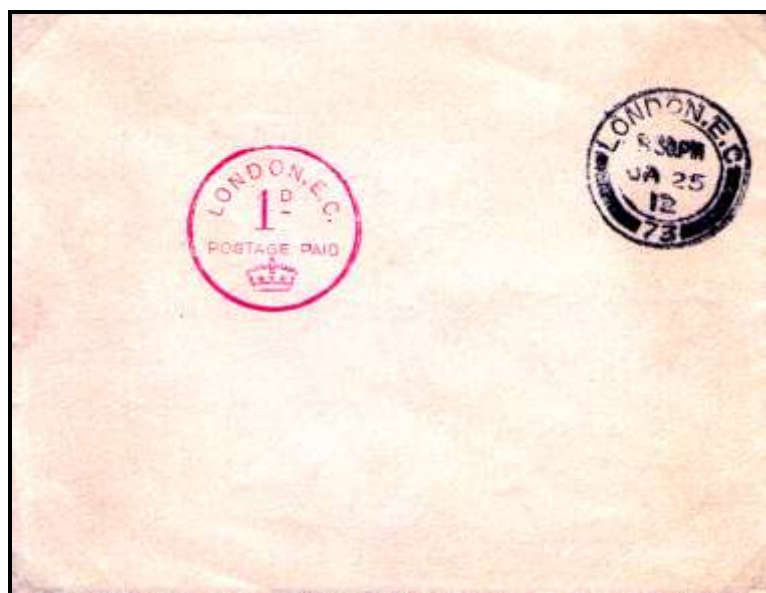
"Automatic Letter Stamping. Interesting Post Office Experiment". The Post Office authorities are about to test an ingenious machine which will save time, trouble and cost in the stamping of letters. To-day in the General Post Office in King Edward-street the public may use for the first time an automatic penny-in-the-slot contrivance which renders unnecessary the purchase and the subsequent licking of the adhesive postage stamp. All one has to do is to drop a penny in the slot and slide the letter through another opening as if posting in the ordinary way. The machine imprints on the envelope a circular stamp in red, with the words 'Postage Paid', and the letter is then treated as if it bore an ordinary postage stamp. The idea suggests possibilities of very wide development, but it must by no means be taken for granted that the Post Office authorities have made up their minds to adopt the new plan on any large scale, or, indeed, adopt it at all.

Continued.....

Postage stamps are cheap to print and very difficult to forge, and the Post Office is quite satisfied with the manner in which they fulfil their purpose. The department is merely giving the new machine – which is an English invention – a trial in this one centre for a few weeks, and whether the experiment will be extended is a matter which rests entirely on results. Though something of the kind has been tried in New Zealand the experience of our own Post Office authorities with other stamping machines renders them chary of hastily adopting any method which may lend itself to fraud, while they have perfect security in the adhesive postage stamp. The experiment is being tried first only for letters requiring a penny stamp”.



Cancelled at 12.45pm on the first day – the enclosed letter quotes – “This stamp is quite a new thing this is the 1st day of issue and probably will be very valuable – it is an automatic stamp”.



Covers bearing the Wilkinson machine frank were date – stamped at the Eastern Central District Office, usually with a double circle date stamp inscribed LONDON. E.C./172, and it would appear that this hand stamp was kept for this purpose. The cover opposite shows a time of 8.30 pm and number 73. The letter was probably discovered during the evening after the last collection from the Wilkinson machine, and was the most convenient handstamp to hand.

Continued.....



In February the 172 hand stamp had become red in colour instead of black, to conform with Post Office custom when pre paid mail was franked in red.



A cover with the Wilkinson frank in purple red.



Philatelic Postcard 1st February 1912 with 5d Edward stamp



A cover to Hanover, Germany with 2½d overseas rate in postage stamps plus a Wilkinson One Penny frank and the E.C./172 frank in red and black – April 18th.12



Mr Wilkinson's machine was in use for 7 months and 6 days. Above is a cover used on the last day of use of the Wilkinson machine – 11.45 am LONDON E.C./172 and back stamped on reverse Croydon 3.0 pm same day.

After the first few days of use when the Wilkinson 'Coin in the slot' was a novelty, the numbers of letters being put through the machine became less, until the last day of use August 31st 1912 when only a small number were franked. Therefore covers with the final day cancellation are quite rare.

- END -

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



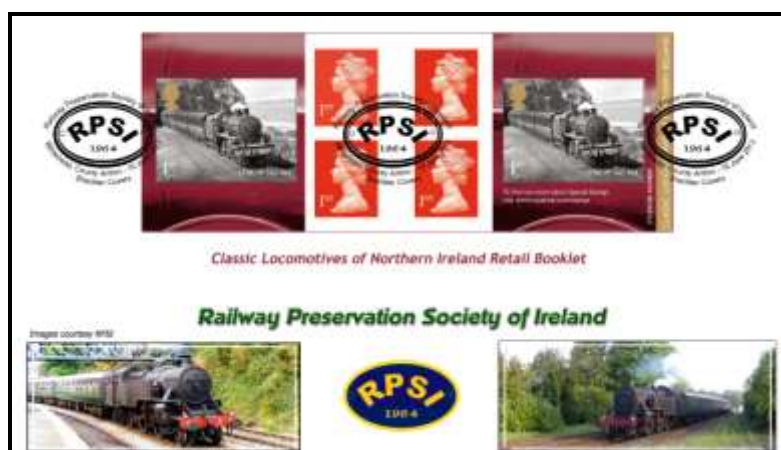
Classic Locomotives of Northern Ireland 18 June 2013

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Ireland official cover

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(Limited to 50 numbered covers)

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(Limited to 50 numbered covers)

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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 July 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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