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BFPS commemorates the Centenary of the Battle of Jutland

The Battle of Jutland took place between the British Grand Fleet and the German High Seas Fleet on the 31st May 1916 in the North Sea, off the mainland of Denmark. Involving some 250 ships and 100,000 men, this battle was the only major naval surface engagement of World War I. Both sides claimed victory in this indecisive battle, though Britain retained control of the North Sea.

To commemorate the centenary of this historic battle British Forces Philatelic Service has produced a Forces cover, which will be published on the 31st May 2016.

Showing the positions of the British and German Fleets, the cover bears an appropriately designed smiler stamp. This will be cancelled by the BFPS numbered 3197 special handstamp, which incorporates the Jutland Centenary logo.

This limited edition cover will be available to order from the 21st May 2016 on a strictly first-come-first-served basis from the BFPS online shop (www.bfps.org.uk/shop). They cost just £7.50 (UK/BFPO p&p free). These are also available to order by post by sending a cheque (payable to 'BFPS CIC') to BFPS The Old Post Office Links Place Elie Fife KY9 1AX.

The smiler stamps used on the cover come in sheets of 20 and will also be available for sale from the BFPS online shop.

Ends

Images of the special cover and handstamp are attached.

About BFPS

The British Forces Philatelic Service (BFPS) fundraises for Service charities through philately and is a not-for-profit organisation run by a small team of volunteers, all of whom are Veterans. BFPS was specially set-up to ensure that the Forces Philatelic Bureau survives and thrives. BFPS is a registered Community Interest Company (CIC) working closely with the British Forces Post Office (BFPO).

The BFPO has had responsibility for all aspects of military mail, including philatelic matters, since its formation in 1882. More recently, as part of a Strategic Defence and Security Review, BFPO was reorganised and as a result of this the Forces Philatelic Bureau was transferred to BFPS, which was specially set up, as the sole authorised body empowered to deal with all matters concerning the Forces Philatelic Bureau. BFPS is officially licensed by the UK MOD.

BFPS is managed by two retired career Army officers, each of whom has had extensive experience working within the BFPO in general and the Forces Philatelic Bureau in particular. The third member of the management team is an ex Royal Engineer Warrant Officer who has a passion for Forces philately. All are volunteers and are dedicated to keeping the Forces Philatelic Bureau alive and are working hard to ensure the future of this unique area of BFPO operations is secure and flourishes.

Links:

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www.royalmail.com/personal/stamps-collectibles-gifts

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BFPS fundraises for Service charities through philately and is a not-for-profit Community Interest Company (CIC) limited by guarantee. Registered No 417647.

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