



Media Release 3/June/2017

## **Commemorative Cover - Irish Guards 'Trooping The Colour' at HM The Queen's Birthday Parade 2017**

The British Forces Philatelic Service, in partnership with the Household Division Charity, will again be producing the official commemorative cover to mark Trooping the Colour at Her Majesty The Queen's Birthday Parade.

This majestic cover bears an image that shows all the 'Pomp and Ceremony' that can be seen during this historic parade. The cover will bear a 1st class stamp, cancelled using a unique British Forces Postal Service special handstamp No. 3204. The Colour will be trooped by the 1st Battalion Irish Guards and the cancellation features their regimental capstar.

The covers may be ordered from the BFPS online shop ([www.bfps.org.uk/shop](http://www.bfps.org.uk/shop)). They cost just £6 for the standard version and £12 for the signed limited edition versions (UK/BFPO p&p free).

You can also order the covers by post by sending a cheque (payable to 'BFPS CIC') to BFPS The Old Post Office Links Place Elie Fife KY9 1AX.

These covers are always popular and are available whilst stocks last.

Ends

An image of the commemorative cover is 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:

[British Forces Post Office](#)

[www.royalmail.com/personal/stamps-collectibles-gifts](http://www.royalmail.com/personal/stamps-collectibles-gifts)

[www.postalmuseum.org](http://www.postalmuseum.org)

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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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