

# PHILATELIC QUARTERLY



FALL 1991

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE LUNDY COLLECTORS CLUB

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**ANNOUNCEMENT**

**L.C.C. TO MEET AT WORLD COLUMBIAN STAMP EXPO '92**

The Lundy Collectors Club will hold a members' meeting at the WORLD COLUMBIAN STAMP EXPO '92 on Saturday, May 23, from noon to 1:30 p.m. in the Braniff Room at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare Hotel, Rosemont, Illinois. Please mark this date and time on your calendar and attend if you are at the exposition. It's an excellent opportunity to meet fellow L.C.C. members and discuss Lundy philately. We hope to have an "international" gathering of members at the event!

# L.C.C. PHILATELIC QUARTERLY

"THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE LUNDY COLLECTORS CLUB"

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Fall 1991

## LUNDY COLLECTORS CLUB

*Affiliate Number 121 of the American Philatelic Society (APS)  
Affiliate Society Number 653 of the British Philatelic Federation (BPF)  
Member Organization in the Council of Philatelic Organizations (COPO)  
Member Club of the Aerophilatelic Federation of the Americas (AFA)*

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Membership in the Lundy Collectors Club is open to any person interested in the collecting and study of Lundy stamps, covers, and postal history. Dues of US\$10 per year (U.S., Canadian, and foreign surface rate) or of US\$15 per year (foreign airmail rate) include a subscription to the *Lundy Collectors Club Philatelic Quarterly*.

## **Letters to the Editor**

### Lundy to Appledore Pigeon Post

As I am a fairly new member of the L.C.C., I do not know if you already have the following information, but here goes! Some years ago I met, on the *Oldenburg* to Lundy, the Reverend Donald Peyton-Jones, and he told me of his pigeon post from Lundy to Appledore. More recently, on behalf of the L.C.C., I have traced the Reverend to a mission in Italy, and he has very kindly sent me some reminiscences of that time and of his "Heavenly" pigeon post from St. Helena's Church.

Through the courtesy of the Reverend Donald Peyton-Jones, the Pigeon Post from Lundy Island, 1974-1979 period: The Reverend Peyton-Jones, who was Vicar of Appledore and Lundy at this time, used pigeons to send messages from St. Helena's Church on Lundy to his wife in Appledore, especially when the Island was stormy and fogbound. He also allowed visitors to his Church to use the pigeon mail. The messages were sent to the Vicar's wife, who would then telephone to the home or office of the stranded visitors to explain their absence! The Vicar's parishioners in Appledore, many of whom bred pigeons, supplied him each time he went to Lundy with baskets of racing pigeons which he kept in the towers of St. Helena's.

Eventually, the G.P.O. heard of the pigeon service through the media, as Westword Television did a feature, and the Vicar has long letters from the G.P.O. in London saying "*this illegal post must stop*" as the G.P.O. has the "*prerogative of the mail*" etc. What annoyed the G.P.O. was that the Vicar's mail arrived home the same day, which rarely happens with G.P.O. mail however many stamps are stuck on! The Vicar finally agreed to suspend the pigeon service, but only after Christmas greetings had been sent home by visitors after they had celebrated Christmas Communion at St. Helena's.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (Continued)

The Vicar got the idea of a pigeon post from his personal experiences in the last war when he was in the Royal Marines and was parachuted with his pigeons into enemy territory on raiding forays, and because of wartime silence, messages could be sent by pigeon to base, and then a rendezvous could be arranged to be picked up off the enemy coast by submarine.

--Jim Mullett, Watlington, Oxford, England (May 17, 1991)

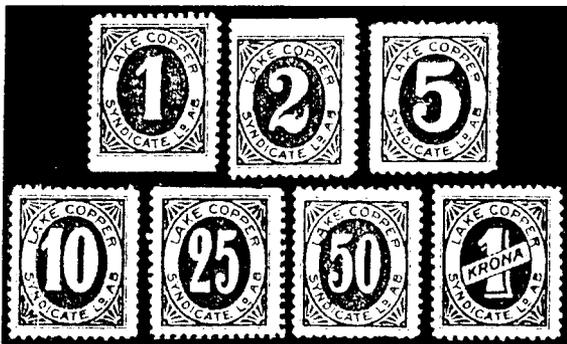
An Interesting Swedish Cinderella Story

Here is a little something that the readers of the *LCCPQ* might find of interest: a link between the 1906 "Lake Copper Syndicate" stamps issued in Göteborg, Sweden, and the Lundy locals. Strange how familiar names turn out in the most distant places!

--André Dufresne, Montreal, Quebec, Canada (August 3, 1991)

*The following information provided by Andre is excerpted from Norman Williams' "Cinderella Corner" column in the October 1979 issue of The Stamp Magazine. --RSC*

There were seven different denominations of stamps (*illustrated below*) issued by Lake Copper Syndicate Ltd., an English joint stock company, which owned a copper ore mine in Animskog, Dalsland, in Sweden. The company had an office in Göteborg where the stamps were printed by Göteborgs Litografiska Aktiebolag in 1906... Isidor Wyler, an English financier, owned General Banking Corporation, which owned Lake Copper Proprietary Co., which owned Lake Copper Syndicate Limited Aktiebolag, which owned the copper mine at Stora Strand in Dalsland.



In 1906 some 300 employees worked there. The village was small, but its buildings included a general store, a post office named "Kopperstrand," houses for the employees, and a house for the company's agent...

The stamps are termed "merchant stamps"—they were issued to the company's employees who used them as money in the shop at Stora Strand. The employees received the

stamps as part of their wages. The stamps could not have been put to such use in the United Kingdom because they would have been illegal as "infringing the Truck Acts 1831-1896." The first of those Acts was passed to abolish the "truck system," under which employers paid their workers' wages in goods or required them to buy goods at certain shops, which led to the workers being compelled to take inferior quality goods at a high price. The Truck Act 1831 made payment of wages in money compulsory.

The mine at Dal did not meet with success. During World War I the foreman, a German, was suspected of being a spy. Mining operations ceased but began again in 1924. However, financial disaster followed and the company became moribund. Isidor Wyler died in 1946 and, two years later, Martin Coles Harman ("the erstwhile owner of Lundy Island"), who had become the new owner, visited Stora Strand. His interest was, it seems,

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (Continued)

concentrated on the bird life rather than the mining. Then, in 1954, the company was bought by Amals Sagverk AB, and in 1970 the company's forests were purchased by Billerud AB. Nowadays the mine is owned by Stora Kopparberg AB—hence Nya Kopparberget.

An Account of a 1905 Bell Tolling on Lundy

I enclose an item which I hope you will use in the *LCCPQ*. It is taken from the book mentioned. This was shown me by a friend who is a bell enthusiast himself as well as being a renovator of bells and bell towers.

--David Perris, Cardiff, Wales, U.K. (September 18, 1991)

*The following text is an account of a peal of bells, attempted in 1905 by a Mr. F. E. Robinson and party. Mr. Robinson is the author of a book titled Among the Bells and based on his exploits as a campanologist.*

On August 22, a party organized by the Rev. H. A. Cockey embarked for Lundy Island on board the "Missions to Seamen" steamer *Eirene*, the chaplain of which, the Rev. H. E. H. Coombes, had offered them a passage on one of his visits to hold services at the Lundy Island lighthouses and channel lightships, with the objective of attempting a peal on the bells of St. Helena, Lundy Island. For there, on an island barely four miles long and less than one in breadth, lying some twenty miles off the North Devon coast, with a population of thirty-three souls, stands a fine, well-appointed Church with a ring of eight bells, erected by the owner (Rev. H. G. Heaven) and members of his family some years before.

Ever since the bells were placed there, certain venturesome spirits had determined on scoring a peal—no easy matter, seeing that the steamers which call now and then do not remain long enough for a peal; that a tug could only be obtained at prohibitive expense; and that the sea is often so tempestuous that a landing becomes impossible, and even if that be successfully accomplished, a slight change of wind may detain the landing party involuntary prisoners for days or perhaps weeks together. Many drawbacks, therefore, were set in the way of a successful peal—among them, as our party found on landing, after a rough passage. The fact that, as the bells had only been once or twice rung up since the Church was opened, the fittings were so rusted by the sea spray that a great deal of attention was needed to make them ringable. After half-an-hour's ringing, the task was found impossible, and the party, beaten and dispirited, prepared for their return voyage.

But, fortunately, as it turned out, a gale had sprung up, and the little steamer could not risk it. Next morning, after more work at the bells, the band got to work again and secured a good peal of Stedman Triples in 2 hours 53 minutes, the first peal ever rung on the bells. (Note: To peal the Stedman Triples on eight bells meant that there were 5040 combinations of bell ringing.) Ringers and bells: Rev. H. A. Cockey - Treble, C. H. Tomkins - 2, C. H. Gordon - 3, R. J. Wilkins - 4, W. A. Cave - 5, P. Came - 6, Rev. F. E. Robinson (Conductor) - 7, and Rev. G. F. Cole-ridge - Tenor.

Thus ended a memorable expedition, for the success of which we were deeply indebted to the organizing genius of Mr. Cockey, the friendly co-operation of Mr. Coombes, and the generous and hospitable welcome given by Mr. Heaven, the "Monarch of all he surveys" on Lundy Island. The cruise, says the writer of the account in *Bell News*, "will be a lifelong memory to those privileged to join it, the sentiment expressed by Mr. Cockey, finding an echo in all hearts—'Turrible plazed I be vor zure'."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (Continued)Information from Lundy on Availability of New Items

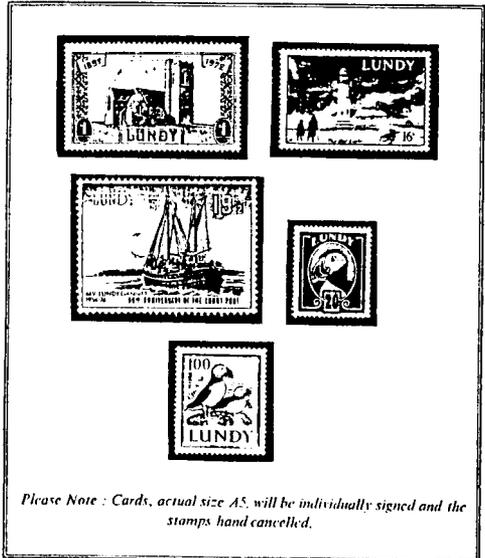
Firstly, I would like to thank everyone for the very positive response we have had on our new definitive stamp set. The interest has been much greater than we expected. Several newspapers and stamp magazines have carried articles about the Island and the new stamps. There was even mention of them on the local television news!

John Dyke is a well-known name to all Lundy collectors. He has designed most of our stamps. It is 40 years since he designed his first set, the flying birds of 1951. This is something we have decided to commemorate philatelically in an interesting and unusual way: on November 28 we are

issuing a special printed souvenir card on which five of the Lundy stamps designed by John Dyke will be affixed (*pictured right*). The stamps will be cancelled with a special anniversary postmark. John Dyke has also very kindly agreed to sign each card. We are producing 650 cards at a price of £2.60 each. The special John Dyke postmark will be used for one day only and for all mail posted that day. For collectors we will prepare some extra covers priced at 60p each.

At the end of October our ship M.S. *Oldenburg* will be making a special voyage to Bristol and the Bristol City Docks. She will be there from Friday, November 1, until Monday, November 4, acting as the venue for various functions and exhibitions and will also undertake short cruises. Visitors to the *Oldenburg* will have the opportunity to purchase and send a special postcard depicting the vessel and bearing a 5-puffin stamp cancelled with the Island postmark. Printed on the card will be "Posted on board M.S. OLDENBURG Lundy Supply Vessel during her visit to BRISTOL CITY DOCKS November 1991." In addition, each card will be signed by the Master. The cards will also bear a British second-class postage stamp and will be posted from Bristol. As many Lundy stamp collectors are interested in everything related to the Island, including our postcards, we will be making up some extra cards which will be posted back to Lundy and will be available at £0.80 each.

The British Post Office increased their postal rates in September. This meant that the Lundy rates were also changed: second-class mail U.K. is now 23 puffin and first-class 29 puffin. We have to admit we did not expect only a penny increase from the British Post Office for second-class mail, so no new 23-puffin stamp was issued this summer. However, this is not a problem as we still have large numbers of the 23-puffin value from the 1982 definitive issue. Some specialist Lundy collectors



Please Note : Cards, actual size A5, will be individually signed and the stamps hand cancelled.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (Continued)

ask us for last and first day covers at the time of postal rate revisions and to meet this demand a small number of such sets have been prepared. These consist of an envelope and postcard for both the first and last day first-class rates. The cost of a set of these four items is fl.95 each.

Due to the recent interest in Lundy stamps we are now almost sold out of some older stamps (e.g., we can no longer supply complete sets of the 1990 provisional overprints as the 45p and 27p values are completely sold out). In the 60th Anniversary overprints, the numbers of the 10p and 14p stamps are so low that we will only sell them as part of sets; similarly, the numbers of 15p stamps in the 1982 definitives are so low that we will only sell them as part of sets.

Three new Lundy postcards were issued this summer. These depicted the Old Light, the *Oldenburg*, Rat Island, and four Lundy views (the Church, Hammers and the East side, Gannets Combe, and the North Light). These are available for 60 pence per set.

We have had a surprisingly good summer despite being dogged by easterly winds which give us so much difficulty in the Landing Bay. Happy occasions have included a June wedding (not mine!) and a September Baptism (my son's). Busy times have been busier since July 2! Thank you once again for your continued interest and support.

--Wendy Puddy, Lundy, Bristol Channel, Devon, England  
(October 26, 1991)

*This "letter" is actually the verbatim text of Wendy's flier sent to all Lundy collectors on The Lundy Company's current mailing list. If you're not receiving these mailings, I suggest you request your name be added by contacting Wendy: The Lundy Company, Lundy, Bristol Channel, Devon, EX39 2LY, England; telephone 0237-431831 or FAX 0237-431832. --RSC*

## **Announcements**

Lundy Accumulation For Sale. Former L.C.C. member Robert J. Mazzaferro wishes to dispose of his entire Lundy holdings for \$65 postpaid. The accumulation includes: a pristine copy of the 1981 authorized edition of Barry N. D. Chinchin's *A Catalogue of Lundy Stamps*, Stanley Newman's 1984 *Stamps of Lundy Island*, a short run of early LCCPQs (Spring 1981-1983, #s 9-17), L.C.C. Members' Mail Auction Catalogues #s 1-3 with prices realized (indispensable references), Austin Dulin's *Cross Reference to Catalogue Numbers Used for Lundy Stamps and Index to LCCPQ Volumes 1-3*, a 1/1/39 Stanard cover (Newman = fl6), an Ian Wilkinson "Lundy Island Essays" souvenir sheet (C.I.L.A. #16 = fl4), early L.C.C. "free gifts," and a smattering of about 40 common Lundy stamps (Newman about \$10). Worth consideration as a starter collection with most of the value in the literature, Stanard cover, and "Essays" sheetlet. First check received or telephone call secures this lot. Contact Roger S. Cichorz, 3925 Longwood Avenue, Boulder, Colorado 80303, U.S.A.; telephone 303-494-8361 (evenings/weekends).

Collector Desires Trade for Lundy Covers. "As a cover collector, I would like to contact someone in the L.C.C. if you have any covers for trade. In particular, I am interested in genuine covers, not FDCs or other philatelically inspired material. I offer for trade covers from obscure islands such as Bequia, Union Island, Nevis, and St. Pierre & Miquelon, or Disney stamps on cover. If you are interested, please write me." Mervin Henning, 259 Rhatigan Road, E., Edmonton, Alberta, T6R 1M8, Canada.

## News of L.C.C. Members

- Evan Williams (#251) catches us up with his activities—philatelic and otherwise—in a letter written April 21, 1991: "I'll be making the first of three or four annual visits to Lundy early next month, the first with the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, following my main hobby of birdwatching. I was there last year on the day that a very rare bird to this country was found. It was an ancient murrelet, a type of auk normally found in the Pacific Ocean. In June I am going out again with the Lundy Field Society. I do this trip every year and have made quite a few friends over the years. I have bumped into Tom Baker (#195) on several occasions. My Lundy stamp collection has reached a stage now where the items I need are the more expensive ones, so they are obtained far more slowly, but, I think, this adds to the pleasure and fascination of owning them. Now that the collection is much bigger, I have given another talk on 'Lundy Stamps' to the Taunton (Somerset, England) Stamp Club, combined with a slide-show tour of the Island, which was received very well indeed." [Editor's note: Evan works for the local newspaper, *The Somerset County Gazette*, and has access to its archives. He sent a copy of the published account of the *Montagu* "affair" from the June 2, 1906 edition, and I will be happy to provide a photocopy to readers sending a SASE or 35p in G.B. or post-1962 Lundy stamps. --RSC]
- Anthony F. Langham (#113) is the author of an archaeological research paper titled "Newtown, Lundy: A Lost Georgian Settlement" that appeared in the *Lundy Field Society 41st Annual Report* (1990). Tony's article examines all known evidence—such as historical records, early maps, and archaeological investigation—and concludes there were two distinct areas of Newtown, not just the one previously supposed.
- Jon Aitchison (#167) provided the major display at the Channel Islands Specialists' Society's annual general meeting, held June 1, 1991 in London, England. Jon showed material from Herm, Alderney, Jethou, and Lihou, all originating from sources other than the William Newport and John Simpson Collections. As most readers already know, Jon is the originator and guiding light of the Smaller Channel Islands Collectors Society, whose membership is open to anyone with an interest in the stamps, local carriage labels, or postal history of the Smaller Channel Islands, Channel Islands shipping companies, or Channel Islands airlines. Membership in the S.C.I.C.S. is a modest £5 per year for U.K./E.E.C. residents, or £7 for people living elsewhere, and includes a subscription to the S.C.I.C.S.'s quarterly publications (*Newsletter* published Spring and Autumn and *The Lilliput* published Summer and Winter). Additional information about and membership applications to the S.C.I.C.S. can be obtained from Roger Cichorz at his Boulder, Colorado address, or from Jon Aitchison, Old Tithe Hall, Start Hill, Near Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire, CM22 7TF, England.
- A War Hero in our midst! Howard J. Wunderlich (#076), who recently returned from a stint in Operation Desert Storm, sent this account of his service in a letter dated August 25, 1991: "Prior to being mobilized, I was an attorney in solo practice. My unit was the 301st Support Group (Area) United States Army Reserve, of which I served as an assistant judge advocate. Upon landing in Saudi Arabia, we were based in Riyadh. There I was involved in running a legal office in support of troops from all branches of the military. I also serves as a deputy facility engineer of a base for a short time. In early March, we moved north into Kuwait, and I spent the time in Kuwait City as part of Task Force Freedom—the code name for those troops who liberated and provided

NEWS OF L.C.C. MEMBERS (Continued)

support to and in Kuwait, a multinational group. Unfortunately, I got hurt over there and spent about one month between hospitals in Saudi Arabia, Germany, and the U.S. Luckily, I am in one piece and the injury should heal eventually. Coming home, I found there was nothing left of my law practice, so the time has been spent trying to rebuild it."

- Robert Dickgiesser (#332) is the author of an article dealing with the United States 1901 Pan-American stamp in the *1991 Congress Book*, a yearly anthology of original research papers published since 1935 by the American Philatelic Congress. Dickgiesser is a Connecticut resident and is best known for his work on Bermuda's keyplate issue. Also appearing in the *1991 Congress Book* is an article surveying the history and stamps of French Indochina by former L.C.C. member Paul C. Blake (#174). Blake, a resident of California, has worked extensively in Southeast Asia and has developed a life-long interest in the stamps and postal history of that area. Membership in the American Philatelic Congress is open to anyone and costs \$20 a year. Members receive a copy of the *Congress Book* as part of their membership benefits. For more information, write to Dr. Russell V. Skavaril, American Philatelic Congress Secretary-Treasurer, 222 E. Torrence Road, Columbus, Ohio 43214-3834, U.S.A.
- James E. Mahy (#254), a stamp dealer who trades under the name of "The Petite Gallery," has recently purchased a large stock of British 1971 postal strike stamps, sheets, and covers. Inquiries are welcome and may be addressed to Jim at The Petite Gallery, General Delivery, Mt. Lehman, British Columbia, VOX 1V0, Canada.
- Randy L. Neill (#300) was elected to one of the four American Philatelic Society director-at-large positions contested by nine candidates in the A.P.S. May 12, 1991 election. Randy received the most votes of the nine candidates and was installed as an officer on August 24 during STaMpsHOW '91 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. In an unrelated matter, Neill was awarded a Gold Medal for his exhibit of United States "Issues of 1883-1887" at TEXPEX '91, held June 14-16 in San Antonio, Texas, and sponsored by the San Antonio Philatelic Association. Randy also received a Gold Medal and the Chicago Philatelic Society Award for his exhibit of "Great Britain: The Half-Penny Value of the Queen Victoria Jubilee Issue" at Chicagopex 91, the Chicago Philatelic Society's 105th annual exhibition held November 1-3 in Rosemont, Illinois. In between exhibiting, Neill served as the show co-chairman and as an apprentice judge at Midaphil 91, held October 25-27 in Kansas City, Missouri. Congratulations, Randy!

## Offers

Puffin Jewelry and Shirts. Nature's Jewelry offers several items that may be of interest to the puffinophile: Jewelry items in enamel, hand-crafted acrylic clay—#96-320 = puffin pendant with chain, \$8; #963-303 = puffin post earrings, \$6; and #83-680 = puffin pin, \$16. #G2-005 = 100 percent cotton T-shirt showing different puffin scenes on front and back, sizes M, L, and XL, \$14.50 each; #G2-013 = 50 percent cotton and 50 percent acrylic sweatshirt with the same puffin scenes, sizes M, L, and XL, \$28.50 each. Order from: Nature's Jewelry, 27 Industrial Avenue, Chelmsford, Massachusetts 01824-3692, U.S.A. *Terms:* shipping and insurance, add \$4 for orders under \$20, \$5 for orders of \$20-\$40, and 50¢ more for each additional \$20 increment. Payment by check, money order, or credit card (VISA, MasterCard, Discover, or AmEx). Order toll free 1-800-333-3235 anytime for credit card purchases.

## LUNDY COLLECTORS CLUB 1991 ANGLO-AMERICAN LUNDY EXCURSION

By Jon Aitchison

Every three years since 1979, several of the L.C.C.'s members from the Chicago area have made a pilgrimage to Lundy. 1991 was the fifth occasion on which they made the trip, and on this occasion they were joined by a number of British members. The Americans' visit started on July 4 when George Fabian, Duane Larson, Jim Czyl, and Mike Andre jetted into London. They were to have been joined by Rich Drews and his wife Bonnie, but, unfortunately, they had to pull out at the last moment due to business commitments. The gang of four booked into their favorite London hotel, The Gresham. The next four days were spent raiding London stamp dealers and attending the Cinderella Stamp Club's meeting and bourse on the Saturday. On Sunday, they traveled to my house in Hertfordshire where, the following day, a small get-together of L.C.C. members was held. Ian Wilkinson, Jim Mullett, Stanley Newman, Ken Gibson, and Roger Hudson came along, and a most enjoyable day was had by all.



On Tuesday, we all drove to Ilfracombe and met up that evening at Michael Bale's house where we were joined by Tom and Cathy Baker and Tim Lardner. Michael treated us all to a viewing of some of the late George Ulrich's Lundy Collection that he had recently purchased. Everyone turned green with envy at the sight of such rare and esoteric Lundy items.

Wednesday brought the crossing to the Island. The American contingent braved a sea crossing in the *Oldenburg* with Tom and Cathy Baker and their twins, Aaron and Bethany. The crossing was not too bad according to most of them. Tom disagreed, however! Michael Bale, Tim Lardner, and Sha-meera and Jon Aitchison were more cowardly and flew over by the new helicopter service. Luckily, it was a beautiful, clear day with commanding views of Lundy from the moment we were airborne. The nine-minute flight offered an excellent opportunity for some unusual photographs of the Island as well as the chance to produce some pilot-signed covers. We landed in the field to the northwest of the Church and were greeted by Wendy Puddy who had arranged transport for the baggage.

Now that Millcombe House is no longer a hotel, we felt that this trip may afford us a last chance to stay there as it is unlikely that we would have the ten to twelve people necessary to hire it at an economical rate again. We were pleased to see that it had not lost any of its charm. We were afraid that many of the historic items that it contains may have been removed now that it had been turned over to self-catering. Our fears were unfounded, and we also had the added fun of seeing the areas that previously had not been open to the public! We had arranged for one of the Islanders to do the cooking and housekeeping for us, so the week was left free for us to enjoy ourselves. Jim Czyl had even printed some special Millcombe House hotel-post stamps (*illustrated above*) for the occasion.



The week ahead was to contain days of exploring, punctuated by several visits to the Marisco Tavern. Other than one day of fog, the weather was excellent throughout. Michael Bale took his walking seriously and would

L.C.C. 1991 ANGLO-AMERICAN LUNDY EXCURSION (Continued)

set off early most mornings with a rucksack and would not reappear until the evening. I had a mad idea of launching a number of seaborne messages in bottles (which is the subject of an article that will appear in a future *LCCPQ*). I could be seen most days carrying a bag of them around. Mike Andre was the expedition comedian and kept us all laughing most of the time. Tom and Cathy found that carrying Aaron and Bethany, their two-year-old twins, the length and breadth of Lundy made their arms ache.

Wendy Puddy, Lundy's Postmistress, had awaited our visit with a degree of trepidation. She was certainly glad to see the backs of us when we left. Rarely a day went by without several of us descending on her with demands on her time, her stamp stock, or her franking machine. By the end of the week, we had spent well over one thousand pounds amongst us on stamps and postage alone. The new definitive stamps had just come out, and Jim Czul proved the usefulness of the new 100-puffin value. He decided to mail a parcel of clothes back to Chicago, and this cost more than £30 in postage. The stamps on it included a full sheet of 100-puffin stamps. If he had used the highest denominated stamps from the previous Lundy definitive series, it would have required more than 130 stamps to achieve the same thing.

At various times throughout the week we had all visited the two Dartmoor style letterboxes on Lundy. These are watertight boxes that contain ink pads and cancellers that are hidden in rocks on the Island. There are instructions in the Marisco Tavern on how to find them. The idea is that you leave a self-addressed envelope in the box after applying the cachet and it will be posted by the next person to find it. Meanwhile, you post any mail that you find in the box. The two boxes can be found at the top of the steps to the Battery and in a small rocky outcrop to the north of the Mousehole and Trap. The latter is quite difficult to find and fairly treacherous to get to. The Battery letterbox was established by Bill and Daphne Bishop of Esher, Surrey. They also set up a box in the Himalayas in Nepal. It took two-and-a-half years for the next person to find that box and return their letter! The two letterboxes on Lundy are much easier to find, providing you have read the instructions of where to look.

These two boxes inspired us to set up our own Lundy Collectors Club letterbox. I carved a cachet (*illustrated below left*) out of an eraser and attached it to a handle from an address stamp. Tom Baker donated his

Tupperware sandwich box, and various other bits were pooled from the others. George Fabian and I then set off to site it on the top of Rat Island. We learned two important lessons that anyone visiting the box should know. First, you must find out the time of low tide. You can only reach the summit of Rat Island by crossing the rocks to the south of the Island at low tide and climbing the slope from east to west (from the seaward side back in the direction of Lundy). If you do not wait for low tide, you will get very wet. In trying to stay dry, we learned our second lesson: do not try and climb the south side! From the bottom, the 100-foot-or-so climb looks easy, but as we reached the top, we realized that the rock is loose shale that disintegrated as we gripped it. We eventually managed to scramble up it and were followed shortly afterward by Tom Baker and Mike Andre, but the L.C.C. very nearly lost four members that day. Our Rat Island letterbox can clearly be seen in the small depression near the summit and can easily be reached by any able-bodied person that approaches it from the east slope.



L.C.C. 1991 ANGLO-AMERICAN LUNDY EXCURSION (Continued)

One day in the tavern we met a Frenchman named Dominique Elin who organizes radio ham expeditions to unusual places like the North Pole and Greenland. This year he and his colleagues had chosen Lundy and were broadcasting from The Old Light. For the occasion he had produced a nice full-color QSO card (illustrated right) showing puffins, as well as a range of original multi-colored cachets (shown below) to apply to mail. As he is not a stamp collector, these may well have gone unnoticed if it had not been for our visit. A couple of us managed to pry a set from his possession, but he was very reluctant to sell any.

Halfway through our week on Lundy, three new postcards came out. This presented a great opportunity to produce some first-day mailings, fairly unusual for postcards. One keen collector of

postcards is Reg Lo-vel, the Island mason who is married to Gilly Dyke, daughter of Lundy's stamp designer and L.C.C. member John Dyke. Several evenings were spent with Reg and Gilly in the tavern, and Reg also invited a number of us back to his Lundy home to see his excellent collection of Lundy postcards and memorabilia. Reg also joined the L.C.C. during our visit.

L'île Macareux  
LUNDY Island IOTA EU 120 G/FF1PGG

EXPOSITIONS Dominique Elin

LUNDY Bristol channel, Devon

Fratercula arctica - Puffin - Macareux moine - Photo F. ELIN

LUNDY IOTA EU 120 WAZ Zone : 14 ITU Zone : 27 G/FF1PGG -G/FF80U

Op  EA3CVY Raphael  
 F6CBH Christian  
 F6IHH Laurent

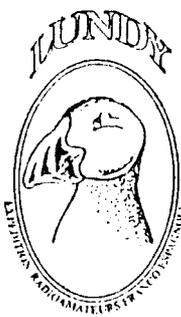
TO

Conforming QSO/SWL RPT				
Date	UTC	MHz	RST	Mode
/6/91				

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## L.C.C. 1991 ANGLO-AMERICAN LUNDY EXCURSION (Continued)

A Navy diving team was carrying out essential maintenance and salvage work on the *Montagu* wreck site while we were there. Eighty-five years

LUNDY  
BOOMERANGAGRAMSALVAGED  
FROM  
CRASH

after the ship sank they brought up two huge shells, one of which was thought to be still live. It lay in a field by the village for several days while they prepared to render it harmless.

1991  
L.C.C.  
VISIT

SEABORNE

BOTTLE

MAIL

TIDAL TESTING

*Philatelic "silliness" included Jon Aitchison-prepared boomerangagram covers (with several different cachets to indicate degrees of success of this venture) and Lundy definitives with unauthorized overprints added to mark Jon's seaborne mail and the "Visit"!*

Towards the end of our week, with philatelic ideas exhausted, a degree of silliness set in. I tried, fairly unsuccessfully, to master the art of throwing a boomerang with aerogramme flimsies attached. Finally, on the Wednesday, we all returned on the *Oldenburg* to Ilfracombe where to our surprise we were met by Ian Wilkinson and his wife Daphne. All that was left was for us to return to Chicago, Swindon, Oxford, Bishops Stortford, and up the hill in Ilfracombe.

When we filled in our page in the Millcombe House visitors' book, we added the words, "We'll be back in three years." I am sure that we will and hope that other L.C.C. members can join us on that occasion!

## Rejected Proposed Stamp Booklet

Jon Aitchison reports the booklet shown below was rejected by The Landmark Trust earlier this year. The folded booklet measured 93.5 mm by 74.5 mm, and the "DO YOU COLLECT...?" text (inset right) was printed on the inside front cover.

DO YOU COLLECT  
LUNDY STAMPS?

TO OBTAIN A FREE LIST OF ALL LUNDY STAMPS  
CURRENTLY AVAILABLE FROM THE ISLAND  
PLEASE WRITE TO WENDY PUDDY,  
LUNDY ISLAND, BRISTOL CHANNEL,  
DEVON EX39 2LY



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is available on Lundy.

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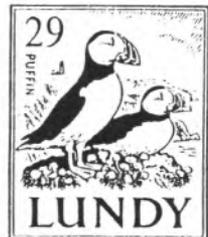
The Landmark Trust,  
Shottesbrooke,  
Maidenhead,

Berkshire SL6 3SW

or Telephone  
0628 825925LUNDY  
ISLAND  
POSTAGE  
STAMPS

10 FIRST CLASS STAMPS

£2.90



# Lundy at Auction

By Roger S. Cichorz  
3925 Longwood Avenue  
Boulder, Colorado 80303

## C.I.L.A. Lundy Postal Auctions Numbers 15 and 16

L.C.C. member Stanley A. Newman recently conducted two Lundy postal auctions under the aegis of his Channel Islands and Lundy Auctions firm (C.I.L.A., Melbourne House, Melbourne Street, Brighton, BN2 3LH, Sussex, England). C.I.L.A. Lundy auction number 15, which closed April 2, 1991, featured postcards, postal history/covers, first day covers, ephemera, and literature. It consisted of 529 lots estimated at £6313, and 197 lots estimated at £3071 sold (37.2 percent of the lots, 48.6 percent of the estimates), realizing £3414.50, or 11.2 percent above estimates. C.I.L.A. Lundy auction number 16, which closed May 28, 1991, featured stamps and first day covers. It consisted of 797 lots estimated at £13,158, and 261 lots estimated at £4333 sold (32.7 percent of the lots, 32.9 percent of the estimates), realizing £4148, or 3.6 percent below estimates. A summary of these two auctions is given in Table 1.

TABLE 1. Summary of C.I.L.A. Lundy Postal Auctions Numbers 15 and 16.

Category	Lots Offered		Lots That Sold			
	No.	Estimates	No.	Estimates	Realiz'ns	%R:E*
<i>C.I.L.A. No. 15 (April 2, 1991 closing date)</i>						
postcards	150	£ 1058.50	41	£ 354.00	£ 383.50	108.3
literature	20	321.00	13	171.00	202.00	118.1
coins & ephemera	16	171.50	8	142.00	180.00	126.8
postal history	277	3933.00	113	1924.00	2092.00	108.7
<u>first day covers</u>	<u>66</u>	<u>829.00</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>480.00</u>	<u>557.00</u>	<u>116.0</u>
All lots (No. 15)	529	£ 6313.00	197	£ 3071.00	£ 3414.50	111.2
<i>C.I.L.A. No. 16 (May 28, 1991 closing date)</i>						
stamps	688	£ 12,243.50	219	£ 4053.50	£ 3871.50	95.5
bogus opts., etc.	51	379.00	26	148.00	185.50	125.3
<u>first day covers</u>	<u>58</u>	<u>536.00</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>131.50</u>	<u>121.00</u>	<u>92.0</u>
All lots (No. 16)	797	£ 13,158.50	261	£ 4333.00	£ 4178.00	96.4
Totals (15 and 16)	1326	£ 19,471.50	458	£ 7404.00	£ 7592.50	102.5

\*%R:E represents the ratio of realizations to estimates.

The less than 100 percent ratio of realizations to estimates in C.I.L.A. Lundy auction number 16 is slightly deceiving in that three expensive lots sold for well under their estimates and skewed the overall results. These three lots were estimated at £1000 and realized only £810. When these three lots are omitted from the analysis, the other stamp lots fetched £3061.50 against cumulative estimates of £3053.50, or 100.3 percent of estimate, and for all lots, the auction's ratio of realizations to estimates was 101.1 percent. Disregarding these three lots from the summary, the ratio of realizations to estimates for the balance of the lots in both auctions was 105.9 percent, which is right in line with the previous C.I.L.A. Lundy auction (number 14, which closed September 11, 1990) and the first two Negev Holyland Ltd. Lundy auctions (number 1, which closed March 17, 1989, and number 2, which closed May 20, 1991).

The three "pricey" lots in the C.I.L.A. number 16 Lundy auction that sold for below estimates were a complete mint NH set of eight of the 1940 "Red Cross" issue that realized £200 against an estimate of £250 (and Newman catalogue valuation of £274), mint cross-gutter blocks of four of all five of the "Red Cross" issue values ( $\frac{1}{2}$ p, 1p, 6p, 9p, and 12p) that are

LUNDY AT AUCTION (Continued)

possible in that format that realized £450 against an estimate of £550 (and *Newman* catalogue valuation of £804), and a block of 15 of the "Red Cross" 1p value (three rows of five from the top three rows of the upper right-hand pane) that realized £160 against an estimate of £200+ (and *Newman* catalogue valuation of £319). These items were bargains for the successful bidder(s), and I surmise that probably the only reason Stanley was willing to part with them for less than estimate was that they were a remainder from the "Roger Koerber" material and both he and the consignor were anxious to sell them to arrive at a final settlement of that consignment.

Let's skip back to C.I.L.A. Lundy auction number 15 and look at some of the lots that sold. A Batten Photo (Ilfracombe) sepia photocard titled "The Suspension Bridge—Lundy Island" and showing the access way to the grounded *Montagu* fetched £30 against an estimate of £24, and an S. J. Allen (Pembroke Dock) sepia photocard titled "Merisco (*sic*) Castle, Lundy" realized £32 against an estimate of £28. Two unused R. L. Knight (Barnstaple and Bude) photocards of air views of the North Devon Aerodrome fared well, fetching £32 and £26 against respective estimates of £30+ and £25+. The best literature lot, a scarce hardback edition of *Some Account of the Island of Lundy* by G. S. Steinman, with a foreword by Martin Coles Harman (this copy being number 124 of an edition of 1000 and signed by Mr. Harman, one of about five known signed examples to exist), sold for £65 against an estimate of £50. The best "ephemera" lot was a superb Edwardian Roman-ewer-style china jug measuring 75 mm high and having the Lundy Island crest; it fetched a whopping £66 against an estimate of £35. This realization probably is not surprising when one recalls that a photocard illustrating a similar Lundy-crested ewer-style jug sold for £32 against an estimate of £20 in C.I.L.A. Lundy auction number 14.

All four lots comprising examples of the G.P.O. pre-1928 "Lundy Island" *thimble* postmark sold right around estimates ranging from £40 to £75, and three of the four items of "Allday Family correspondence" (1906 to 1918 inward Lundy postcards) sold, fetching £47 against estimates totaling £41. A 1936 outward cover addressed to Seaton (but without G.B. franking) with tied Lundy ½p definitive and ACAS ½d "large map" stamps on the front—the ACAS stamp tied by a *Chinchen* type Cb cancellation without the wing (one of less than ten recorded examples of this variant "wingless" strike)—fetched £35 against an estimate of £30+. An ACAS 1d "large map" stamp on piece tied by a *Chinchen* type Da "AIR/L.A.C.A.L./POST" circular cancellation realized £19 against an estimate of £15. A postcard dated August 7, 1939, sent by Felix W. Gade to his agent on the mainland, the handwritten message of which explains the consequences of the hold up in air service and need to arrange for a *Lerina* crossing on August 10, sold for a whopping £33 against an estimate of £18.

A scarce 1940 Pitman-prepared cover sent from Tristan da Cunha to Lundy sold for £69 against an estimate of £65. A scarce 1940 outward FDC for the "Red Cross" ½p and 1p stamps (addressed to John D. Stanard in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and having the "AIR SERVICE...SUSPENDED" cachet on back) realized £85 against an estimate of £75. The second most expensive cover in this auction was a 1943 outward FDC to London having a complete set of twelve "Wright Brothers biplane" overprints on the rear (front bears a G.B. KGV1 2½d definitive tied by an Instow 3 Sep 43 postmark); it fetched £135 against an estimate of £130. A pilot-signed 1950 inward FDC for the "BY AIR" overprint ½p stamp, with the usual "RESUMPTION..." cachet (*Newman* type AIR-1), sold for £40 against an estimate of £34.

LUNDY AT AUCTION (Continued)

A 1950 airmail cover to the U.S. "overfranked" with two ACAS "tramtickets" and six WWII overprints (five "IX Anniversary" and "Wright Brothers bi-plane" 7p stamps) fetched £56 against an estimate of £45—to my way of thinking, a somewhat high realization considering the obvious "philatelic" nature of this cover. An inward FDC for the 1957 definitive set sold for £46 against an estimate of £42.

An unused 1960 John Dyke-illustrated "Greetings from the Isle of Lundy" postcard bearing a 1957 1p definitive in its center sold for £24 against an estimate of £20. A scarce, illustrated outward FDC having a pair of the 1p provisional stamps issued August 11, 1969 on the back (G.B. QEII 4d definitive tied on front) fetched £42 against an estimate of £32. The most expensive cover in this auction was the 1969 Appeal acknowledgement card, properly franked with both Lundy "APPEAL" and G.B. 4d stamps and addressed to John Dyke/Barnstaple in his own handwriting; it realized a hefty £525 (\$925!) against an estimate of £550.

Many interesting post-1970 covers and postcards fared well, selling for £2 to £4 more than their "under £10" estimates. The item in this auction which surprised me the most was an outward postcard bearing a bisected Lundy 1973 4-puffin definitive tied by a June 19, 1979 Lundy c.d.s. The front of this cover bears a G.B. 9p stamp tied by an Ilfracombe cancellation, but there was no other information given in the lot description. I suspect this item is a Roger Allen "creation" rather than a legitimate bisect use brought about by a shortage of 2p definitives, since the 2-puffin rate in itself does not correspond to a proper "puffinage" charge at the time. Could someone (perhaps the purchaser) provide more information about this cover now that it's piqued my curiosity? At any rate, this cover fetched a whopping £35 against an estimate of £10!

In C.I.L.A. Lundy auction no. 16 the unusual and seldom-offered material continued to draw bids. Among the first definitive lots, an approval sheet produced by "Lewis May & Co., Stamp Merchants, 43, St. Martin's Lane, Charing Cross, (London) W.C.2," containing the ½p, 1p, and 9p stamps and a potted history of Lundy, but incorrectly headed "LUNDAY ISLAND," fetched £16 against an estimate of £12. There were two equal top bids for this lot—one of 11 of the 261 lots so contested in this auction and sold to the bidder whose bid sheet had the earlier postmark. A mint NH example of the 6p first definitive in the "very scarce" blue color was sold "as is" for £30 against an estimate of £40+. [*Caveat emptor* as these generally are *color changelings* resulting from prolonged exposure to sunlight which bleaches out the red component of the mauve dyestuff and leaving behind the blue component. This appears to be a good place to insert a *plug* for the L.C.C. Expertization Service!]

A scarce "original" (*contemporary* not *posthumous*) imperforate *proof* with left margin selvage of the ACAS "large map" 6d "flagstaff" variety in orange-red (and noticeably differing from the color of the issued stamp despite Barry Chinchen stating in his *A Catalogue of Lundy Stamps* that these were in the "issued color") sold for £70 against an estimate of £75. [Specialists should note the left margin selvage is correct for the "flagstaff" variety which is position 7 (*Chinchen's* "g") of the 12-subject sheet. The "flagstaff" variety often appears with excess selvage at right on the so-called *reprints* that were produced after the stamp issue run was completed.] An "exhibition display sheet" of the three LACAL violet "air view" ½d stamps (the unissued essay, issued stamp, and "5-line" overprint—*Chinchen* #18e, 17, and 18) sold for only £75 against an estimate of £100+. [£75 was about what each of the two

LUNDY AT AUCTION (Continued)

examples of the unissued essay sold for in C.I.L.A. Lundy auction no. 13, which closed November 27, 1989, but this was considerably less than the £105 realized by an example offered in C.I.L.A. Lundy auction no. 14, which closed September 11, 1990. Interestingly, this same "exhibition display sheet" with the three stamps was offered in the no. 14 auction as the lot following the unissued essay stamp and went unsold. I cannot understand why bidders fail to use "or" bids on similar lots. In this instance, this could have secured the essay for both bidders while saving them both money.] A rare mint "Atlantic" error example of the "5-line" overprint (*Chinchen* #18f, *Newman* #18a) in a horizontal pair with the normal stamp realized a disappointing £90 against an estimate of £125. [This pair failed to sell in C.I.L.A. no. 14 at an estimate of £200, but a vertical se-tenant pair—the first offered by Stanley Newman—fetched £220 against an estimate of £200+ in C.I.L.A. Lundy auction no. 10, which closed September 11, 1987. A se-tenant pair of the error and normal overprinted stamps in either vertical or horizontal format is assigned *Newman* #18aa and given a valuation of £150 in his *Stamps of Lundy Island 1989 Supplement*.] A scarce mint imperforate *proof* in black on blue-gray paper of the LACAL 1d "lighthouse" issue fetched £24 against an estimate of £30.

Although a complete mint set of the 1942 "V + plane" overprint issue failed to sell against an estimate of £50, many of the individual stamp lots sold and reached or exceeded estimates; however, none of the seven lots of contemporary proofs of the overprints in different colors on different colored papers sold despite modest estimates ranging from £6 to £9. A mint 1943 type "c" Tighearna sheetlet with the "IX Anniversary" gold overprint inverted (*Newman* #46b) fetched £55 against an estimate of £40, while a perforated Tighearna sheetlet with the black "bogus" overprint (a "recent discovery" by Stanley Newman of a previously unrecorded variety) sold for £42 against an estimate of £35. Several bidders must have been trying to complete sets of the "short leg of A" variety of 1943 "IX Anniversary" overprints as a mint LH example of the 4p stamp fetched a whopping £26 against an estimate of £14. [For some reason, the 4p value appears to be the most elusive stamp in the set despite its first printing of 2000 compared to each of the three higher value's 1000 first printing figures. Perhaps fewer 4p stamps were produced in the subsequent overprintings arranged by Brian Rigby-Hall?] A mint NH 4p single stamp sold for £18 against an estimate of £16. [I suppose the "NH" aspect commands a premium from the "gum purists," but I was surprised Stanley estimated this stamp at £2 more than the "LH" "short leg of A" variety since the variety is a "1 in 30" issue. Bidders exercised better judgement or common sense, judging from the realizations for the two lots!]

Although a complete mint set of 12 of the 1943 "Wright Brothers biplane" overprints failed to draw a bid against an estimate of £90, several lots of the individual stamps fared well. Most notably, mint "narrow setting" (17mm) varieties of the 5p, 7p, and 8p values fetched £17, £25, and £30 against respective estimates of £13, £13, and £20. [Once again, several collectors must have been trying to complete sets of the 17mm setting. I purchased one of these stamps, paying the piper in the process, but can now boast that I finally possess a complete set of 12—plus the 3p second printing—in the "narrow setting" as well as the same in the more common "wide setting" (18mm), so I won't be bidding on these any more!]

Among the "BY AIR" overprint issues, a scarce mint NH "narrow setting" 1p value realized a hefty £40 against an estimate of £35, and a scarce mint LH "narrow setting" 12p value sold for £21 against an estimate of £18+. Among the other 1950 issues, an example of a right-margined mint

LUNDY AT AUCTION (Continued)

single of *printer's waste* of the 1954 Jubilee issue having a dark red frame of the 9p value and black center of the 12p value (*Newman #98/99pw*) realized £13.50 against an estimate of £12. A mint NH set of seven imperforate color trials of the 1955 Millenary issue sold for £21 against an estimate of £18 (described as "very rare"—come on, Stanley!), but "very scarce" mint 1955 Millenary 4p values on glazed and unglazed papers (the latter being the far less common of the two, and presumably the glazed-paper variety—the issued stamp—being included for comparison) realized only £9 against an estimate of £12. A surprise to me was an official presentation pack of the mint 1957 definitives (without the scarce 1p value included—although one could certainly add one to the pack if there is space for it) which sold at a hefty £12 against an estimate of £8. (I checked my accumulation of Lundy presentation packs after I saw the realization, and, sure enough, I do not have one—so there was a second surprise.)

Among the 1960s and 1970s offerings, there was only one significant lot sold. A mint imperforate se-tenant block of four of the 1967 R.S.P.C.A. issue with wide margins sold for only £45 despite the "vendor's low reserve of £55" and a *Newman Stamps of Lundy Island 1989 Supplement* valuation of £80. When a successful bid (as indicated in the list of prices realized) is less than a *reserve* (which I've always understood to be the minimum amount a consignor or vendor is willing to sell the item), can I assume that somebody had the guts to place an underbid, that it was the only bid received, and after the auction closing consignor and auctioneer agreed to let go of the item for the bid amount??? Some rarities such as a mint 1969 "APPEAL" overprint at an estimate of £160 and a mint 1972 blue overprint 1p provisional at an estimate of £85 failed to draw bids. (Could it be that all the "serious" Lundy specialists now have these items and no one else is willing to dig deep enough into their wallets to add them to their collections?)

On the other hand, some scarce 1980s items fared well. Examples include: the first (1988) Lundy stamp booklet which sold for £18 against an estimate of £15, two examples of the infamous 1988 "Stampex" L.C.C. souvenir booklet that sold for £26 and £31 against respective estimates of £29 and £20 (the former was numbered and the latter unnumbered, and again, so much for estimates—I wonder if the £20 estimate of the unnumbered booklet was a "typo" for £30?), a 1989 R.S.P.B. *perforated* proof sheet which fetched a whopping £85 against an estimate of £75+ [*caveat emptor*—the "PROOF" overprint was produced by Ken Gibson on the imperforate sheets, and since the "PROOF" overprint format was illustrated on a white background in the L.P.B. flier for the R.S.P.B. issue, can you imagine how easy it would be for anyone to produce a virtually indistinguishable *fake* just by running a perforated sheet of stamps through a photocopier using the illustration as a *master*?!], a mint horizontal pair of the R.S.P.B. stamps imperforate between which fetched £24 against an estimate of £20, and a mint perforated black *proof* of the R.S.P.B. issue that sold for £17 against an estimate of £16. (I wonder if all these R.S.P.B. *varieties* ought not to be taken out of the "Stamp" section of future C.I.L.A. Lundy auctions and relegated to the "Bogus Overprints, Essays, & Oddities" section instead!)

Speaking of "Bogus Overprints, Essays, & Oddities," material in this always popular section had their usual good showing as these items appear to be some of the most highly contested lots in the auction. A 1975 E.A.H.Y. 10p stamp (*Chinchen #197*) with a "P.S." perfin (produced by the Great Britain Perfin Society) fetched £3.50 against an estimate of £4.

LUNDY AT AUCTION (Continued)

Ian Wilkinson's miniature sheet of reproductions of essays for early (unissued) Lundy stamps sold for £14 against an estimate of £8 (this sheetlet was included as a "free gift" in the Spring 1981 *LCCPQ!*). A *proof* of Roger Allen's whimsical gothic "Insel Lundy" (used to overprint some Germany "Hindenburg-head" stamps, not "Hitler-head" stamps as was indicated in the lot description) realized 8 against an estimate of £5. A Jon Aitchison-produced "Barry Chinchin" souvenir sheet (another "free gift" in the the Winter 1988-89 *LCCPQ!*) fetched £15 against an estimate of £12. [The modest L.C.C. membership dues which secures a subscription to this journal must now begin to seem like a bargain when one considers how much in demand some of the "free gifts" have become!]

I will conclude the C.I.L.A. Lundy auction portion of this column by mentioning how much fun I had including some of the "asides" and comments for some of the lots mentioned. My intentions here were not only to be entertaining but to provide information of a specialist nature or possible explanations on why some realizations are what they were. Readers are welcome to write and let me know if I was successful or not in bringing forth worthwhile information with some of the parenthetical and bracketed remarks I interspersed throughout the discussion of C.I.L.A. Lundy no. 16.

Lundy Collectors Club Mini Mail Sales

The L.C.C. mini mail sale number five, which closed August 20, 1991, contained 135 lots with a cumulative reserve of £1191.25. Almost two thirds of the lots (89, or 65.9 percent) sold, fetching £738.75 against reserves totaling £631.50, or 17.0 percent above reserves. In addition, ten "limited-edition" souvenir covers, prepared during the July 1991 L.C.C. "Lundy Revisit," were offered as fixed-price lots. These ten covers were priced individually to sell at £27, but were also offered as a single discounted fixed-price lot at £20.

L.C.C. United Kingdom Representative Jon Aitchison conducts these sales, and the catalogues (*L.C.C. British Newsletter*) are now being distributed to all L.C.C. members. If you are not receiving the *Newsletter*, have Lundy material for consignment, or simply have questions about any of the lots offered, contact Jon Aitchison, Old Tithe Hall, Start Hill, Near Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire, CM21 7TF, England; telephone 0279-870488 (evenings and weekends).

Because Jon has already distributed the Autumn 1991 *L.C.C. British Newsletter* which contained the realizations for this sale, I won't belabor them since readers can compare the results for themselves. The following text, based on Jon's comments to me in private correspondence, gives a few details that may be of interest to readers. Jon reports that the fixed-price covers were very popular and stocks of complete sets of ten quickly sold out. Actually, Jon received 23 orders for full sets of covers, while the most popular auction lot in this sale (#119, the "un-official" 20p stamp picturing an ancient murrelet) received 11 bids. Four lots (#s 12, 90, 91, and 130) received seven bids each, and three lots (#s 33, 85, and 92) received six bids each. Surprisingly, the best performer in this sale was non-Lundy lot #131 (the dealer's stock of material from Staffa, Oman, Nagaland, Isö, Dhufar, and Eynhallow) which sold for £12.50 against a modest reserve of £5. Perhaps, the best Lundy items in this sale were lots #s 132 through 134, the "Red Cross" "Pnffin" varieties. These lots all sold for slightly more than their modest reserves which ranged from 58 to 73 percent of their current *Newman* catalogue valuations.

LUNDY AT AUCTION (Continued)

The L.C.C. mini mail sale number six, which closed October 12, 1991, was a modest effort compared to its predecessor. The auction portion offered only 59 lots with a cumulative reserve of £298. In addition, ten fixed-price lots, consisting of five repeat L.C.C. "Lundy Revisit" covers and five new other event covers prepared since the July 1991 event, were offered at a cumulative cost of £24.50. Since I have not yet received the "prices realized" for this sale, I will defer discussion until my next column.

Barum Auctions' June 8, 1991 Sale

Ray Shapland (L.C.C. member #290) evidently conducts regular public auctions through his Barum Auctions firm (5 Bear Street, Barnstaple, Devon, EX32 7BU, England; telephone 0271-45581) and was kind enough to send me the catalogue to Barum Auctions' number 114 sale held June 8, 1991 at the Royal Clarence Hotel, Cathedral Yard, Exeter, England. This auction featured 96 lots of Lundy material with a cumulative estimate of £2304. The Barum auction catalogue gives an estimate range for each lot (for example, £50/60), but I used the first value in the estimate range to arrive at the cumulative estimate for this sale.

Ray Shapland's mailing of the catalogue for this auction came after it was conducted, and along with it was enclosed a letter on the Barum Auctions letterhead that indicated a number of the Lundy lots failed to sell and would be offered privately at half the lowest estimated value printed in the catalogue plus Barum's standard buyer's premium of ten percent. A list of the lots still available under these terms was also enclosed in the mailing. My count indicates 41 of the 96 Lundy lots (42.7 percent) went unsold; these were estimated at £971, which represented 42.1 percent of the Lundy-lot cumulative estimate, indicating a cross section of the lots were still available, rather than a preponderance of either the low-ended or high-ended material. Unfortunately, I cannot comment on the performance of the Lundy lots that sold since Ray neglected to include the realizations for this sale. I am uncertain if Barum Auctions routinely feature this magnitude of Lundy material and will contact Ray to find out if this particular auction was "one of a kind" or typical of the others he conducts.

The Lundy lots in this auction contained little (if any) duplication and ran the gamut of stamps, covers, and literature from 1929 through 1979. Judging from the catalogue descriptions, I would surmise that these lots represented some individual's entire collection—perhaps one from the estate of a deceased collector or from an "oldtimer" who simply quit collecting Lundy about 1980 and decided now was a good time to sell. The "collection" appeared to be a fine one indeed as it contained several items of a specialist nature that are seldom encountered these days.

The best Lundy item in this auction was simply described as a "1969 Appeal Card addressed to Barnstaple in good condition" and given an estimate range of £350/375 (it sold!). I was intrigued with the 11 ephemera and literature lots (10 of which sold), which included such beauties as John D. Stanard's *Lundy Island and the Lundy Locals* (No. 178 of an edition of 450) estimated at £15/20. Seven lots comprised of two to six Lundy-related postcards (many "earlies" and several postally used during the 1960s) were estimated from £12/15 to £20/25 each and all sold.

Some of the better and seldom-offered stamp lots (with estimate ranges given in parentheses following brief descriptions and an \* before the

LUNDY AT AUCTION (Continued)

description indicating the lot did not sell) included: "proof: 1937 small air  $\frac{1}{2}$ p violet on yellow paper mint" (£18/20), \*"proof: 1937 small LACAL air stamp violet on thin yellow paper mint" (£40/45), 1942 "V + plane" 1p with double magenta overprint mint (£18/20), \*ditto 1p with inverted violet overprint mint (£60/70), \*ditto 1p with double black overprint mint (£60/70), \*ditto 2p values with orange-red overprint inverted and doubled (£55/60), \*various mint 1943 "IX Anniversary" issues with double, inverted, or green overprints (£30/40 each), and 1951 "flying birds" complete set of seven mint imperforate black-print proofs (£75/80).

Channel Island Stamp Company Postal Bid Sales

Postal bid sale no. 78 of the Channel Island Stamp Company (C.I.S.C., Havilland Street, St. Peter Port, Guernsey, Channel Islands, U.K.; telephone 0481-725560, Telex HHDPG 4191664, FAX 711012), which closed May 31, 1991, had five lots of Lundy material among its 1438-lot offering. One lot consisted of the LACAL 1939  $\frac{1}{2}$ d red "air view" in mint pairs showing three different varieties (setting sun, broken cloud, and double impression) at an estimate of £10 against a *Newman* valuation of £16. A January 1, 1939 Stanard-prepared, cacheted outward cover was estimated at £12, a mint imperforate set of the 1954 airmail definitives was estimated at £8, and a set of ten imperforate color trials of the 1955 Millenary airmails on unwatermarked paper was estimated at £10 against a *Newman* valuation of £16. The best lot consisted of two covers—a 1961 outward to Cheshire franked with two Jubilee 4p stamps plus a postcard-size photo of the boat ("Lundy Island Mail Boat, *Lerina*") and a 1962 outward to Germany franked with three (unspecified, possibly 1957) Lundy definitives (also, proper G.B. franking for G.P.O. routings)—estimated at £10.

C.I.S.C.'s postal bid sale no. 79, which closed June 28, 1991, contained six Lundy lots among its 1354-lot offering. The best lot was estimated at a hefty £100 (and perhaps well worth it if the lot description is accurate!) and was comprised of four mint 1943 "IX Anniversary" varieties— $\frac{1}{2}$ p with misplaced overprint and thick bottom bar, 1p with green and gold overprint, 2p with double overprint, and 12p with green overprint. Another lot of mint 1943 "IX Anniversary" varieties was estimated at £40 and consisted of  $\frac{1}{2}$ p and 1p values with overprints in green and 6p and 9p values with overprints in brown (and uncatalogued in *Newman*). A third lot of mint 1943 "IX Anniversary" varieties consisted of the  $\frac{1}{2}$ p, 1p, and 2p values with overprints in green and was estimated at £30. The fourth lot of mint "IX Anniversary" varieties consisted of the 6p and 9p values overprinted in brown and was estimated at £20. (Note: I would appreciate feedback on the appearance of stamps in these lots if they were purchased by readers—genuine brown and green overprints, or just *ageing* and oxidation of the gold?) The lots consisting of three LACAL 1939  $\frac{1}{2}$ d red "air view" stamps in mint pairs with the three aforementioned varieties was repeated at £10, and a lot comprised of a black-and-white multiview photocard franked with a Lundy 1957 1p definitive on the picture side and G.B. franking on the message side was estimated at £8.

C.I.S.C.'s postal bid sale no. 80, which closed July 31, 1991, had six Lundy lots among its 1379-lot offering. A 1936 outward cover with a Lundy  $\frac{1}{2}$ p definitive and ACAS  $\frac{1}{2}$ d "large map" on the front (C.T.O.?—no mention of G.B. franking) was estimated at £15. A 1941 inward cover, "franked" with Lundy 1929  $\frac{1}{2}$ p definitive and the "1929-1939" overprint

LUNDY AT AUCTION (Continued)

set complete except for the  $\frac{1}{2}$ p value (C.T.O.—as no G.B. stamps were shown in the photograph) was estimated at £15 (reasonable, I suppose, if one considers the £26.50 *Newman* valuation as used stamps). Another January 1, 1939 Stanard-prepared cacheted cover was estimated at £15. The best cover offering was a rather tatty (ragged tears and center crease) July 1937 commercial Crown Agents (cacheted) window envelope to Lundy and returned. Franked with Lundy  $\frac{1}{2}$ p and ACAS  $\frac{1}{2}$ d "large map" and G.B. meter postage, this interesting cover has various postmarks on front and back, cachets, and handwritten rerouting instructional markings, and was estimated at £25. A mint 1940 "Red Cross"  $\frac{1}{2}$ p surcharge stamp with "few faults to rear" was estimated at £10, and the 1955 Millenary color trial lot offered in sale no. 78 was reoffered at the same estimate of £10.

C.I.S.C.'s postal bid sale no. 81, which closed August 30, 1991, offered only two Lundy lots—the two 1954/55 Jubilee/Millenary imperforate lots offered in sale no. 78 at their respective estimates of £8 and £10.

C.I.S.C.'s postal bid sale no. 82, which closed October 1, 1991, offered four Lundy lots at a cumulative estimate of £77. These included: a 1939 flown inward cover from Swansea (£15); three mint pairs of the LACAL 1939  $\frac{1}{2}$ d red "air view" with varieties "broken cloud," "double impression," and "setting sun" (£10); 1943 "IX Anniversary" overprints  $\frac{1}{2}$ p and 1p in green and 6p and 9p in brown (£40); and a flown photocard ("No. 970, Puffins or Lundy Parrots") with G.B., Lundy, and LACAL stamps tied by proper (but with date-obsured) postmarks (£12). The "IX Anniversary" lot sold for £44.50.

C.I.S.C.'s postal bid sale no. 83, which closed October 31, 1991, offered nine Lundy lots at a cumulative estimate of £195. These included the following three lots of 1943 "IX Anniversary" overprint varieties:  $\frac{1}{2}$ p misplaced, 1p green and gold, 2p double gold, and 12p green estimated at £80; 6p and 9p brown estimated at £20; and  $\frac{1}{2}$ p, 1p, and 2p green estimated at £25. A July 5, 1937 "returned" flown cover from and back to Crown Agents in London was estimated at £20 (was this the same cover as that offered in no. 80?), and a November 15, 1969 inward cover franked with a pair of the 1969 1p provisionals (*Newman* #161) was estimated at £12.

C.I.S.C.'s postal bid sale no. 84, which closed November 29, 1991, had only two Lundy lots, but both were nice wartime covers. A February 16, 1939 inward cover from Swansea with a Lundy  $\frac{1}{2}$ p first definitive tied on front was estimated at £15. An inward March 20, 1941 cover addressed to the "Issuer of Lundy Stamps...", with a G.B. GVI 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d definitive tied by a Newcastle "Grow More Food/Dig for Victory" slogan machine cancellation and a Lundy  $\frac{1}{2}$ p first definitive tied by the two-part boxed cancellation/c.d.s. (*Chinchen* type Fa) was estimated at £15. I am glad to see that C.I.S.C. once again is starting to place some interesting Lundy lots into its regular monthly auctions!

Auction Odds and Ends

A recent auction conducted by Corbitt's (5 St. Nicholas Building, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE1 1RF, England; telephone 091-232-7268) contained one Lundy lot. Described as "Lundy aviation. 1935 ACAS 3d label (the 12th one issued from 2000), 1963  $\frac{1}{2}$ d labels (2), 1937  $\frac{1}{2}$ d (thinned) and 1943 airs used (11 values)," this lot was modestly estimated at £25. Thanks go to both Cecil Longhurst and Jon Aitchison for bringing this lot to my attention, but I still managed to misplace the auction date!

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