

PHILATELIC QUARTERLY



**POSTED FROM THE
L.C.C. BIDEFORD
1-8-92 MEETING
SENT VIA LUNDY**

Photo: Jeff Richard/Hymn

MS OLDENBURG, Lundy Island, Bristol Channel. To visit Lundy for the day or stay on the island, contact The Landmark Trust, Shottesbrooke, Maidenhead, SL6 3SW (0628) 825925 or the Lundy Agent, Bideford (0237) 431831.



**FIRST DAY OF NEW
& LAST DAY OF OLD
LETTERBOX CACHET**

**FOURTH ANNUAL BIDEFORD MEETING AND LUNDY TRIP
THE DARTMOOR-STYLE LETTERBOXES ON LUNDY**

SEE PAGES 8 - 12

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE LUNDY COLLECTORS CLUB

FALL 1992

FALL 1992 LCCPQ

(Volume 14, Number 3 — Whole Number 54)

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L.C.C. PHILATELIC QUARTERLY

"THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE LUNDY COLLECTORS CLUB"

Volume 14, Number 3 (Whole No. 55)

Fall 1992

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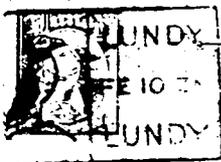
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Membership in the Lundy Collectors Club is open to any person interested in the collecting and study of Lundy stamps, covers, and postal history. Dues of US\$10 per year (U.S., Canadian, and foreign surface rate) or of US\$15 per year (foreign airmail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

Letters to the Editor

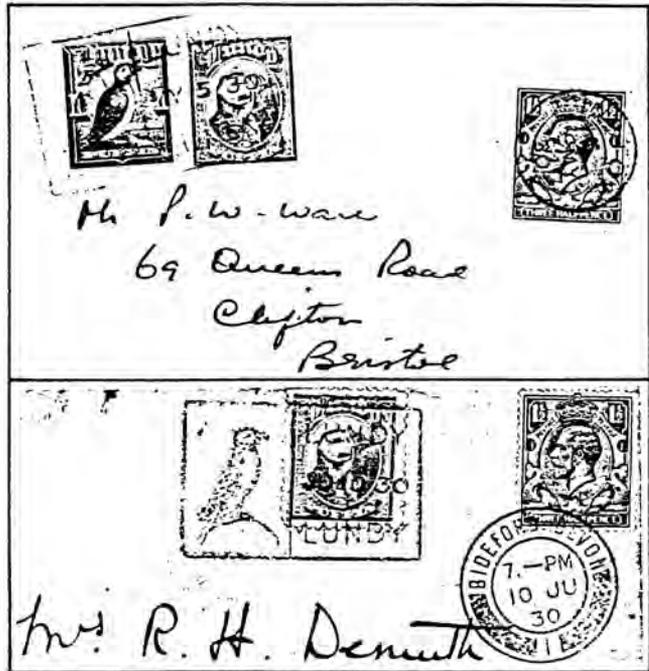
Seeks Early Usage of Lundy Stamps on G.P.O.-Serviced Covers

How about the *LCCPQ* illustrating early Lundy covers with the November 1, 1929 stamp(s)? We might try to establish the earliest date on cover. The cover must have readable Lundy and British cancellations (C.T.O. covers without British postmarks do not count since some were "favor" cancelled before November 1, 1929). If you like the idea, I can start off with a postcard from Lundy to Birmingham with a February 10, 1939 Lundy cancellation and a February 13, 1930 Instow cancellation.

	POST CARD.	
	ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN HERE.	
Greetings from LUNDY.	Mr. H. W. La Trobe, 30, Upper Grosvenor Road, <u>HANDSWORTH</u> , Birmingham.	

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (Continued)

I have two 1930 G.P.O.-serviced Lundy covers in my collection (shown right, cropped to save space), but neither predates George's cover. The top cover is Lundy postmarked May 5 and Instow postmarked May 9, while the bottom cover (addressed to Sussex) has June 10 postmarks of both Lundy and Bideford. Readers, please send photocopies of earlier G.P.O.-serviced covers so we can establish earliest recorded date of use for the Lundy November 1, 1929 stamps. --RSC

Seeks Information for "ACAS Tramticket Register"

I recently purchased all the Lundy holdings of the late Ian Wilkinson of Chesham—a most interesting accumulation of stamps, covers, and pottery. Of course, I have acquired the "Tramticket Register" as well and would be pleased if you could publicize in the *LCCPQ* the fact that I wish to continue with this Register personally and, in fact, have prepared an update as I noticed the last one that Ian did was in March 1987. I am enclosing a record of the up-to-date quantities known. It is a fascinating project and one I would like to continue; so if you could kindly request that collectors forward their details to me as and when they have them, I would be pleased to record them.

--Michael H. Bale, Ilfracombe, Devon, England
(September 16, 1992)

The updated "Tramticket Register" and notes provided by Michael appear elsewhere in this issue. The "Tramticket Register" project was begun by Barry N. D. Chinchler during the late 1960s when he was serving as Editor of *The Puffin Journal*, Newsletter of the Lundy Specialists' Society. Ian Wilkinson took over the project, which is an attempt to gather and record information on every ACAS "tramticket" in existence, and published two "Register" reports in previous issues of the *LCCPQ* (Winter 1982, pages 7-9, and Summer 1987, pages 6-7). Because the "tramtickets" are serially numbered (and hence each stamp unique), they are amenable to such a register. I feel this "census" is important to Lundy philately and urge readers to write Michael Bale with details of your "tramticket" holdings. What Michael needs from you for the Register is: the value

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (Continued)

($\frac{1}{2}$ d, 1d, or 3d) and number appearing on any examples you have; whether a single, pair, or multiple; mint or used; the date of any postmark on used copies (if decipherable); if on cover, was it addressed to or from Lundy; and any other information you feel is relevant, such as other cover markings, condition, etc. All information provided Michael will be treated in confidence, and a summary of the findings will appear at a later date. Please send details of all your "tramtickets" to Michael Bale, c/o Negev Holyland Stamps Ltd., P.O. Box No. 1, Ilfracombe, Devon, EX34 9BR, England; telephone 0271-862857, FAX 0271-867161. --RSC

Lundy Stamps to Be Placed on Front of Letters Again

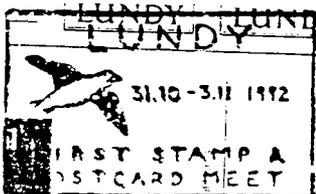
Firstly, many thanks for all your positive comments on our most recent Lundy stamp issue, "Discover Lundy." We have not only had many inquiries and orders by post, but have had a great deal of interest for them in our Island Shop and on our ship, the M.S. *Oläenburg*. This has created many new collectors to whom we extend a very warm welcome!

When the Lundy Postal Service issued its very first stamps in 1929, all letters from the Island had the Lundy stamps placed on the front. About a year later this was prohibited by the G.P.O., and the stamps were fixed on the reverse side instead. This has been the regulation ever since. Now we have the pleasure to announce that we have again obtained permission from the British Post Office to place the stamps on the front. The reintroduction will be on December 9, 1992.

To be more precise, Lundy stamp(s) shall in the future be placed in the lower left-hand corner on the front of the letter or the parcel, as far away as possible from the franking meter die or the British stamp(s). No other place will be accepted, and we must be strict on this. The Lundy stamps will be cancelled with our own rubber cancel as before. For postcards, the system will not change; the stamp(s) will be placed in the upper left-hand corner.

To mark this reintroduction we have prepared a set of two covers which we are offering for sale: one sent on the last day of the old system, and one sent on the first day of the new system. A specially printed cover will be used on December 9, but the postmark and the franking meter die will be those in current usage in both cases.

In our previous newsletter we invited you to express an interest in attending a special stamp and postcard weekend on the Island this autumn. We were very pleased by the degree of interest shown and on October 31, 1992, we shall be welcoming collectors to the first Lundy stamp meet to be held by us. Activities planned include lectures, guided walks, slide shows, a stamp bourse, and not least the opportunity to meet each other. We thought that we might mark this first stamp meet in some philatelic way and have decided to have a special postmark made (*shown below left*). All mail sent from the Island on October 31 to November 3 will be stamped



with this cancel. For those collectors who are not able to join us, we will prepare some extra covers which will be for sale.

M.S. *Oläenburg*'s visit to Bristol last autumn proved very successful. Many people came aboard and joined us on our trips round the harbor and special River Avon cruise. A similar sailing was made to Gloucester in May of

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (Continued)

this year. A Lundy postcard with special additional printing and signed by the Master was again available on board. The card was stamped with the five-puffin 1991 definitive and cancelled. An extra number of these cards were prepared, stamped with British stamps, and cancelled Gloucestershire May 24, 1992. These cards can be ordered for 60 pence each.

Presentation packs are popular items both in our own Shop on the Island and on board the ship. The 1982 definitive set has never been for sale in this form and we are often asked for it. We have now prepared such a pack with information about the set printed on the reverse. Our stock of the 15-puffin value of this set has been very low for some time and almost all have been used to produce these presentation packs. A few singles and blocks of four are left, which are available only in complete sets with the other values at £1.95 and £7.80, respectively.

The Landmark Trust traditionally hold open days in some of their properties and on Lundy they hold one each year. This involves extra activities on the Island with the opportunity to see several of the buildings which would not normally be open to the general public. This year all visitors joining us on the Open Day, July 7, received a free gift of a specially designed presentation pack featuring the 1978 Lundy Marine Reserve issue, drawing their attention to Lundy's status as England's first and only statutory Marine Reserve. We still have some extra copies of this which we sell for £1.25.

We know that many of you who collect Lundy stamps are also interested in postcards from the Island. This summer we produced three new ones showing the Landing Bay, a puffin head, and the M.S. *Oldenburg*. These can be ordered at 60p the set.

The weather here this summer has been very disappointing—in fact, we're still waiting for it to arrive! It has had a devastating effect on the sailings to Lundy, and this, combined with the current recession, has played havoc with the number of visitors to the Island and our income. The Landmark Trust has found itself unable to continue to absorb the losses and has decided that it must cut the cost of running the Island in the future. This has meant the loss of jobs on the Island—we go into this winter with only ten of us still in employment. It is a very sad time for all of us; however, the Trust remains committed to preserving Lundy as a special place for both staying and day visitors and believes that these measures will enable the Island to remain open throughout the year. Here you as a Lundy stamp collector can help us by interesting more people in Lundy stamps and encouraging them to visit the Island.

--Wendy Puddy, Lundy, Bristol Channel/via Bideford, England

This "letter" is the verbatim text from an undated "Newsletter" from the Lundy Postmistress posted on October 15, 1992, to stamp collectors on the Lundy Company mailing list. This mailing included a Lundy Post Office order form that listed the availability and prices for items that Wendy mentioned in the text of her newsletter. If you are not on the Lundy Company mailing list, I urge you to write Wendy and ask her to add your name to the list so you can receive future mailings: Wendy Puddy, The Lundy Company, Lundy Island, Bristol Channel, via Bideford, North Devon, EX39 2LJ, Great Britain; telephone 0237-431831, FAX 0237-431632. This mailing also included an appeal by John Puddy, Lundy Agent (and Wendy's husband), for membership in the "Friends of Lundy" association, details of which are given at the top of the following page. --ESC

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (Continued)Invitation to Join the "Friends of Lundy" Association

I would like to invite you to join the Friends of Lundy, an informal and simple association whose aim is to help maintain and conserve the unspoiled character of this very special Island. Over the years many visitors to Lundy have expressed a wish not only to return—as many do time and time again—but to contribute personally to the life of the Island. Friends of Lundy is your opportunity to do this. We would like to think that not only will you subscribe but that you will be able to offer help in other ways. There are many ways of doing this—for example, you may be a professional who can offer services, you could help us by volunteering to work on Lundy or the mainland, you may even be able to help the Island from your own home. In return, we will keep you informed about Lundy.

I do not wish to make rash offers, nor do I think that money should be used for expensive administrative purposes. For these reasons the Friends of Lundy will be a simple and effective way of bringing and keeping us together, without frills. The membership and donation income subscribed by the Friends of Lundy will help us with the ever-increasing costs of maintaining the Island. It will not be used to "commercialize" the Island, because we, like you, love Lundy for its peace, its wildlife, and for the absence of commercial pressures. But economic reality intrudes all too forcefully into the quiet life of the Island, and additional income and practical help is essential if we are to sustain the Island in its present form.

As a Friend of Lundy, you will receive twice yearly information from the Island in the form of a newsletter, special last-minute booking discounts, and other offers to be announced later. The cost of membership:- Adults £10.00. Family £25.00. Child £7.50. You will find an application form enclosed with this letter, and I hope I may count on you to be a Friend of Lundy. By doing so, you will be helping the Island and also adding to the enjoyment of your own visit here.

--John Puddy, Lundy, Bristol Channel/via Bideford, England

"Friends of Lundy" application-for-membership forms are available from John Puddy, Lundy Island, Bristol Channel, via Bideford, North Devon, EX39 2LY, Great Britain (an opportunity to receive a contemporary cover with Lundy franking), or from the LCCPQ Editor, 3925 Longwood Avenue, Boulder, Colorado 80303, U.S.A. --RSC

ANNOUNCEMENT: LCCPQ Awarded Silver-Bronze Medal at COLOPEX

I am pleased to report that Volume 13 (calendar year 1991) LCCPQ issues were awarded a Silver-Bronze Medal in the periodicals section of the literature competition at COLOPEX 1992. The LCCPQ also received a jury commendation for its "Volumes 1-10 Index" prepared by Austin Dulin (L.C.C. #066). COLOPEX 1992 is an A.P.S.-accredited philatelic exhibition that was sponsored by the Columbus Philatelic Club and held on October 9-11 in Columbus, Ohio. --RSC

News of L.C.C. Members

L.C.C. Membership Information

Welcome to the following new members:

- 351 David Saks -- Memphis, Tennessee, U.S.A.
- 352 Norman McCord -- Vinton, Virginia, U.S.A.
- 353 Jaime Selko -- Co. A FSB, APO New York 09742, U.S.A.
- 354 Owen L. Atkinson -- Riverton, Southland, New Zealand
- 355 D. R. Hambly -- Chelmsford, Essex, England
- 356 Mrs. Shirley A. Race -- Ringmer, East Sussex, England
- 357 Jeff Mittelholtz -- Oakdale, Minnesota, U.S.A.
- 358 Noel Benson -- Bemidji, Minnesota, U.S.A.
- 359 Allen Benson -- Renton, Washington, U.S.A.
- 360 Howard R. Lutz -- Warren, Ohio, U.S.A.
- 361 David A. Locke -- Las Vegas, Nevada, U.S.A.
- 362 William L. Benson -- Unionville, Ontario, Canada
- 363 Charles E. Nickel -- San Diego, California, U.S.A.
- 364 G. A. Caron -- South Windsor, Connecticut, U.S.A.

Resigned:

- 224 J. H. Pollard -- Heaton, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, England

Deceased:

- 266 Mrs. A. D. Earley -- Streatham Vale, London, England
(Mrs. Earley's husband, William Earley, took over her membership)

November 1, 1992 Membership Summary: 258 members having the following geographical distribution: U.K. 139, U.S.A. 84, Canada 9, Australia 6, Germany 4, Netherlands 4, Sweden 4, Japan 2, and others 6 (1 each from Belgium, Iceland, Italy, Malta, New Zealand, and Switzerland).

Message from the L.C.C. Board of Directors: Although the present membership total of 258 is the largest ever reported for the L.C.C., 59 members are from two to four years in arrears with their dues payments. These members have been sent several past dues statements, have stopped being sent the *LCCPQ* (last mailed issue Summer 1991), and will be dropped from the active membership rolls effective December 31, 1992. Cumulative past dues owed by these members totals \$1805; the members in good standing who pay their dues cannot continue to support these delinquent individuals. In addition, 65 other members have not paid their 1992 membership dues, but these individuals have been mailed all *LCCPQs* through the Summer 1992 issue and been notified of their current status. Their nonpayments represent another substantial loss of revenue for the L.C.C.

News of Members' Activities

Congratulations are in order for the following L.C.C. members:

- Vickey Wigmore (#305) was recently elected President of the Bideford and North Devon Stamp Club.
- Ian Knight (#329) was recently elected Deputy Mayor of Bideford.
- Richard E. Drews (#199) was elected during August 1992 to another four-year term on the Board of Directors of the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors.
- Michael H. Bale (#161) received a Silver Award for the *Bale Catalogue of Israel Postage Stamps* at PhilITex '92, the first international philatelic literature exhibition on the North American Continent, held October 28-November 2 in New York City. At PhilITex '92, Jon Aitchison (#167) received a Bronze Award for *The Lilliput*, the biannual publication of the Smaller Channel Islands Collectors Society.

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

- Congratulations are extended to Jon and Shameera Aitchison on the birth of their first child, Charlotte Emma Aitchison, on August 2, 1992. The baby weighed 6 pounds, 11 ounces at her birth, but Jon was nowhere to be seen as he was ("predictably"—in his own words) on Lundy for the cruise following the Bideford L.C.C. meeting held the day before. Good going, Jon—glad to see that your priorities are still in order!
Jon Aitchison (#167) was awarded a Silver-Bronze Medal in the periodicals section of the literature competition at COLOPEX 1992 for the Volume 2 (1990) issues of *The Lilliput*, the biannual publication of the Smaller Channel Islands Collectors Society, for which he serves as Editor and U.K. Administrator. Details on this upstart organization can be obtained from Jon or Roger S. Cichorz, who serves as the American Administrator. Write Jon Aitchison, Old Tithe Hall, Start Hill, Near Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire, CM22 7TF, England, or Roger Cichorz at his Boulder, Colorado address for S.C.I.C.S. particulars and applications.
- Lester Winick (#037) is the author of the ninth edition of *The White Ace Postage Stamp Identifier*, a softbound, 5½-inch by 8-inch, 88-page booklet and the first new edition since 1984. This handbook includes 46 pages of an alphabetical listing that identifies the inscriptions and overprints (both whole words and abbreviations) found on stamps, 10 pages with illustrations that identify stamps having no inscriptions or inscriptions in non-Roman characters, 25 pages of definitions of stamp-collecting terms, and 5 pages of stamp terms illustrated with stamp-like labels—in all, an excellent primer of use to beginner and experienced collector alike. *The White Ace Postage Stamp Identifier* is available from stamp dealers or can be ordered for \$5.95 plus 60¢ postage from the publisher, The Washington Press, 2 Vreeland Road, Florham Park, New Jersey 07932. Les Winick is the President of the Arthur Salm Foundation (ASF), a U.S. Internal Revenue Service-recognized tax-exempt organization formed by the Collectors Club of Chicago to conduct research on philatelic products that are already on the market. The ASF recently published its *Report Number 2 (1992)* which summarizes the results of tests conducted on 12 different brands of peelable stamp hinges (pH, peelability, taste, and adhesion characteristics) and on 55 different philatelic items made of paper, such as album pages, stock books, and the paper portion of mounts (pH and alkaline reserves before and after ageing). Les indicated that donations are appreciated to further the efforts of the ASF and can be mailed to the Arthur Salm Foundation, 1029 N. Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois 60610, U.S.A. Copies of the ASF *Report No. 2* are available free and copies of the ASF *Report No. 1 (1991)* are available for \$1 each (please include a legal-sized SASE with requests) from the ASF at the Chicago, Illinois address given above.
- Two L.C.C. members were awarded *Prix d'Honneur* in the "Champion of Champion" exhibition at STAMPSHOW '92, held in conjunction with the American Philatelic Society's annual convention, August 27-30, in Oakland, California: Randy L. Neil (#300) for "U.S. 2c Issue of 1883-87" and Richard Drews (#199) for "U.S. Issues of 1861-68."
- The book *British Greetings, Telegrams and Special Occasions Cards* written by the late Ian G. Wilkings (#045) was awarded a Silver Medal in the "Foreign Countries—Books" section of the literature competition at the Cardinal Spellman Philatelic Museum's 1992 Philatelic Literature Fair, held March 28 and 29 in Weston, Massachusetts. Also, in the "Foreign Countries—Catalogues" section of this Fair, Michael H. Bale (#161) was awarded a Gold Medal for the 1990 *Bale Catalogue of Israel Postage Stamps*.

REPORT:

AUGUST 1-2, 1992 L.C.C. BIDEFORD MEETING AND TRIP TO LUNDY AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON DARTMOOR LETTERBOXES ON LUNDY

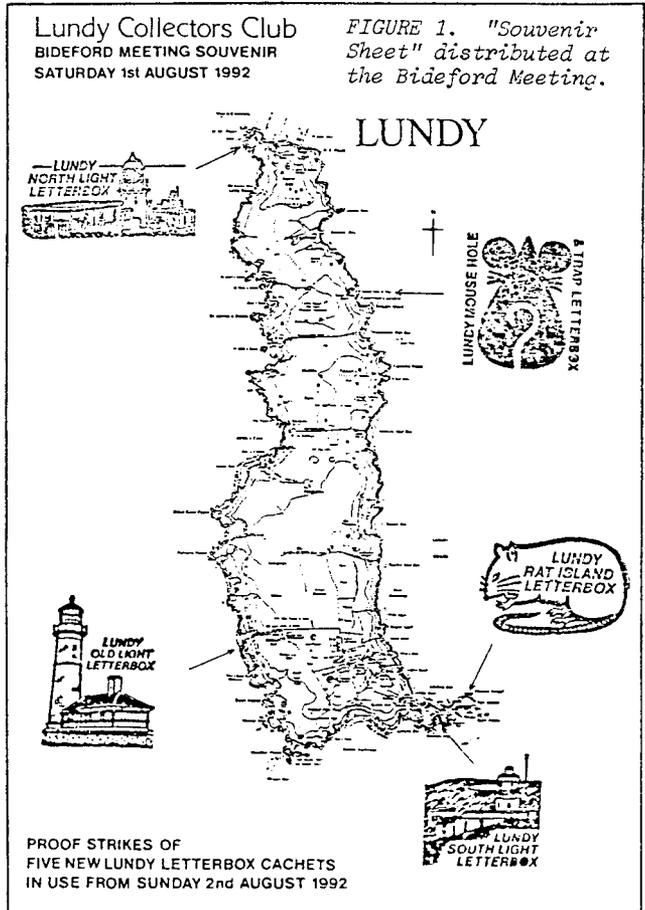
By Jon Aitchison

The Lundy Collectors Club held its fourth annual meeting at the Bideford Stamp Day on Saturday, August 1, 1992. Once again we were the guests of the Bideford and North Devon Stamp Club at its annual society exhibition and bourse. About 30 L.C.C. members attended our meeting, which followed the usual pattern of a bourse and competition. Six members offered Lundy material for sale at our club bourse, and John Dyke exhibited a range of original artwork for the recent "Discover Lundy" stamp issue. The club competition for the *Stanley Newman Trophy* attracted four entries and was won for the second time in succession by Raymond Morgan who had come from Northern Ireland for the event.

A souvenir (*Figure 1, below right*) was available for everyone who attended the event. It was a map of the Island with proof strikes of the five new Lundy letterbox cachets, details of which can be found at the end of this article. We had the

usual Lundy Post Office facility, offering people an opportunity to have covers or postcards posted from the Island. About 60 items were left for posting, and all received a special cachet (*Figure 2, following page*). The Bideford Stamp Day also featured its own exhibition, auction, and bourse. [A summary of the Lundy offerings in this auction are given in my "Lundy at Auction" column on page 19. --RSC] L.C.C. member Roger Hudson (#095) had a stand in the main bourse, and a number of members were able to obtain interesting Lundy items both there and in the auction.

The following day there was one of the rare Sunday sailings of the M.S. *Olænborg* to Lundy from



REPORT: L.C.C. BIDEFORD MEETING AND LUNDY TRIP (Continued)

Barnstaple. Several members had stayed over to visit the Island for the day. The intrepid L.C.C. contingent comprised Reg Lo-Vel who lives on Lundy, Stanley Newman, Ray Morgan, Mike Thompson, Julie Lester, Frank Norman, Roy Bentley, and myself. On the boat journey over, I did my normal party trick of turning green and showing everyone my breakfast!

**POSTED FROM THE
L.C.C. BIDEFORD
1-8-92 MEETING
SENT VIA LUNDY**

FIGURE 2. L.C.C. Meeting Cachet.

The crossing was punctuated by numerous visits to the *Oldenburg's* shop where several new lines were on display and much stamping of postcards took place. Both the *Oldenburg's* shop and the Island's shop were offering three new Lundy postcards and an Irish linen tea-cloth with a large picture of the 1991 29-puffin definitive in a

choice of three colors. I also realized that since my last crossing the M.S. *Oldenburg* had installed an on-board postbox. This created a great opportunity to produce some Lundy paquebot covers.

It hadn't escaped most peoples' notice that I carried a large compressed gas cylinder on board with me. The reason for this became apparent when we docked. Whilst we were waiting to be ferried to the shore, I started to release more than 100 helium-filled balloons with the able assistance of Roy Bentley. After the success of my "seabourne message in a bottle" mail last year, I decided to try sending messages by balloon this time. Each balloon had an attached card (*Figure 3, below*) giving details of a

FIGURE 3.
Wind Survey
Card (pro-
duced by Jon
Aitchison and
released
from Lundy
August 2,
1992).



**LUNDY ISLAND
WIND-CURRENT SURVEY**

PLEASE HELP OUR RESEARCH BY COMPLETING THIS CARD AND RETURNING IT TO US. ALL FINDERS WILL HAVE THEIR POSTAGE REFUNDED AND WILL BE SENT A COPY OF THE SURVEY REPORT. THANKYOU FOR YOUR HELP.

FINDERS NAME _____

FINDERS ADDRESS _____

PLACE OF FINDING _____

DATE OF FINDING _____

Jon promised to write an article that presents "the full results" of this survey. Do you think any of the cards will be found and returned?

REPORT: L.C.C. BIDEFORD MEETING AND LUNDY TRIP (Continued)

Lundy wind survey and asking the finder to send the card back to the Island, indicating where and when it was found. In due course I will write an article giving the full results.

When we returned to the *Oldenburg* after our day on Lundy, Roy and I let off the remainder of the balloons. However, we were left with a lot of helium, so I demonstrated to a group of rock climbers what happens to your voice if you inhale it. Helium is quite harmless and is used by deep-sea divers in pressurized environments, but it makes your voice go uncontrollably squeaky. The sight and sound of massive butch rock climbers talking like Donald Duck had the other passengers in hysterics.

My day on Lundy was spent dashing around the Island visiting the existing Lundy "Dartmoor" letterboxes and siting three new ones. For anyone who does not know about the Lundy Dartmoor letterboxes, there is an explanatory text following this article that is taken verbatim from the information sheet in the Marisco Tavern and deals with the history and location of the boxes. [A brief explanation of the Dartmoor letterbox history on Lundy was previously given on page 9 of the Fall 1991 LCCPQ. --RSC] First I had to visit the existing box at the Mouse Hole and Trap on the east coast. I had arranged to relocate this box as its original location was very close to a cliff edge that was approached via a steep, bracken-covered slope and a path on the very edge of the cliff that was rapidly eroding. The Island authorities were loath to send people there as they considered it dangerous. I took the opportunity to move it to a more accessible and safer location on the plateau above the Mouse Hole and Trap. At the same time, I replaced the original wooden cachet device with a new rubber one of a similar design. It was difficult to get a clear impression from the old wooden one.

Next came a hike to the North Light to place a new letterbox there, followed by a visit to the first of these boxes to be sited on Lundy at The Battery. From there I went to the top of The Old Light to position the second new box, then on to the Tavern to use the recent, but existing box that is there. (*The Marisco Tavern letterbox cachet is illustrated as Figure 4 at right.*) With the *Oldenburg's* sailing time approaching, I just managed to leave the third of my new boxes at the South Light but did not have time to go to the Rat Island box where I had hoped to leave a new rubber-stamp cachet device. This was subsequently sent on to Reg Lo-Val whom I asked to take it to the Rat Island box when he could.

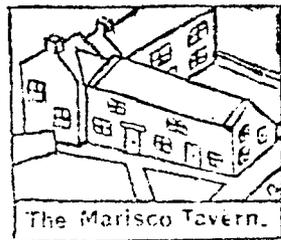


FIGURE 4.
Marisco Tavern Cachet.

The *Oldenburg's* return sailings to Barnstaple always seem to be eventful. The first time it sailed from there, when there was also an L.C.C. contingent on board, she ran aground in the estuary. The Captain obviously learned from that experience because this time he decided there was insufficient depth of water to go straight in. Instead, we temporarily docked at a rarely disused quay and waited for the tide to come in. He also took on a local pilot to navigate.

In summary, a most enjoyable weekend was had by all. I feel sure that we all would recommend you joining us on a future Lundy visit or at the next L.C.C. meeting.

DARTMOOR LETTERBOXES ON LUNDY

[Editor's note: The following account of the Dartmoor-style letterboxes is the verbatim text from an explanatory sheet that is available in the Marisco Tavern to Lundy guests. No author is cited, though I suspect it was prepared by Wendy Puddy with some help from Jon Aitchison. --RSC]

A BRIEF HISTORY OF DARTMOOR LETTERBOXES

The idea of letterboxes on Dartmoor originated in 1854 when a Dartmoor guide named James Perrott placed a bottle in a bank at Cranmere Pool as a receptacle for the cards of the intrepid walkers he had escorted there.

By 1888, a tin box had replaced the bottle, and in 1905, a visitors' book was provided, and gradually one's signature in the book took over from the calling cards. Later, a rubber stamp and ink pad were added, and it became fashionable to leave a postcard addressed to oneself or a friend in the box. This would be stamped by the next caller to the box and posted on (via a more conventional letterbox) from his hometown. Duck's Pool letterbox dates from 1938. The box was set up by a group of walkers known as Dobson's Moormen in memory of William Crossing, the Dartmoor writer and gazetteer, in addition to being a memorial to a great Dartmoor figure.

By 1976, there were fifteen known boxes on the moor, and these were described in an illustrated chart designed to provide interesting walks on the moor. This chart proved so popular that people started putting out other boxes to provide other sites to visit, and from then on, letterboxes suffered a population explosion.

The modern letterbox is usually contained in an old ammunition tin or any other waterproof container. Before anyone has a fit at the thought of 1000 or so of these littering up Dartmoor, I would suggest they go out and have a look for themselves. If you don't know where to look, I would defy you to find any. You do not need to be equipped with your garden spade before you join the hunt—though well concealed, these boxes are not three feet underground. You are more likely to come across a box if you look between a crack in the rocks, in a natural niche in a peat bank, or, masked by heather, under a boulder. Find one box and, in the visitor's book, you may well find clues to another. If you want to go letterboxing in comfort, try the Plume of Feathers at Princetown, The Kings Arms at Okehampton, The Rock Inn at Haytor Vale, or the Museum of Dartmoor Life at Okehampton. At these places, of course, you don't have to search for the visitor's book and stamp; just ask for it.

DARTMOOR LETTERBOXES ON LUNDY

The first Dartmoor letterbox was established on Lundy in 1987. It is located at the top of the steps to The Battery and was placed there by Bill and Daphne Bishop of 65 New Road, Esher, Surrey. Shortly afterwards, a second box was placed near the Mouse Hole and Trap by Andrew Martin and friends. In 1991, a third box was established by Jon Aitchison and George Fabian of the Lundy Collectors Club. Later that year, Bill and Daphne Bishop returned and installed a fourth box in the tavern which also contains a most ingenious puzzle. The Bishops, meanwhile, had installed a Dartmoor letterbox near the Mount Everest base camp in Nepal. It took over thirteen months for the card they left to be returned! Jon Aitchison returned to Lundy in August 1992 and sited three new boxes at the North Light, South Light, and Old Light, as well as moving the Mouse Hole and Trap box and providing it with a new rubber stamp. This box was

DARTMOOR LETTERBOXES ON LUNDY (Continued)

originally very close to a cliff-edge path that was eroding, and the cliff edge itself was obscured by bracken. The Island authorities were reluctant to send people there for fear of an accident, so the opportunity was taken to move it to a new safer location on the plateau above the Mouse Hole. At the time of writing (August 5, 1992), Jon Aitchison has just sent a new rubber stamp for the Rat Island letterbox to Reg Lo-Vel, the Island mason, and asked him to substitute it for the original one. Hopefully, this should be in place some time in August 1992.

HOW TO USE ONE OF THESE LETTERBOXES

Most letterboxes contain an ink pad, rubber stamp, visitor's book, and pen in a waterproof container. You may take a postcard or letter that should be stamped with the correct Lundy post rate to the box and leave it in the waterproof container. Whilst there, you can enter your name and comments in the visitor's book and you should take away any letters or cards that have been left by the previous visitor(s) and post them when you return to the tavern. If you do not have a Lundy stamp, you can leave the correct amount of money instead. Similarly, if the letters in the box do not have stamps, there should be the right money left to cover postage which you may take.

Another tradition that is establishing itself is to leave a small treat for the next visitor, such as a sweet or biscuit, etc. When you have finished with the box, please ensure that it is securely returned to its waterproof container and substantially held down by rocks as Lundy gales will blow away any that are not. Enjoy finding the boxes.

HOW TO FIND THE LETTERBOXES

THE BATTERY - This is located in a crack between two large rocks about 30 feet to the right of the top of the steps leading to The Battery.

MOUSE HOLE AND TRAP - Located in a small depression on the plateau that juts forward above the Mouse Hole and Trap.

RAT ISLAND - This can be found in a depression on the summit of Rat Island. To get to the summit, you must find out the time of low tide. The only practical way to ascend the island is to approach via the rocks on the south side and climb the slope from the east back towards the west—in other words, facing the South Light. This can only be achieved at low tide. Please do not attempt to climb the South cliffs. Although they are easy at the bottom, the top of these cliffs are made of loose shale that breaks up as you stand on it.

THE TAVERN - Probably the easiest letterbox to find. Simply look on the games shelf in the Marisco Tavern. Although you can find the box easily, there is a brain-numbing puzzle to be solved inside.

NORTH LIGHT - Located in a corner of the small derelict building at the extreme end of the North Lighthouse. You need to go to the most seaward end of the lighthouse and look down before this building becomes visible.

THE OLD LIGHT - Sited on the central pillar in the room at the top of The Old Lighthouse. This lighthouse is sometimes locked, but the key can be obtained from the Tavern.

THE SOUTH LIGHT - Follow the new steps from the new road to the very top. As you reach the end of this path, you will be facing the entrance to the South Lighthouse. The box is located under rocks to the right of the entrance.

LUNDY "TRAMTICKET" REGISTER (UPDATE REPORT - SEPTEMBER 1992)

By Michael H. Bale

Roll	Numbers	Unused Total	Used to Lundy	Used from Lundy	Used To/From?	Total Used	Total All
<i>Half-penny (½d)</i>							
1	00001-00500	17	27	33	15	75	92
2	00501-01000	48	0	9	0	9	57
3	01001-01500	24	0	3	3	6 (a)	30
4	01501-02000	2 (b)	0	32	6	38	40
5	02001-02500	61	6	29	20	55	116
6	02501-03000	89	4 (c)	2	5	11	100
7	03001-03500	4 (d)	8	36	7	51	55
8	03501-04000	0 (e)	0	1	2	3 (f)	3
9	04001-05000	177	18	5	3	26	203
10	05000-06000	<u>346</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>370</u>
	Totals (½d)	768	71	157	70	298	1066
<i>One Penny (1d)</i>							
1	00001-01000	140	1 (g)	0	4	5	145
2	01001-02000	<u>134</u>	<u>1</u> (h)	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>150</u>
	Totals (1d)	274	2	7	12	21	295
<i>Three Pence (3d)</i>							
1	00001-00500	49	3	2	7	12	61
2	00501-01000	117	0	3 (i)	1	4	121
3	01001-01500	0	0	0	0	0 (j)	0
4	01501-02000	111	0	11	15	26	137
5	02001-03000	253	2	5	16	23	276
6	03000-04000	<u>54</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>6</u> (k)	<u>60</u>
	Totals (3d)	584	6	26	39	71	655
Total - all values		1686	79	190	121	390	2016

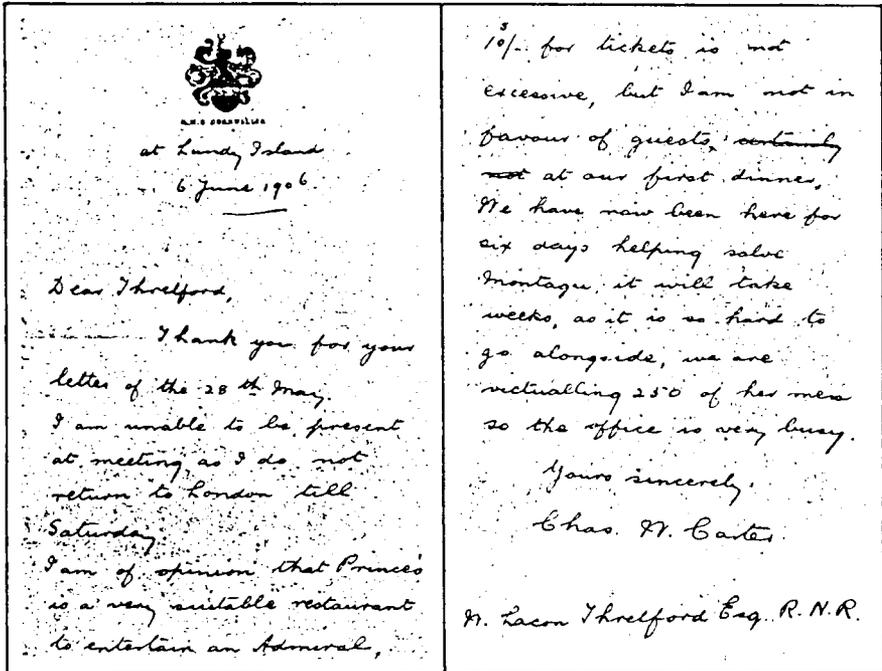
Rare items to watch out for:

- (a) ½d Roll 3, only three covers recorded.
 (b) ½d Roll 4, only two unused examples known.
 (c) ½d Roll 6, only six covers recorded.
 (d) ½d Roll 7, only four unused examples known.
 (e) ½d Roll 8, no unused examples known.
 (f) ½d Roll 8, two examples known used on piece from the correct time of usage; also one cover known used in 1956 (Nicklin type).
 (g) 1d Roll 1, only one cover known for the correct period (No. 00003); only four used examples known.
 (h) 1d Roll 2, of the eight recorded covers, at least six are 1960s use (i.e., long "out of time").
 (i) 3d Roll 2, only three properly used covers recorded.
 (j) 3d Roll 3, no example of any type known.
 (k) 3d Roll 6, of the six recorded covers, at least five are used "out of time" (i.e., in the 1950s).

[Note: Since this Register was last published (pages 6-7, Summer 1987 *LCCPQ*), 64 additional "tramtickets" (16 x ½d, 23 x 1d, 25 x 3d) have been recorded. I hope that readers will respond to this worthy project by sending information on any examples you have to Michael Bale (P.O. Box 1, Ilfracombe, Devon, EX34 9BR, England) or the *LCCPQ* Editor. --RSC]

LUNDY SHIP LETTER — H.M.S. MONTAGU SALVAGE OPERATION

Jim Mullett shares with us his latest "Ship Letter"! He writes: Sorry about the quality, but both the envelope and writing paper are mottled blue, as is the *Cornwallis* crest (inset left) and will not copy very well. The letter gives an interesting insight into an Officer's interests." The letter in a reduced manner is illustrated below to give a flavor of this postal history item. The envelope did not reproduce well, although the G.B. franking is shown below. Jim provided the text of the letter and details of the postal routing, and these are presented below.



A letter was sent on June 6, 1906 from a Royal Naval Officer serving on board H.M.S. *Cornwallis*, a sister ship of the *Montagu* assisting at the wreck site. This letter was posted to London from Pembroke Dock (inset right is the "5:30 PM/JU 6/06/PEMBROKE DOCK" double-circle datestamp from the cover), having arrived from Lundy, probably by Royal Navy tender. Pembroke Dock would have been a convenient base to coordinate the *Montagu* salvage operation. The letter reads: "at Lundy Island / 6 June 1906 / Dear Threlford, / Thank you for your letter of the 28th May. / I am unable to be present at meeting as I do not return to London till Saturday. / I am of opinion that Prince's is a very suitable restaurant to entertain an Admiral. / 10/- for tickets is not excessive, but I am not in favour of guests [certainly not lined out] at our first dinner. / We have now been here for six days helping salvage Montagu, it will take weeks, as it is so hard to go alongside, we are victualing 250 of her men so the office is very busy. / Yours sincerely / Chas. N. Carter / N. Lacon Threlford Esq., R.N.R."



Lundy at Auction

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

Negev Holyland Stamps Ltd. Fourth Lundy Postal Bid Sale

The fourth Lundy postal bid sale conducted by Michael H. Bale (L.C.C. #161) under the aegis of his Negev Holyland Stamps Ltd. firm (P.O. Box No. 1, Ilfracombe, Devon, EX34 9BR, England; telephone 0271-862857, FAX 0271-867161) closed February 3, 1992. This auction contained 568 lots at a cumulative estimate of £13,361.50, and realizations of the 231 lots that sold totaled £3644.35 against a cumulative estimate of £3619.50, or only 0.7 percent above estimates. A summary of the realizations by category is given in Table 1 below.

Table 1. Summary of Negev's Fourth Lundy Auction (February 2, 1992).

Category	Lots Offered		Lots Sold			
	No.	Estimates	No.	Estimates	Realiz'ns	%R:E*
postal history	68	£ 1028.75	41	£ 690.50	£ 774.40	112.2
postcards	11	46.75	8	30.50	42.50	139.4
stamps	346	9371.00	134	1761.00	1734.20	98.5
proofs	76	2394.50	22	831.00	784.00	94.3
L.C.C. + bogus	15	210.50	10	181.50	174.50	96.1
ephemera	8	40.00	4	22.50	23.50	104.4
literature	29	224.00	8	78.00	86.50	110.9
non-Lundy lots	15	336.00	4	24.50	24.75	101.0
Total (all lots)	568	£13651.50	231	£ 3619.50	£ 3644.35	100.7

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

Although 40.7 percent of the lots sold (which exceeded the previous Negev Lundy sale by 2.6 percent), only 26.5 percent of the total estimated value of all the lots sold, indicating that many of the lots with higher estimates failed to attract bids. In general, the pricey lots of rare or esoteric material sold regardless of estimates. It was the pricey lots consisting of panes, sheets, large multiples—and there were many of these items in this auction—that were passed up by bidders.

Covers and postal history lots outperformed those in the previous Negev auction as 41 of 68 (60.3 percent) sold, realizing 12.2 percent above their estimates, compared to only 30 of 70 (42.9 percent) selling and realizing 2.8 percent above their estimates in the third sale. However, these results are skewed by the fact that one lot probably set the record realization for a flown ACAS "tramticket" cover, and when it is excluded from the statistics, the balance of the sold cover lots realized only 96.4 percent of their cumulative estimate. The aforementioned "record breaker" was an inward October 26, 1935 cover from Newport, Monmouth., with a roll 1 (#00405) ½d "tram" on front tied by a rare *Chinchen/Newman* type Ca "dotted roll" dateline cancellation. Michael Bale gave the cover a modest estimate of £100 against a *Newman* valuation of £220, and (for once) bidders must have agreed with Stanley since it fetched a whopping £205!

The better postal history items sold as seven of the other twelve cover lots given estimates of or in excess of £25 found buyers. All three G.P.O. "Lundy Island" *Chinchen*-postmarked postcards sold, although these lots realized only £185 against their £190 cumulative estimate. Some of the better covers (with £ estimate/£ realization appearing in parentheses following brief descriptions) included: an outward October 27, 1935

LUNDY AT AUCTION (Continued)

flown cover with an uncanceled ACAS ½d "tram" (roll 1, #00264) on back (£27/£22.50—what a difference a type Ca cancellation makes!), a pilot-signed outward November 16, 1935 flown cover with type Cb cancelled ACAS ½d "tram" (roll 1, #00434)(£40/£35), an outward April 1, 1936 FDC for the ACAS ½d "large map" stamp (£22/£20), an inward pilot-signed FDC for the same stamp (£30/£28), a July 1940 Captain Smye-prepared inward cover from Gibraltar with a superfluous LACAL ½d red "air view" tied by green "AIR SERVICE...SUSPENDED..." cachet (£52.50/£38), a Captain Smye-prepared "Wartime Civil Defence" leaflet franked with G.B and Lundy stamps and superfluous LACAL ½d and 1d stamps tied by an "AIR SERVICE...SUSPENDED..." cachet (£45/£--), a cacheted FDC for the November 8, 1950 ½p "BY AIR" stamp (£30/£--), a May 1, 1972 postcard for FDI of the 1p blue overprint provisional (£16/£19), and a C.T.O. FDC for the unissued 1979 Lundy Philatelic Service unofficial 9p and 11p essays (£17.50/£18). The best postcard lot was the only pre-1960 item offered—a Sweetman "Sunshine" series 37648A, real sepia photocard of "The Cave, Lundy" which sold for £8 against its £6 estimate.

The strength of past Negev Lundy sales have been the "proof" lots with some outstanding, exhibition-quality material commanding premiums over estimates. In this sale, only 29.0 percent of the proof lots sold, but these represented 34.7 percent of the cumulative estimate in the category, indicating that once again it was the pricier, more esoteric items that attracted bidders. The highlight item was a set of five imperforate proof singles in issued colors on thin ungummed paper of the 1929-1930 definitives (ex-Stannard, ex-Ulrich). This lot also turned out to be a disappointment for the owner (but not for the buyer) as it realized only £140 against an estimate of £190 and *Newman* valuation of £250. Two lots of ACAS "large map" proofs—imperforate pairs of the 3d stamps in issued color and 6d stamps in unissued red (hence a color trial)—failed to sell against their respective £150 estimates. Likewise, two subject impressions of 15 "V + plane" overprint clichés in pale green on white paper and deep blue on yellow paper failed to sell against their respective £90 estimates.

Several rare, seldom-seen WWII-era overprint varieties (inverted and doubled overprints, trial colors, etc.) were offered at relatively modest estimates (considering how few of these items appear on the market). Perhaps the best of these was a 1943 "IX Anniversary" souvenir sheetlet overprinted in green (trial color or proof of base underprinting for the gold?) which fetched £72 against its £70 estimate. Other notable lots (with £ estimate/£ realization in parentheses following brief descriptions) included: a mint LH 1p stamp with inverted green "V + plane" overprint (£10/£11), mint LH 9p stamp with inverted red color trial "V + plane" overprint (£10/£10), mint 1p with inverted "IX Anniversary" overprint (£24/£22), and mint 12p stamp with doubled "IX Anniversary" overprint (£35/£35). Contemporary 1943 Rigby Hall "Bureau essays" fared well with two different 3p "Wright Brothers" examples fetching £35 each against respective estimates of £25, and a set of six different imperforate 10p examples on thin ungummed paper sold for £136 against an estimate of £140. A set of bromide photo proofs in black of the 1954 dated Jubilee airmails made from paste-ups and each mounted onto a large thick white printer's sample card ("believed 12 sets made, only some on cards") realized £110 against an estimate of £120.

Although 134 of 346 (38.7 percent) of the stamp lots sold, these lots represented only 18.8 percent of the cumulative estimate, indicating

LUNDY AT AUCTION (Continued)

that many of the higher-priced lots failed to sell. For example, of the 22 lots of 1940 "Red Cross" stamps estimated at £3120, only four lots sold and these had estimates totaling £280 but realized only £221. A complete set of ½p to 12p "Red Cross" issues in blocks of four, including the "Puffin" error on one stamp of each block except for the 3p and 4p values, failed to sell despite (or as a result of) an estimate of £1075 against a *Newman* valuation of £1530. A lot consisting of mint blocks of four of the ½p and 12p "Red Cross" stamps with inverted overprints that was estimated at £700 also went unsold. A basic mint "Red Cross" set realized only £167 against an estimate of £210 and *Newman* valuation of £274.

Not all the stamps fared as poorly as the "Red Cross" lots, and some of the better performers (f estimates/f realizations in parentheses following brief descriptions) included: a mint sheet of 120 of the 1930 6p definitive (£45/£43), unused (no gum) ACAS 3d "tram" from roll 1 with a low number (#00071) (£6/£17), mint LH ACAS 3d "tram" from roll 6 (#03122) (£22.50/£26), mint NH block of four ACAS 1/- "large map" (£40/£41), mint LH block of four 1938 LACAL "5-line" overprint (positions 41-42 and 47-48 with rare "Atlantic" error on position 42) (£125/£130), four used "V + plane" 1p stamps in four different overprint colors (*Newman* #38A-38D) (£35/£40), mint LH "V + plane" 6p double overprint variety (£35/£35), mint NH top right-hand corner block of four "BY AIR + 8/3-line" (*Newman* #78A) (£19/£21.50), mint NH set of 1957 definitives (£15/£19), and mint NH 1957 1p stamp (£14/£15.50). Many of the cheaper stamp lots fetched £1-2 above their less than £10 estimates, so it appears that bidders were more interested in filling *holes* in their collections than in going after the more expensive "exhibit-quality" items.

The various L.C.C. "souvenir" and bogus items fared well with two-thirds of the 15 lots selling, but there were no outstanding realizations experienced by any of the lots. The priciest lots in this category were the 1989 "Barry Chinchin" sheetlets in all six transfer types (£42.50 against an estimate of £48 for individual sheetlets and £70 against an estimate of £70 for a complete uncut sheet of the six sheetlets—perhaps it is time for me to soften my position on Ken Gibson and the 1989 R.S.P.B. fiasco!). The best ephemera lot consisted of six "puffin" stamps mounted on the Littleton Stamp Company "King of Lundy" approval sheet which fetched £10 against an estimate of £9—no doubt early L.C.C. members remember when Littleton offered these to *LCCFQ* readers for \$4 (Spring 1981 *LCCFQ*, page 4). Among the literature lots, a hardback (1946) second edition of Richard Perry's *Lundy Isle of Puffins* realized £20 against its £18 estimate, and a hardback (1970) first edition of A. and M. Langham's *Lundy* realized £15 against its £14 estimate. Among the non-Lundy lots, the lone Jethou and all three Herm Island offerings sold, but all the others were ignored by bidders.

I want to close this discussion by noting that U.K. bidders have to add 17.5 percent VAT (value-added tax) to their purchases and at the time of this auction the pound was worth about \$1.90—perhaps these two factors discouraged collectors on both sides of the Atlantic from more eager participation!

The auction catalogues for Negev Holyland's fifth Lundy postal bid sale, which closed November 19, 1992, were distributed to Michael Bale's clients during October. This sale consisted of 697 lots at a cumulative estimate of £11,601.75 (assuming my preliminary arithmetic is correct)

LUNDY AT AUCTION (Continued)

and included many items from the Lundy collection of the late Ian G. Wilkinson that Michael Bale had acquired in its entirety earlier this year. Ian was a consummate collector of Lundy postal history and covers, postcards, literature, ephemera, and memorabilia—as well as a specialist in and chronicler of bogus Lundy philatelic material—so it came as no surprise that this auction was loaded with scarce and seldom-seen items in all of these categories. A detailed summary of this sale will appear in a future column after I receive the realizations and have an opportunity to dissect them.

Channel Island Stamp Company Monthly Postal Bid Sales

There was only one Lundy lot offered in the 90th postal bid sale of the Channel Island Stamp Company (C.I.S.C., Havilland Street, St. Peter Port, Guernsey, Channel Islands, U.K.; telephone 0481-725560, FAX 0481-711012), which closed June 1, 1992. This lot was an outward (philatelic) cover to Swansea with a G.B. QEII 2½d definitive tied by a Braunton August 20, 1953 c.d.s. and on the rear complete sets of Lundy 1957 "flying birds," 1930, and 1939 definitives and the 1951 8p on 12p revaluation provisional stamp all cancelled by Lundy August 19, 1953 circular datestamps; it was estimated at £15.

There were five Lundy lots in the C.I.S.C. 91st postal bid sale, which closed June 30, 1992. The best was a 1906 black-and-white photocard of "HMS *Montagu* on the Rocks, Lundy Island," published by Western Mail Ltd. of Cardiff and postally used to Lynton with G.B. KEVII ½d definitive tied by a "Lundy Island" August 6, 1906 *thimble* postmark, which was estimated at a hefty £100. An unused black-and-white photocard of the *Montagu* published by Hiorns & Miller was estimated at £12. A Phillips-prepared 1937 "Coronation" cover was estimated at £15, an outward cover with a Lundy "BY AIR" ½p stamp (setting not mentioned) tied on the rear by a January 23, 1951 c.d.s. was estimated at £15, and a 1972 cover to Westward Ho with a St. Helena's 1p stamp tied on front (unusual) and "Delayed by Storm" cachet was estimated at £10.

There was no Lundy material offered among the 1296 lots in C.I.S.C.'s postal bid sale no. 92, which closed July 31, 1992, nor among the 1330 lots in C.I.S.C.'s postal bid sale number 93, which closed September 1, 1992. There were three Lundy items among the 1389 lots in C.I.S.C.'s 94th postal bid sale, which closed September 30, 1992. A selection of 1929-1955 mint and C.T.O. stamps on leaves (an "attractive lot, mainly bird thematic appeal") was estimated at £8-10. [C.I.S.C. auction manager Derek Tomlin (L.C.C. #114) began using *estimate ranges* in sale no. 92. I dislike these, especially when the ranges are inconsistent (e.g., £100-120 for one lot but £100-150 for another), which frequently occurs in the C.I.S.C. sales. The ranges attract bids in amounts that differ from the published increments for the range but are still legal based on the range, so what happens when bids of £125 and £130 are received on a lot estimated at £100-150? The bidding increment for this range is stated in the auction terms to be £10. This situation will require a "judgement call" by the auctioneer that no doubt will elicit a strong protest by the bidder who does not get the lot.] Getting back to the 94th sale, the 1906 photocard of the *Montagu* with G.P.O. "Lundy Island" *thimble* postmark that did not sell in the 91st sale was offered again, this time at a more reasonable estimate of £70-80 and sold for £75. The third lot was another holdover from the 91st sale—the Hiorns & Miller *Montagu* photocard, which was offered this time at a modest £8-10.

LUNDY AT AUCTION (Continued)

There were no Lundy lots among the 1250 lots that comprised C.I.S.C.'s postal bid sale no. 95, which closed October 30, 1992. C.I.S.C.'s postal bid sale no. 96, which closed November 30, 1992, offered eight Lundy lots estimated at £119.50 (using the midpoint of the estimate ranges to calculate this amount). The best of four covers offered was an unusual 1941 inward, with a block of four LACAL 1939 id "lighthouse" stamps "cancelled" by an "AIR SERVICE...SUSPENDED..." (*Chinchen/Newman* type E) cachet in green and a Lundy "1929-1939" overprint 1p stamp tied by a *Chinchen* type Fa datestamp, which was modestly estimated at £20-30. The two unusual elements about this cover: it was a KGVI 1d embossed postal stationery envelope rather than a stamped cover and it was not a Captain Smye-prepared item (being typewritten addressed to John E. Moss). The other three covers were Phillips-prepared 1937-1939 items estimated at £10-12 or £10-15. Three sets of stamps were offered at modest estimates: a used set of ACAS "large maps" (*Newman* valuation £39) for £10-15, mint LH 1943 "IX Anniversary" overprints (set of nine, minus the 12p stamp—*Newman* valuation £52) at £10-12, and a used set of 1943 "Wright Brothers biplane" overprints (*Newman* valuation of £100+ because of some minor varieties) for £20-30. The final lot consisted of 1951 and 1957 presentation cards with complete mint (but mounted) definitive sets (including the scarce 1957 1p stamp cataloguing £20) plus "V + plane" overprint mint LH ½p and used 2p stamps, all estimated at £10-12.

Bideford Stamp Club Members' August 1, 1992 Auction

There were 27 Lundy lots at reserves totaling £92.45 offered in the Bideford Stamp Club members' auction held on August 1, 1992 at the Bideford School—not too surprising when one considers the L.C.C. used the Bideford Stamp Club's annual exhibition as its meeting venue as well. There were no Lundy rarities offered in this sale, but the lots represented a good range of issues from 1943 into the present and were "priced to sell" at their modest reserves. Two lots that caught my eye were "three used covers posted from Lundy in August 1930, each with ½p and 1p definitives and early Lundy cancel" (no doubt C.T.O./without G.B. franking) at a reserve of £3 for all three and *Bushell and Harman of Lundy* in mint condition also at a reserve of £3.

In case any reader wants to consign material (12% commission on sold lots only) or receive future catalogues (as mail bids are accepted), the auctioneer for the Bideford Stamp Club auctions is Mr. J. Wigmore, 19 Riversmeet, Appledore, Bideford, North Devon, EX39 1RE, England; telephone 0237-476859. [Vickey Wigmore (L.C.C. #305) resides at this same address, so the auctioneer must be her father, brother, or husband—I'll find out.] Thanks go to Jon Aitchison for the catalogue pages with the Lundy lots.

Lundy Collectors Club Mini Mail Sale Number Eight

The L.C.C. mini mail sale number 8, which closed July 29, 1992, was a rousing success as all but three of the 44 auction lots sold. The sold lots realized £616 against reserves totaling £454, or a whopping 40.9 percent above reserves. The non-Lundy lots fared almost as well, as seven of the eight lots sold, realizing £258 against reserves of £200, or 40.9 percent above reserves. In addition, auctioneer Jon Aitchison reported that all 14 of the "fixed price" lots were sold out. If one purchased one of each item offered at fixed prices, the total cost would have been £18, taking into consideration that 12 lots priced at £22.10 were offered as a single discounted lot at £18.

LUNDY AT AUCTION (Continued)

Perhaps the best Lundy lot in this sale was the C.T.O. (non-G.P.O. usage) FDC of the four "wrong color" overprinted 1953 Coronation stamps (*Newman* #86a-89a) that fetched £126 against a modest £90 reserve ("modest" in that the stamps alone have a *Newman* valuation of £130 off cover). The other Lundy lot of note was an original 1969 edition of Barry N. D. Chinchon's *A Catalogue of Lundy Stamps* that sold for £61 against its £40 reserve. The only other two original editions of this catalogue that I have seen offered at auction achieved £55 in the 1987 Cinderella Stamp Club members' auction and £85 for a privately bound copy in the C.I.L.A. No. 17 Lundy auction which closed January 21, 1992.

Amongst the non-Lundy lots, the Jethou/Lihou collection cataloguing £400+ sold for £61 against its £50 reserve, and the Herm Island collection cataloguing £655+ sold for £76 against its £65 reserve. Lot 42, which coincidentally consisted of 42 different FDCs from Bardsey, Drake, Galf of Man, Davaar, Jethou, Eynhallow, Gugh, Staffa, Summer Isles, and Herm, fetched £40 against its £18 reserve.

L.C.C. mini mail sale number 9, which closed October 14, 1992, consisted of 13 different fixed-price lots, 22 Lundy lots with a cumulative reserve of £66.50, and three non-Lundy lots with a cumulative reserve of £18. Highlights were complete sets of the Lundy 1982 definitives in very rare dual gutter pairs offered as fixed-price lots at £125 for mint horizontal pairs, £110 for mint vertical pairs, or £200 for the two sets in each format. I hope to summarize this auction in my next column.

Enfield Stamp Auctions' June 17, 1992 Sale

Enfield Stamp Auctions (119 Chase Side, Enfield, Middlesex, EN2 6NN, England; telephone 081-367-2653, FAX 081-342-0007) offered nine Lundy cover lots estimated at £147 among the 2178 lots in its June 17, 1992 auction. An inward FDC for the ACAS April 1, 1936 "large map" ½d stamp was estimated at £30. A 1938 inward cover having a Lundy 1929 ½p definitive tied by a *Chinchon* type Fa postmark was estimated at £25, and a 1939 outward flown cover was estimated at £30—both too high in my estimation (pun intended). A 1948 inward postcard bearing Lundy 1943 "IX Anniversary" overprint ½p and 1p stamps was estimated at £25, and an outward 1953 pictorial greetings card with a 1951 "BY AIR" 1p stamp was estimated at £25—again, both too high in my opinion. The other four lots were 1961 "Europa" stamp set FDCs estimated at £3 each. There is no buyer's premium for this auction, but all lots are subject to VAT at the current rate of 17½ percent for U.K. residents (although overseas purchasers do not pay VAT), which severely hampers U.K. bidders. I doubt that Enfield Auctions got U.K. buyers for these lots at their estimates. Thanks go to Jon Aitchison for bringing these lots to my attention.

Messengers Auctions' June 25, 1992 Sale

Lot #661 of the June 25, 1992 sale conducted by Messengers Auctions (8 Parkside Road, Pinhoe, Exeter, EX1 3TN, England) consisted of a 9-inch by 5½-inch cloth edition of J. R. Chanter's *1871 A History of Lundy Island* (59-page offprint from the *Transactions of the Devonshire Association*) bound together with another 13-page offprint, *Notes on the Geology and Mineralogy of the Island of Lundy* by T. M. Hall, and three tipped-in, 3-inch by 4-inch real photographs of Lundy taken by A. Montague in 1921. This rare volume was given an estimate of £30 and sold for £57. Thanks go to Pat Herst for bringing this lot to my attention.

**LUNDY
COLLECTORS CLUB**

**2021 RIDGE ROAD
HOMEWOOD, ILL. 60430**

