

# PHILATELIC QUARTERLY

Lundy Collectors Club  
BIDEFORD MEETING SOUVENIR  
SATURDAY 1st AUGUST 1992



PROOF STRIKES OF  
FIVE NEW LUNDY LETTERBOX CACHETS  
IN USE FROM SUNDAY 2nd AUGUST 1992

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE LUNDY COLLECTORS CLUB

## WINTER 1992-1993

WINTER 1992 - 1993 LCCPQ

(Volume 14, Number 4 — Whole Number 56)

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# L.C.C. PHILATELIC QUARTERLY

"THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE LUNDY COLLECTORS CLUB"

Volume 14, Number 4 (Whole No. 56)

Winter 1992-1993

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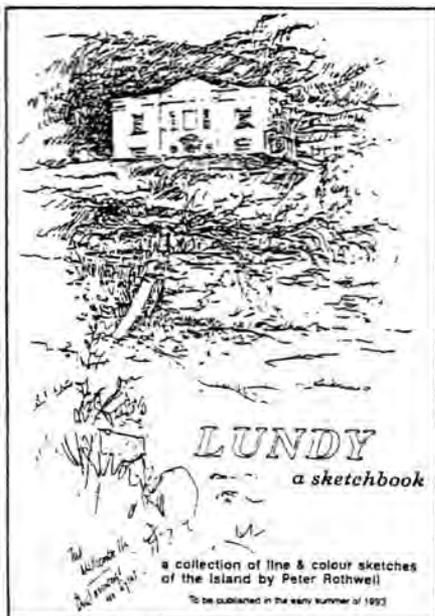
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Membership in the Lundy Collectors Club is open to any person interested in the collecting and study of Lundy stamps, covers, and postal history. Dues of US\$10 per year (U.S., Canadian, and foreign surface rate) or of US\$15 per year (foreign airmail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

## Letters to the Editor

### Book of Lundy Drawings by Peter Rothwell to Be Published

I would like to ask you to do a favor for me and my good friend Anne Westcott, who edits the *Newsletter* for the Lundy Field Society (which, as you know, is an organization that covers every aspect of Lundy activity, except philately—they leave that to us). Anne's friend, Peter Rothwell, a talented local Devon artist, is about to publish a splendid collection of line and color drawings of the Island. The drawings cover buildings and views from all over Lundy, and I can recommend it to all collectors, whether philatelic or not. The book will be a lovely thing just to possess. Can I ask you to put the enclosed illustration (*at right*) in the next *LCCPQ*? The price will be somewhere in the region of \$15-20 (£10-15), and the address to write is: Mrs. Anne Westcott, "Friendship," Guineaford, Marwood, Barnstaple, England.



--Roger E. Allen, Harrow, Middlesex, England  
(November 17, 1992)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (Continued)

*Our longest surviving U.K. member, Roger Allen (#046), who joined the L.C.C. as a charter member in 1979, is the Editor of the quarterly Newsletter of the Cinderella Stamp Club's British Private Post Study Group, a position he assumed in 1983. Roger was a frequent contributor to the LCCPQ into 1987 when apparently obligations to the BPPSG and his bride became all-consuming. After too long an absence, Roger's pen returns to this journal with a splendid account of the first Stamp and Postcard Meet on Lundy, held October 31 to November 3, 1992. --RSC*

Bleak Economic Future Predicted for Lundy

...I am very doubtful about the future of the current regime on Lundy. Poor Landmark has poured millions into the place, and it is still losing money at an unacceptable rate. Lundy, of course, is unlike any other Landmark property as it includes a Community, Farm, Shipping Company, etc. They have decided to draw a line at the end of the 1993 season, by which time they hope the Island to "break even" (but it won't). The end of 1993 is also a watershed in that John and Wendy Puddy's older child will require full-time (mainland) education. The Island workforce has now been pared down to the bone, and if next summer has as poor weather as this one had, and if there is no improvement in the recession (which is in danger of moving into a slump—Europe is far worse than America as we have 10 percent unemployment, France has 12 percent, and even Germany has 9 percent), the Island will have to be abandoned.

It will revert to the National Trust who will be forced to run it as a "Bird Island" only with perhaps a resident Warden supplied by a monthly fishing boat bringing stores. It looks as if the "Discover" stamp series may be the last Lundy issue. We shall see.

--A. F. Langham, Reigate, Surrey, England  
(November 18, 1992)

*Tony Langham is an expert on many matters pertaining to Lundy and a keen observer of Island events. His candid comments about Lundy's economic future were prompted by Landmark Trust's recent announcement that Lundy's operating losses had already exceeded £100,000 this calendar year and that a reduction in the Island's workforce was to take place (refer to the news story that appears elsewhere in this issue for more details). Let's hope that Tony is wrong on this one! --RSC*

Story Behind the "Lundy First Stamp Meet" Postmark

I suppose you have heard of the Stamp Meet on Lundy in October-November and what happened then. Regretfully, I could not be present, but when I spoke to Wendy recently, she told me it was very successful. All participants were pleased and requests came from many to make the occasion an annual event. You have probably seen the special postmark used for the meeting. Wendy had some thoughts about it beforehand and discussed with me about how it should look. She wanted to have something with just text, but I sent her two sketches—one with just text and one based on the 1950 airmail (*Chinchen* type J) canceller. It would be a nice idea to use a well-known old Lundy postmark design again. Wendy liked the idea and contacted the producers to do one. A few days before the Stamp Meet, it arrived and Wendy immediately saw the mistake—they had not done a proper postmark as agreed, but instead produced it from my sketch! So, in a way, I think I was present at that Stamp Meet anyway!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (Continued)

Wendy also informed me about Lundy's stamp plans for next year (1993). Most likely there will not be any new stamps issued as, after all, two sets have come out within one year's time and there is quite a lot of work involved in producing new sets. There still will be some new items for us collectors next year and something completely new for Lundy as well—postal stationery. Two or three cards are planned with various Island motifs, and the 1991 definitives design will be used as stamps. Postal stationery will help them on the Island, especially on busy day-visitor days when a lot of people want to buy and send postcards.

--Lars Liwendahl, Johanneshov, Sweden (November 24, 1992)

*Despite Lars' intention that his postmark sketch only be an indication for a final, graphic-artist-produced version, the resultant postmark (illustrated on page 3 of the Fall 1992 LCCPQ) did not turn out badly and its resemblance to the 1950 "airmail" postmark is apparent. For the benefit of Lars and the rest of us who did not attend in person the first Lundy Stamp and Postcard Meet, Roger Allen's excellent account of it appears on pages 9-13 of this issue. --RSC*

Memorial Tribute to Stanley Charles Smith (1914 - 1992)

I have sad news. My old, longtime Lundy friend Stanley Smith fell ill on Sunday, November 22, was rushed into Barnstaple North Devon Infirmary, and died there the next day, the cause being a blood clot in a lung. We knew he'd been suffering from angina since his wife Audrey's death in July 1990, but it still came as a shock to his daughter June, sons John and Wayland, and indeed to me. During my stay at his home in mid-September, he seemed to have emerged from the depression of the two previous summers following Audrey's death when he became reclusive. But earlier this year, June had persuaded him to join an old-age pensioner's group, and he'd been for a few coach trips with them and enjoyed it. I found him distinctly brighter this time, and, as always, happy to talk "Lundy" with me—always too, with nostalgia for the years he and Audrey spent there together. I was so glad on this visit—having located Mary Gade in her Bideford flat and spending several hours with her—to have been the means of reuniting her with Stanley and June. When she accompanied me down to June's charity shop close to the Quay, they were all so happy to see each other again after a lapse of years.

Stanley was Welsh, from Skewen near Neath in West Glamorgan, and in the depression year of 1931 in his late teens, he was sent by his employment exchange to find work on Lundy as Mr. Gade had advertised for a couple of likely lads. Stanley was the one who stayed, having fallen for the peace and beauty of the Island from the first. Of all the people who profess to love Lundy, none, apart from Mr. Gade, did so more wholeheartedly than Stanley. Stanley put heart and soul into much hard labor in building repairs and saving the slipway from ravages of the sea, as well as completely cleaning out and restoring the water supply in his postwar years there, though his first jobs had been helping in the Tavern bar and hotel kitchen.

He also acted as first nurse-maid to Mary, who was born in 1933, and was describing on my last visit how he had once pushed her in her pram along the track all the way to North End! He recommended a Skewen girl, Audrey Cannon, for the child's care, and later she and Stanley were married in the Church of St. Helena in 1938. She greatly assisted in

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (Continued)

the care of the Church, to which Miss Eileen Heaven, on her visits, was devoted, and the two women were great friends until the former's death.

Stanley was a great reader, and Mr. Gade has described in his book (*My Life on Lundy*) how Stanley was introduced to the work of the 16th Century savant Robert Burton, *The Anatomy of Melancholy*, and studied it closely, feeling at one with the author, laboring to erect a memorial to Burton on an aery spot at the South End of Lundy, which, alas, was destroyed by some vandals after the war when Mr. Gade was ashore temporarily at Hartland Quay. On my stay at Stanley's in 1991, I was shown a beautiful leatherbound, early edition of *The Anatomy*... that Sir John Smith of The Landmark Trust had bestowed, from his own library, on Stanley a few years ago, in recognition of his abiding love of Lundy and for the welfare of the Island.

I think that Stanley and Audrey themselves deserve a memorial, even if only a small tablet insert on one of the Island walls or on one of the guide stones of the track to North End. I would certainly instigate and make a generous contribution to such a memento, and there are still enough of us old habitués who'll remember them and who'd help to boost the amount. I think I'll write Diana Keast with the idea, which I'm sure she'd back, because she was present at the funeral, as was Mary Gade, Mary Percy, Penny Ogilvie, Chris Davy, "Red" Lyall, and Myrtle Ternstrom (formerly Langham).

--Gwyneth White, Penarth, South Glamorgan, Wales, U.K.  
(December 12, 1992)

## IN MEMORIAM — FRANCIS J. FIELD (1895 - 1992)

Francis J. Field of Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, England, died on May 14, 1992, at the age of 97. "FJF" was reknown as an authority on airpost history and a stamp dealer in aerophilately for the past 70 years, having in 1921 founded the stamp firm that bears his name. FJF did much in the early days of commercial aviation to publicize the philatelic aspects of this then-new form of transport. His journal *The Aero Philatelist* was first published in April 1926. FJF was a Founder, Fellow, or Honorary Member of a number of philatelic organizations, including the Society of Postal Historians, Philatelic Traders' Society, Streetly and Birmingham Philatelic Societies, and British Aerophilatelic Federation. He was awarded the pinnacle of Great Britain's philatelic honors in 1968 when he was invited to sign the Royal Philatelic Society's *Roll of Distinguished Philatelists*.

Evidence indicates the FJF firm traded in Lundy stamps and covers in the WWII years. I have an outward February 1, 1942 FDC for the Tighearna sheetlet with the firm's indicium (*illustrated right*) printed in black on the envelope flap. In addition, I have several outward covers from that period that were typewritten-addressed by Felix Gade to this firm. By the way, if Stanley Newman recognizes the "L. Pitman/Coombe Dingle (Bristol) England" indicium as a Lundy-related private cachet (*Newman #PC-1 in his Postal History, Postmarks & Cachets of Lundy Island*), then, by analogy, the printed "FJF" dealer-identifier also should be included in the "PC" listings.



--Roger S. Cichorz

## News of L.C.C. Members

- Richard Drews (#199) won the Grand Award at Florex 92, held November 6-8 in Orlando, Florida, for his exhibit, "U.S. Issues of 1861-68." It was the fourth time Drews' exhibit has received a Grand Award, and it will be entered once again in the American Philatelic Society's "Champion of Champions" competition at the S.P.S. STAMPSHOW 93 exhibition this summer. Florex, Florida's largest stamp show, is sponsored by the Florida Federation of Stamp Clubs. In addition to the Grand Award at Florex 92, Drews' exhibit received a Gold Medal, the Bureau Issues Association Southgate Award (which is given once a year for the best exhibit of 19th Century U.S. stamps), the U.S. Classics Society Award, the A.P.S. Pre-1900 Medal, and the Henry M. Gobie Award. Congratulations, Rich!
- Congratulations are extended to Michael H. Bale (#161) who celebrated 40 years in the stamp trade during 1992. Michael, who deals under the title of Negev Holyland Stamps Limited, was the subject of a "personality profile" that appeared in a recent issue of *The Philatelic Traders' Society Bulletin*. From that article we learned that Michael's career in stamp dealing began at the age of 18 (in 1951) after he purchased for £200 ("quite a large sum in those days") the huge remainder stock of ACAS and LACAL issues consisting of thousands of 1936 "large map" and 1937-1939 airmail stamps. Advertisements were placed in the philatelic periodicals, and many dealers turned to Michael for their Lundy requirements. Michael dealt in Great Britain, British Colonials, and Zeppelin covers, but soon abandoned these areas and began concentrating on Israel after establishing itself as a stamp-issuing entity. Negev Holyland Stamps Ltd. was established in 1978 out of increasing interest in fore-runners, Mandate, postal history, errors—in short, the better quality material of the Holyland area.

The Lundy "bug" bit once again some 12 years ago, and Michael personally started to collect Lundy stamps and postal history, forming an extensive collection in recent years after acquiring the reknown George Ulrich and Ian Wilkinson Lundy Collections. The addition of the Ulrich Collection has resulted in a Lundy holding of some 20 large volumes—not all up to date with mounting and write-ups (sound familiar?!). Because of the amount of material accumulated, Negev added Lundy to its dealing interests several years ago and has built Lundy up into a "steady sideline" with which many L.C.C. members are familiar.

Michael completed his fifth Lundy postal bid sale in November 1992, and if you are not already on his mailing list and interested in acquiring good Lundy material for your collection, it would be to your advantage to contact Michael and ask for your name to be added to the Negev Lundy mailings to receive future auction catalogues and retail price lists. While you are at it, send Michael details of any ACAS "tramtickets" you have for compilation into the "*Tramticket*" Register: Michael H. Bale, Negev Holyland Stamps Ltd., P.O. Box No. 1, Ilfracombe, Devon, EX34 9BR, England; telephone 0271-862857, FAX 0271-867161.

- In December, Roger Hudson (#095) distributed to clients on his mailing list a new retail price list of Lundy stamps and covers that he has for sale. If you are not already a client and interested in acquiring Lundy material for your collection, it would be beneficial to contact Roger for a complimentary copy of his current list and ask to be added to his future mailings. Roger also accepts Lundy want lists for items not in stock because his stock position changes quickly. Contact: Roger Hudson, P.O. Box 172, Coventry, CV6 6NF, England; telephone 0203-686613.

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

- According to Les Winick (#037) in his "The Insider" column that appears in the December 21, 1992 issue of *Linn's Stamp News*, John Van Emden recently joined the Franklin Mint in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, to head its stamps and coins department. L.C.C. members of long standing may recall that John Van Emden was the President of Puff'N Company, a now-defunct stamp firm that specialized in Lundy material and operated out of Towaco, New Jersey, during 1977-1980. Puff'N Company offered retail price lists and held three wonderful Lundy specialist auctions during its brief operation. In addition to the L.C.C. members' auctions and the retail offerings of Ken Gibson, Puff'N Company was one of the few sources of Lundy specialty material at that time.
- Reg Lo-Vel (#345), who resides on Lundy with his wife Jill and two daughters, Jenny (age 13) and Lucy (age 10), has been using a private handstamp on his outgoing mail. This handsome circular cachet (*illustrated right*) was designed by Reg's father-in-law, John Dyke (#135), and shows a puffin in flight over the Island and the words "LUNDY" at the top. Reg will be glad to send an example of a strike of this cachet to anyone who encloses a self-addressed cover (envelope or postcard) and sufficient British postage with the request. Write to Reg Lo-Vel, 4 Barton Cottages, Lundy Island, Bristol Channel, via Bideford, North Devon, EX39 2LY, England.
- Honorary L.C.C. member Herman ("Pat") Herst, Jr. was honored at Miami Stamp Expo 93, held January 8-10, for his 60 years of service to the stamp-collecting hobby. Issued were two souvenir items—a red-and-blue souvenir sheet and matching cacheted cover featuring a likeness of Pat, framed by a simulated postage-stamp design. These are still available by mail; for details, write to the Miami Stamp Expo, Box 611388, North Miami, Florida 33161, U.S.A.



Pat Herst is the author of an entirely new paperback book, *Still More Stories To Collect Stamps By*, published by and currently available for \$12.95 postpaid from *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*, Box 5050, White Plains, New York 10602, U.S.A. As everyone probably knows, Pat ("the doyen of philatelic writers") is the author of several books about his reminiscences of stamp collecting and dealing, and a prolific columnist and writer for several current philatelic periodicals and journals. Since becoming a full-time stamp dealer in 1936, Herst has been the recipient of almost every honor that the philatelic world can bestow upon an individual.

- Two lectures conducted by L.C.C. members at the Austin Philatelic Club's "School of Philately" that was held during 1990 have been compiled with others into a book titled *Austin Philatelic Club School of Philately 1990* that is currently available from this organization for only \$10 postpaid. The topics of "Forgeries & How to Detect Them" by L.C.C. Vice President Jim Czul (#002) and "Paper/Printing Process Preservation" by Austin Dulin (#066) were cited as especially informative by Dane S. Claussen who had this to say about this book in his review that appeared in the January 2, 1993 issue of *Stamp Collector*: "It must be noted that most of this course's information is included in introductions to philately [*but*] the exceptions are most of Dulin's lecture on paper and printing [*and*] the illustrations in Czul's chapter... So, while this course is neither as complete nor as refined as other texts, it definitely is superior in a few areas and adequate in others." To order this book, send \$10 to the Austin Philatelic Club, Box A3960, Chicago, Illinois 60690, U.S.A.

## NEWS ABOUT LUNDY

*Preface:* Readers continue to send clippings from North Devon newspapers about Lundy news and events. The items that follow are condensations of these stories with source citations. Although they are not philatelic, I think they are of sufficient interest to be included here. --RSC

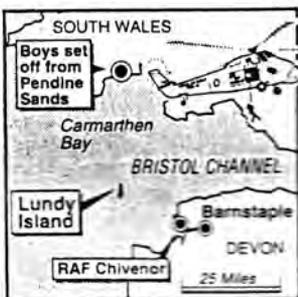
Lundy Marine Reserve Faces Gravel-Dredging Threat. Civil Marine Ltd., of Greenhithe, Kent, applied to the Crown Estate for a license to dredge 850,000 tons of gravel a year from the seafloor 20 miles from Lundy. If granted, the license would allow dredging to take place for 20 years in an area of 30 to 40 square miles. However, the Department of the Environment will undertake a consultation process before determining the application. Conservationists fear England's only marine nature reserve would be adversely affected by the proposed dredging operation. (*Daily Telegraph*, May 4, 1992)

Family Survives Lundy Plane Crash Landing. A family of four from Northampton escaped unhurt May 26, 1992 when the light aircraft in which they were traveling came to grief on the Island runway as the nose wheel of the single-engine plane collapsed as it touched down. A passing rescue helicopter from RAF Chivenor took the family back to the mainland to the Barnstaple Railway Station where they caught the train home. A similar incident occurred two years ago, and The Landmark Trust is now looking into the possibility of improving the Lundy airstrip. (*North Devon Journal*, May 25, 1992, and *Daily Telegraph*, May 27, 1992)

Rabbit Report. An outbreak of myxomatosis is thought to have wiped out two-thirds of Lundy's rabbit population after the number of rabbits had reached plague proportions in 1991 after successive mild winters and no natural predators enabled them to multiply (Spring 1992 *LCCEPQ*, page 5). Lundy Administrator John Puddy believes the disease was brought to Lundy by a team of rabbit catchers with lurcher dogs called in to control the rabbit population. The sudden drastic decline in the rabbit population has had a startling effect on the Island's ecosystem, with flowers and other plants that had not been seen for the past few years coming up. (*Western Daily Press*, June 15, 1992)

Drama on the High Sea. Two teenagers given up for dead when an air-sea search failed to find their missing speedboat, were recovering in an area hospital following a dramatic rescue on June 22, 1992. Gareth Smith managed to swim 200 yards ashore to Lundy after they had drifted 28 miles in two days without food or water. Once ashore on Lundy, Smith broke into an unmanned lighthouse to telephone police to explain that his friend Steven Evans was still in the 12-foot boat and close to death. A Wessex helicopter was immediately scrambled from 22 Squadron at RAF Chivenor and made the 20-minute flight to Lundy. Smith was taken aboard and, despite suffering from hypothermia and severe sunburn, was able to provide details of where he had left the boat. The boat, which had drifted a further mile and a half south, was located, and a dramatic rescue was made of Evans by Winchman-Sergeant Mark Vickery.

A third teenager who was a member of the party, Simon Roberts, had drowned while attempting to swim back to the coast of Pendine where their car was still in sight after the boat ran out of fuel. (*The Daily Telegraph*, June 23, 1992, and *Today*, June 23, 1992)



NEWS ABOUT LUNDY (Continued)

Mary Squire Retires from Lundy, Returns to Bideford. At the age of 59, Mary Squire, daughter of the late Lundy Agent Felix Gade, was forced to retire from her Island position of running the laundry and cleaning the self-catering cottages and return to Bideford, North Devon, in retirement. The Landmark Trust requires its employees to sign a contract to leave the Island before reaching the age of 60, and Mary, despite living 46 years of her life on Lundy, was no exception. Mary's "exile" marks the end of an era as she is the last resident who remembers life on Lundy in the pre-Trust days when her Father was the Island Administrator during the time Lundy was owned by members of the Harman Family. Mary was just two weeks old when she first sailed to Lundy which was to become her home and life for almost half a century. She grew up there, married the then-Island Engineer, had three children, and had 12 years stay on the mainland (Exmoor) before her marriage broke up and she returned to a life on Lundy.

In an interview with newspaper reporters, Mary indicated her life at Exmoor was unhappy and she had always longed to go back to Lundy and its unique way of life. Now living in an apartment, Mary says she is overwhelmed by the traffic, noise, and crush of people in Bideford, and does not know if she will ever get used to it. The Landmark Trust's employment policy was succinctly stated by John Puddy, present Lundy Administrator: "Living on Lundy is rather like living on a ship; we are here to serve the public, and no one is ever employed under the impression there is a home for life." Puddy added that there is simply no room on Lundy for pensioners, and if everyone who worked there stayed on, there would be no facilities for newcomers to move into. [*Still, it seems that an exception could have been made in Mary's case on account of her Father's outstanding services to the Island for over half a century and her own dedication to Lundy throughout her life! --RSC*] (*Western Daily Press*, June 6, 1992; *Sunday Independent*, June 7, 1992; and *North Devon Journal*, June 18, 1992)

Oil Rig Threat to Lundy. A similar scenario to the proposed dredging operation, in which a rig could soon be drilling for oil as close as 20 miles to the North Devon coast, has cropped up and has the various area councils weighing the economic benefits against potential environmental effects. John Puddy commented: "There could be a major impact to Lundy if there were to be an oil spillage. We are protected by statute against pollution from any source, applying one kilometer off our shores." (*North Devon Journal*, August 6, 1992)

Jobs Slashed as Lundy's 1992 Operating Losses Exceed £100,000. The ravages of the U.K. recession have reached Lundy as six Island workers were laid off, reducing Lundy's population to only 11 adults, the lowest it has been in many years. Additionally, two of the crew of seven on the Island's Bideford-based supply vessel M.S. *Oldenburg* were also axed. These measures followed a poor tourist season that resulted from unseasonably bad weather (easterlies in June that prevented *Oldenburg* sailings, and rain, clouds, and wind in July and August that drastically reduced bookings into the Island's accommodations). In addition to the job losses, all plans for further capital expenditures and projects on Lundy (such as the ambitious landing jetty and glass-bottomed tourist boat) have been shelved. The Landmark Trust's Director, Robin Evans, said: "The Trust can no longer shoulder the losses alone and has taken a number of measures to dramatically cut the cost of running the Island (*"News About Lundy" text continues at the bottom of page 13.*)

## REPORT:

## LUNDY'S FIRST STAMP AND POSTCARD MEET

By Roger E. Allen

*Day 1, Saturday, October 31, 1992*

Twenty-two Lundy collectors, mainly members of the Lundy Collectors Club, set out from Bideford Quay. The weather was perfect, and the crossing an absolute millpond. Those who attended the Meet included Stanley Newman and daughter Karen, Jon Aitchison, Roger Allen, Michael Bale, Jim Mullett and wife Norma, Wim Ros and wife, Tom Baker, John May, Robin Tapper, Tony Philpott, John Richards, Mr. and Mrs. Neville Smith, Christopher Willis, Michael Beck, Eric Church, and Roger Wyatt. John Dyke, Reg Lo-Vel, and Wendy Puddy from the Island also attended the meetings.

The first official activity did not take place until five o'clock, and so, in the sun, a walk to the Quarries was quickly arranged and enjoyed by us all. At five o'clock the party gathered in the Quarters and was welcomed briefly by John Puddy who had to leave the Island on the same boat that brought us. Wendy Puddy took over and spoke to us at length about the Lundy Post Office activities. She was very positive, and we all listened attentively. We were informed that the next Lundy stamp issue would probably take place in the early part of 1994, but the subject matter of the issue was still undecided.

Wendy reminded us that in early December 1992 the Island will recommence the 1920's practice of placing the Lundy stamps on the front of the envelopes and not on the back. This has been approved by the General Post Office who has agreed that Lundy stamps may be placed at the bottom left-hand corner of the covers, as far away as possible from the national stamps, but still on the front.

Other matters that arose from her comments and from subsequent discussion included the possibility of the issuance of Lundy postal stationery with

copies of definitive stamps printed on cards and envelopes. The practice of selling cards with Lundy stamps already affixed on them to avoid the misplacing of stamps by day-trippers was also discussed.

On a serious note, Wendy asked us all to refrain from asking her to cancel any items that did not come within the parameters of the Lundy stamp-issuing policy—private overprints, bisects, non-Lundy labels, etc. The Landmark Trust is happy to continue a

stamp-issuing policy but wishes all items leaving the Island to be of a correct and official nature. They intend to continue the high standard of printing and to maintain the integrity of the Lundy Stamps.

The other serious matter that emerged was Wendy's concern about the proliferation of the Dartmoor style letterboxes on Lundy. The first three



FIGURE 1. *Souvenir Meal Voucher.*

LUNDY'S FIRST STAMP AND POSTCARD MEET (Continued)

of these letterboxes were an excellent idea, the next five were acceptable, but any additional boxes could turn the idea into a farce. In any event, Wendy insists that the Island Officers should be consulted concerning these boxes for security and safety reasons and for the reason stated above.

Dinner was taken in the Tavern restaurant, and we were all allowed to keep our meal vouchers, carefully cancelled, as part of the souvenir portfolio of the weekend. (*See Figure 1, preceding page, for example.*)

*Day 2, Sunday, November 1, 1992*

The day was fine again, and Andrew Gibson, the Island Warden, led us on a tour of the South East corner, taking in the church, castle, rocket pond, Old Light, and the High Street complex. For those visiting Lundy for the first time, this tour was invaluable.

At two o'clock we met again for what was to be one of the high spots of the weekend. John Dyke spoke to us about his Lundy stamp-designing career and his long connection with the Island. He brought along many of his designs and drawings for us to examine. He mentioned some drawings that<sup>e</sup> he had made for unaccepted stamp designs but which have been subsequently lost—including an early pre-1939 item, an essay of a Martin Coles Harman portrait based on the Lundy coins, and a map stamp design.

He spoke of his early contacts with M.C.H. In fact, he did not get to Lundy until 1948 when he came for fourteen days and stayed in the Old Light, which had become the rent-free headquarters of the Lundy Field Society in 1947. He showed us some beautiful watercolors of the Island that he made at that time and which most of us have never seen before.

The whole wall behind John was covered with his drawings, designs, and essays that he used for a series of reminiscences about people of past times on Lundy. These included Lt. Catchpole—the Marine Commander at the Old Light during the war, Barbara Lyle (nee Bizzell)—one of the earliest wardens, Bob Boyd the airplane pilot, and others.

The wall display contained designs of the very earliest stamps with which John was involved—the 1951 "flying birds" definitive set—up to the most recent definitives. It also contained designs for cancellers, including the cachet for the M.V. *Lindblad Explorer* visit (*illustrated on page 12 of the Summer 1991 LCCPQ*). Unfortunately, this polar-exploration ship suffered damage in the Antarctic, and the visit never took place. There was also a fine pencil drawing of Diana Keast and Mrs. Gade processing the 1969 "boats" issue.

John finished his reminiscences with a series of self-criticisms of those designs that in some way did not please him. John believed that the Royal portraits for the 1977 "Silver Jubilee" set were not good. He made the mistake of presuming that the drawing that he used for the 1½-puffin value in the 1979 "50th Anniversary of the Lundy Post" set was Mr. Gade, but in fact it is Frank Cannon. He criticized the border around the "U.S. Bicentenary" set as being too fussy and obtrusive. He never liked the pink color of the 1951 "flying birds" 1-puffin value.

Before he sat down, John passed around some comic drawings that he had made of some of the party there present, including Stanley Newman and Reg Lo-Vel. He said that he had never heard of the use of the word "meet" as in Stamp Meet, and at first he had misunderstood the whole event. As evidence of this, he showed us a drawing he had made of a

LUNDY'S FIRST STAMP AND POSTCARD MEET (Continued)

leg of lamb being "cancelled" with the Lundy handstamp—Stamp Meet! His gift to each member of the party was a colored drawing of a 1924 beach party that included Fred Allday—Lundy Postmaster, Miss Sage—the hotel manageress, and various naval personnel. Each of these drawings is personalized to the recipient and signed by John and Wendy.

After tea, Andrew Gibson, the Warden, presented a slide show of scenes of the Island. It included general views of parts of Lundy that we could not see that weekend, the animals and plants, the graveyard, and the winding gear site at the top of the quarries. After Andrew had finished, Judge Christopher Willis showed us four slides in connection with the Six Brothers Field given to the National Trust by Martin Coles Harman in 1927 for use of the people of Chaldon, Surrey. Judge Willis also gave everyone a copy of the National Trust leaflet written by Tony Langham that tells the history of the Six Brothers Field.

*Day 3, Monday, November 2, 1992*

By 11 o'clock Stanley Newman had spread the trestle tables in the Quarters with rows and rows of covers and items of historical interest that he referred to as he progressed in his talk. He began by telling us that his interest in Lundy began with obtaining a few chance items in an auction in 1981, and from that chance beginning, he is now on Number 20 of his famous Lundy auctions. Stanley divided the issues of Lundy stamps into eight historical phases as follows:

1929-35 The Harman classics.	1935-39 Air Services period.
1939-43 The Wartime overprints.	1950-51 First John Dyke designs.
1953-63 Medawar "wallpaper" period.	1963-69 Lundy's own inspired era.
1969-82 1st Landmark Trust period.	1982-92 2nd Landmark Trust period.

Using quotations from Felix Gade's memoirs to back up his presentation, Stanley commented on each of these historical periods. He reminded us that the first 1929-1930 issues were printed in huge numbers and large stocks remained for overprinting right up to 1972, that is, for more than forty years. This is a very rare situation in the stamp-issuing world.

Stanley mentioned the Bob Boyd controversies during the air period before war, in particular the one penny "large map" bisect. Coins and stamps of this period had been sent to King George V by the Marquis of Carisbrooke on behalf of Martin Coles Harman. Because of the stance he maintained on independence, M.C.H. did not want to send these items to the King himself.



*FIGURE 2. Official Lundy Postmark Used During Meet.*

Rigby-Hall was the philatelic agent during the war, operating out of Kettering for much of the time. Stanley mentioned that the only "original" item produced in this period was the Tighearna miniature sheet.

Antoine Medawar was a worldwide dealer with premises in Grays Inn Road. He died in 1964. During the 1953-1956 period, there was officially only air transport for Lundy mails, but Medawar produced 19 surface mail stamps amongst his "wallpaper" issues. Medawar is often criticized for his Lundy business deals, but it is true that the lump sums he gave Lundy in return for his stamp-printing rights gave the Island a much needed financial boost. He was also instrumental in getting Lundy included in 1961 on published lists of stamp-issuing authorities issuing "Europa"

LUNDY'S FIRST STAMP AND POSTCARD MEET (Continued)

sets. M.C.H. was impressed by this feat but realized that profit would come not only to Lundy as a result but also to Medawar, and insisted at this point that Lundy should receive a fee of £1000 from Medawar, and not the originally agreed £500. The matter of acceptance of Lundy amongst the "Europa" countries changed Albion Harman's attitude towards the Lundy stamps. He became much more enthusiastic after this episode.

It was observed that very few of the Medawar wallpaper issues were used by Mr. Gade commercially on covers during the period of their issue. It is not clear whether there were in fact few of the millions of these stamps actually on Lundy or whether Mr. Gade preferred using the classic definitives and 1951 "birds" on inward and outward covers. It was suspected that the latter was the case.

The post-Medawar period saw stamps of a high standard of design and printing and issued in much lower numbers. It is generally accepted that the Lundy "Churchill" stamp design is infinitely better than the G.P.O. "Churchill" stamps.

November 1950 saw the *Lerina's* last trip, and Walter Bond, a pilot, moved to start up a new air service. Ft. Lt. Drabble, a pilot with an artificial leg, actually got the service going. There were no boats until the *Gannet* was purchased in 1956.

Stanley's presentation ended with a recording of himself being interviewed on BBC 2 in 1984 on the John Dunne Programme, talking about Lundy and its stamps. It was obvious that Stanley had put a great deal of research and effort into preparing his lecture, and we immensely enjoyed and appreciated all that he had to say and show us.

After lunch, Michael Bale, the Ilfracombe stamp dealer and Lundy collector, took over from Stanley and covered the tables with a vast collection of ephemera of Lundy. The subjects of this fascinating show included original photographs of the *Montagu*, pamphlets, postcards, shipping notices, invoices, posters, books about Lundy, turgid novels set on Lundy, puffins, a book of pressed leaves by Colin Taylor, Gosse Crest china, and a myriad of other items. Michael started collecting Lundy in the early 1980s and purchased the collection of George Ulrich in the late '80s and the collection of Ian Wilkinson in 1992. He started collecting Lundy postcards ten years ago and now has a collection of 750.

After dinner, Andrew Gibson produced three videos for our entertainment. The first was a 1985 television documentary titled "Lundy Mystic Isle" with a commentary by Terry Wogan. The photography was superb, but the comments were patronizing, insincere, and trite.

The second film was called "Puffin Summer" and was in fact the life cycle of the puffins on Skomer Island—a lovely film that illustrated the stupidity of the puffins and the way they are exploited by gulls, but exonerating our favorite birds by revealing, with superb underwater shots, their skill in deep-water swimming and their remarkable similarity to penguins under the sea.



**M.S. OLDENBURG - LUNDY  
PAQUEBOT**

FIGURE 3. Handstamps  
For Use on Oldenburg.

LUNDY'S FIRST STAMP AND POSTCARD MEET (Continued)

The third item was a recording of a November 1991, Channel 5, Paris Television film titled "Isle de Lundy." Once again the photography far exceeded the quality of the dialogue. All the Islanders of the time had a chance to say something, but only what the filmmakers wanted them to say. The filmmakers were determined that Lundy was a miserable, unhappy place and that all the Islanders were equally unhappy—for example, Mary Gade sat and lugubriously intoned how desolate and windswept it all was in winter.

*Day 4. Tuesday, November 3, 1992*

We had an early breakfast and assembled on the beach at 9:30 for departure. Once again the weather was with us and the sea like a mirror. Everyone was in total agreement that the weekend had been a great success and, if it could possibly be arranged again in 1993, there would be an even better response than this year. We were profuse in our thanks to Wendy for her help and organization and were prepared to come again next year, even if the same program was to be repeated, which of course, with all the resources of the Lundy Collectors Club at hand, could never happen.

*New Handstamps That Came into Use as a Result of the Stamp Meet*

Three new handstamps came into use on October 31, 1992 as a result of the Stamp and Postcard Meet. They are described below and illustrated earlier in this article. Also illustrated (*Figure 1, page 9*) is an example of the green dinner vouchers issued to those attending the meet.

Lundy produced a special and official handstamp to be used on all mail for the three days of the stamp weekend only. It is struck in black ink, is rectangular, and reads "LUNDY/31.10-3.11 1992/FIRST STAMP &/POSTCARD MEET" and depicts a flying puffin (*Figure 2, page 11*).

A second handstamp, designed and donated by Jon Aitchison for use on the *Oldenburg*, is a rectangular ship's mark that is struck in black ink and depicts a clearly detailed drawing of the Ship. The inscription simply reads "M.S. OLDENBURG" (*Figure 3 top, page 12*).

The third handstamp, also donated by Jon Aitchison, is a paquebot cachet for the *Oldenburg*. It is struck in blue ink and consists of two lines that read "M.S. OLDENBURG - LUNDY" within an open horizontal border (*Figure 3 bottom, page 12*).

\* \* \* \* \*

NEWS ABOUT LUNDY (Continued from Page 8)

in the future. We have a great commitment to the Island and would not be taking these measures unless we felt it was the only way to ensure the Island remains open and accessible to the public."

The remaining inhabitants on Lundy are Administrator John Puddy and his wife Wendy (Postmistress) and their two children, Builder Reg Lo-Vel and his wife Jill who runs the Tavern Cottages, Warden Andrew Gibson and his wife Lorna, Foreman John Alford and his wife Annie who is the Shop Manager, Marisco Tavern Managers Nigel Walker and Lindsay Takagi, and Christine Bray of the office staff.

(*Western Morning News*, September 26, 1992, and *North Devon Journal*, October 1, 1992) (*"News About Lundy" concludes on Page 20.*)

# Lundy at Auction

By Roger S. Cichorz  
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## C.I.L.A. Lundy Postal Auction Number 19

L.C.C. member Stanley A. Newman's most recent (and possibly his last—because of intimated impending retirement from the stamp trade) Lundy auction under the aegis of his Channel Islands and Lundy Auctions firm (C.I.L.A., Gemini Business Centre, 136-140 Old Shoreham Road, Hove, Sussex, BN3 7BD, England; telephone 0273-675131)—C.I.L.A. Lundy Postal Auction No. 19, which closed November 12, 1992—featured postal history, first day covers, postcards, literature, and ephemera. This auction consisted of 509 lots estimated at £4260, and 259 lots estimated at £2344.50 sold (50.9 percent of the lots and 55.0 percent of the cumulative estimate), realizing £2589.50, or 10.5 percent above estimates. A summary of the auction is given in Table 1 below.

TABLE 1. Summary of C.I.L.A. Lundy Postal Auction Number 19.

Category	Lots Offered		Lots That Sold				
	No.	Estimates	No.	%	Estimates	Realiz'ns	%R:E*
postcards	142	£ 926.50	70	49.3	£ 469.50	£ 486.00	103.5
literature	60	422.00	33	55.0	264.00	332.00	125.8
coins & ephemera	28	156.50	20	71.4	132.50	148.00	112.1
postal history	216	1950.50	97	44.9	1004.50	1107.00	110.2
first day covers	58	619.50	38	65.5	462.00	506.50	109.6
bulk covers lots	5	105.00	1	20.0	12.00	10.00	83.3
Total (all lots)	509	£ 4260.00	259	50.9	£ 2344.50	£ 2589.50	110.5

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

The percentage of lots sold in this auction far surpassed Newman's last two "postal history" auctions (C.I.L.A. no. 15 and C.I.L.A. no. 17, summarized in the Fall 1991 *LCCPQ*, pages 12-14, and Spring 1992 *LCCPQ*, pages 18-20, respectively), in which sold lots hovered around 40 percent. The fact that 55.0 percent of the cumulative estimate in this auction sold with only 50.8 percent of the lots selling substantiates Stanley's observation (given in his "recap" letter on the reverse side of the "list of prices realized" sent to bidders) "that the majority of the rarer (*hence, costlier*) items were sold."

As is his usual practice, Stanley offered any unsold lots at their estimate price on a first-come, first-served basis, and apparently there were quite a few takers (including myself), as Stanley had this to say about C.I.L.A. no. 19:

"The realizations of this auction have exceeded my wildest hopes! When all invoices have been settled, the total should amount to over £3500, which is about £1000 more than my last Lundy Postal History Auction (No. 17). This total, of course, includes sales of duplicated and unsold lots, and will be well in excess of the total of the amounts shown on the enclosed realization list. This auction was really intended as a 'tail-end' auction of material still in stock and included very little 'new' material as I have not bought very much during the last six months—ever since my 'better half' put the pressure on me to retire! Hence, my delight at the outcome."

(S. A. Newman to R. S. Cichorz, personal correspondence, December 3, 1992)

LUNDY AT AUCTION (Continued)

Perhaps, Stanley's suggestion (on the inside front cover of the C.I.L.A. no. 19 auction catalogue) of retirement and that this may be his last Lundy auction had something to do with the response, but, client loyalties aside, I think the publicity given to the various Lundy-related postal markings as a result of Newman's own *Postal History, Postmarks & Cachets of Lundy*, along with John Holman's additional listings in "Lundy Postal Markings Since 1950, Part 3. Unofficial Cachets" (Summer 1991 *LCCPQ*, pages 9-20), had more to do with the enthusiastic collector response to this auction. [Michael H. Bale also reported enthusiastic bidder activity with the postal history and ephemera lots in his Negev Holyland Ltd. Lundy Island fifth postal bid sale, which closed on November 19, 1992. I had not yet received the "prices realized" from this sale at the time of writing this column (early January), but I hope to be able to detail the results and substantiate Michael's observation in my next column.] At any rate, the market for Lundy postal history and Lundy-related literature and ephemera items seems to have taken an upturn from its earlier (mid-1990 to mid-1992) doldrums, which, no doubt, spells good news to collectors and dealers alike!

Turning our attention back to C.I.L.A. no. 19, we see that once again the literature lots fared well, as more than half of the offerings sold for almost 26 percent above the cumulative estimate. The best nonphilatelic lot was an original author's manuscript dated 1837 of *Some Account of the Island of Lundy* by G. S. Steinman, consisting of "20 pages on original vellum," which sold for £50 against an estimate of £50+. An author-signed 1984 edition of A. and M. Langham's *Lundy* fetched £18 against an estimate of £14. The best philatelic literature lot was an original edition of John D. Stanard's 1938 monograph *Lundy Island and the Lundy Locals*, which realized £31 against an estimate of £20+. A modern-bound, photocopied version of this same monograph sold for £8 against an estimate of £5, so apparently there are some philatelic literature collectors who are not just content with an informational copy.

As usual, Lundy "ephemera" items fared well as more than 70 percent of these lots sold, realizing 12.1 percent above their cumulative estimate. The two 1929 bronze ½-puffin and 1-puffin coins in fine condition sold for £24 against an estimate of £19, and a 1989 "60th Anniversary" commemorative "coin" card produced by Market Coins of Bideford, which has bronzed-plastic reproductions of the two Lundy coins on the face, sold for £11 against an estimate of £8. The best item of paper ephemera was a signed John Dyke, hand-colored engraving of "The Coast of North Devon" (measuring 8½ by 6½ inches and produced on thick cardstock), which fetched a whopping £16 against an estimate of £10+. A lot consisting of 27 printed and 9 additional blank sheets for the "Lundy Album" produced in 1978 by the now-defunct Lundy Stamp Bureau of Montville, New Jersey, sold for £15 against an optimistic estimate of £18. [I am currently negotiating reprint rights for these copyright pages on behalf of another L.C.C. member, and, if successful, these pages will be offered to readers at a substantially lower price.]

Almost half of the postcard lots sold, but realized only 3.5 percent over estimate—the second poorest showing among the various categories of lots. (The five bulk cover lots performed worse, as only one sold for £8 against its £10 estimate.) There were no surprises here as most cards sold within £1 of their estimates. The costliest postcard was an Hiorns & Millers (Naval Series), Devonport, black-and-white photocard of the portside view of the HMS *Montagu* in service prior to going aground, which

LUNDY AT AUCTION (Continued)

fetched its f20 estimate. Only seven postcards cost or exceeded f10, with the Batten black-and-white photocard "HMS *Montagu* Ashore on Shutter Rock, Lundy Island" (another portside view before dismantling began) being the best performer among these lots as it realized f12 against an estimate of f10. Another "ship" postcard—this one by R. L. Knight of the S.S. *Carmina Filomena* run aground off Rat Island—sold for f20 against an optimistic estimate of f24.

As Stanley mentioned, many of the rarer items in this auction sold, and some of the better postal history items exceeded estimates beyond the 10.2 percent level experienced by the category. Several better items worth mentioning (with estimates/realizations given in parentheses after brief descriptions) included: a 1905 multi-view postcard, bearing a G.B. KEII ½d definitive tied by a "JY 30 08/LUNDY ISLAND" *thimble* postmark and a strike of an Instow "JY 31 08" squared-circle postmark at bottom left in relation to the stamp (f65+/f74); a 1930 cover and letter sent by Martin Coles Harman from his London office to New York City, indicating he did not wish to sell Lundy! (f38/f43); a September 28, 1936 outward flown cover to Portsmouth with tied 1936 ACAS (roll 5, #02322) ½d "tramticket" (f40/f44); an inward October 26, 1938 cover from Swansea to C. Waghorn with LACAL ½d violet "air view" tied by the scarce circular "AIR/L.A.C.A.L./POST" (*Chiroser*: type Da) handstamp (f45+/f53); an August 8, 1965 postmarked postcard showing scarce commercial use of the 1965 1p on 3p provisional (f10/f13.50); and a 1982 outward cover to Surrey bearing a strike of Mike Martin's "LUNDY/BRISTOL CHANNEL" private cachet depicting the Old Light (*Newman* #PC-6) (f8/f11.50).

First day covers, particularly the scarcer pre-1954 items, fared well as almost two-thirds of the lots sold for almost 10 percent above their cumulative estimate. Some of the better items (with estimates/realizations given in parentheses after brief descriptions) included: a March 31, 1939 inward FDC for the LACAL red ½d "air view" stamp (f24/f26); an April 25, 1939 inward FDC for the LACAL 1d "lighthouse" stamp (f25/f28); a June 9, 1951 outward FDC for the "flying birds" definitive set (f48/f54); a June 2, 1953 C.T.O. (no G.P.O. franking or use), unaddressed, cacheted FDC for the four "wrong color" overprint "Coronation" stamps (f95/f105); a February 11, 1957 inward FDC for the new "puffin" definitive set (f42/f47); an official first day postcard of the 1972 1p on 9p blue surcharge provisional (f22/f25); and an unissued August 20, 1979 C.T.O. FDC for the 9p and 11p essays prepared by the Lundy Philatelic Service (f20/f24).

Channel Island Stamp Company Postal Bid Sales

Sale no. 96 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 November 30, 1992, was discussed in my previous column (Fall 1992 *LCQPQ*, page 19), but since then I have received the realizations (thanks to Jon Aitchison). The eight Lundy lots that were modestly estimated at f119.50 all sold, fetching f181.50, or 51.9 percent above estimates.

The 1941 inward cover with the "AIR SERVICE...SUSPENDED..." cachet (a non-Smye item) sold for f42.50 against an estimate of f25. The three Phillips-prepared covers offered at estimates of f11 to f12.50 sold for f10.50 to f18.50. The three stamp sets performed as follows: the used set of ACAS "large maps" sold for f20 against its estimate of f12.50, the

LUNDY AT AUCTION (Continued)

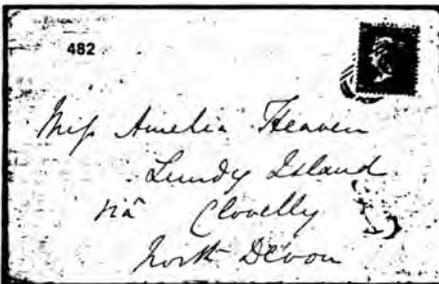
partial set of mint LH "IX Anniversary" overprints realized £12 against its estimate of £11, and the used set of twelve "Wright Brothers biplane" overprints fetched £40.50 against its estimate of £25. The lot consisting of presentation cards with complete mint (but hinged) sets of the 1951 and 1957 definitives realized £20.50 against an estimate of £11.

It is refreshing to see these Lundy lots "priced to sell"—that is, offered at estimates substantially below catalogue valuations—and even then, several of these lots appear to be "unsolds" from previous recent C.I.S.C. sales. This time, however, all sold, and realizations were more in line with market prices.

There were no Lundy lots offered in the C.I.S.C. postal bid sale no. 97, which closed December 31, 1992, nor in the C.I.S.C. postal bid sale no. 98, which closed January 29, 1993. C.I.S.C. postal bid sale no. 99, which closed February 26, 1993, had just one Lundy lot—a short mint LH set of the 1943 "IX Anniversary" overprints (six stamps to the 9p value) modestly estimated at £12.50 against a catalogue valuation of £34.

Phillips' November 26, 1992 Auction

Phillips (101 New Bond Street, London, W1Y 0AS, England; telephone 071-629-6602) offered only one Lundy lot in its November 26, 1992 auction,



but it was an absolute gem! Lot 482 (*illustrated left*) was the 1857 inward cover from Ryde, Isle of Wight, addressed to "Miss Amelia Heaven/Lundy Island/via Clovelly/North Devon" and franked with a G.B. 1854 QVI 1d definitive tied by a barred oval "666" (Ryde) cancellation. This cover appeared on the cover of the Spring 1985 *LCCPQ*, but at the time I incorrectly termed it the "earliest known Lundy cover," a mistake corrected in the Fall 1985 *LCCPQ* (pages 5-6) after David Ferris brought to my attention an 1847 Lundy inward cover in his collection.

Phillips estimated lot 482 at £150/200, but Michael Bale reported that after some very competitive bidding, it was finally hammered down at a whopping £550 plus 10 percent buyer's surcharge for a grand total of £605 (about \$915 at the then-current rate of exchange)—surely a record price realization for a Lundy cover at auction! Michael Bale also reported that after the dust settled, he became the cover's new owner. Congratulations, Michael, on the fine acquisition to your collection, and thanks go to Michael and Jon Aitchison for bringing this auction lot to my attention.

Cinderella Stamp Club Members' January 30, 1993 Auction

The Cinderella Stamp Club's annual auction for 1992, which was held January 30 at the YWCA, Great Russell Street, London, W1, England, contained 55 Lundy lots with estimates and reserves totaling £689 among its 1081-lot offering. This auction was originally scheduled for November 1992 but was postponed because of problems with reconciliation of its previous two auctions by the former auctioneer. Francis Kiddle, Conrad Graham, and Victor Short, three stalwart C.S.C. members, volunteered to conduct

LUNDY AT AUCTION (Continued)

this auction to keep the C.S.C. sales going while the organization seeks a new permanent honorary auctioneer. (Any volunteers?)

The bulk of the Lundy lots appeared to originate with a single consignor as 36 different 1943 Rigby-Hall-produced imperforate 10-puffin and 30-puffin "Bureau essays" on off-white paper, yellow paper, and white card were offered at £15 reserve for each item. This was the largest single hoard of these items I have seen offered at one time and wondered if they are originals or posthumous printings produced during the 1970s. Perhaps somebody familiar with the source of these lots or who observed them in person can give me additional information about their provenance.

Because valuations for the lots are provided by the consignors, there are often incongruities apparent among the C.S.C. auction offerings. For example, a set of 1953 "Coronation" stamps (mint or used not specified) was estimated at £4, while a complete set of mounted mint 1943 "Red Cross" overprint stamps was estimated at £20! The "Red Cross" set consignor also offered the following three lots at the estimates given in parentheses: set of five mint "1929-1939" overprints (£5), 1943 "Wright Brothers biplane" overprint set less the 3p and 9p stamps (£20), and the remainder of the collection, including "V + plane" and other overprints and provisionals (112 stamps) (£20)! Want to bet the Coronation set goes unsold while the other four lots sell for substantially more than their respective estimates!

Other lots of interest (with estimates in parentheses following brief descriptions) included: mint set of five "1929-1939" overprints (£10), mint 1940 "Red Cross" 12p stamp (£10), 1954 printer's waste pair ("9p vertical + horizontal frames, and 9p duty plate superimposed") (£10), irregular block of 19 mint LACAL ½d red "air view" stamps (£10), 1954 Millenary issue in imperforate pairs (£2), mint 1953 wide-setting "By Air + 8" red overprint (£4), same in mint block of four (£16), and *The Puffin Journal* issues 27 and 28 (£7 reserve).

Lundy Collectors Club Mini Mail Sale Number Nine

The ninth mini mail sale for the L.C.C. conducted by U.K. Representative Jon Aitchison, which closed October 14, 1992, contained 25 auction lots with a cumulative reserve of £84.50 and 12 different fixed-price lots. The 24 auction lots that sold fetched £121.50, or 46.2 percent above reserves totaling £82.50. Jon now offers the convenience of paying for mini mail sale purchases by credit card (Access, MasterCard, Eurocard, and VISA accepted), which should make payment convenient for non-U.K. residents who no longer will have to purchase bank drafts or traveller's cheques in Sterling in order to participate in these L.C.C. sales.

The priciest item among the auction lots in the ninth mini mail sale was the non-Lundy "album collection" of 36 different FDCs of various British Isle locals which fetched £21 against a low reserve of £15. The only other lot exceeding £10 was the one consisting of 23 different postcards from the 1980s and 1990s either to or from Lundy that sold for its reserve of £12. The most competitive lots were the 1961 Europa set in mint corner margin blocks of 16 (including some weak overprints and offsets), which sold for £8.50 against a low reserve of £4, and the 1991 miniature sheet of four Millcombe House "Hotel Post" labels produced by Jim Czyl for the July 1991 Anglo-American L.C.C. visit to Lundy, which realized £7 against a reserve of £2.50.

LUNDY AT AUCTION (Continued)

The fixed-price lots consisted of nine souvenir covers produced for the August 1, 1992 Bideford L.C.C. meeting and the following day's Lundy excursion at £21.50 and a 1961 Europa souvenir sheet that Michael Bale had specially overprinted in the margins to mark the May 23, 1992 L.C.C. meeting at the World Columbus Stamp Expo in Chicago at a price of £2.50. Alternatively, all ten items were offered at a fixed price of £18, or a savings of £6 from their individual prices when purchases as an entire lot. Additionally, two new ephemera items were offered as a single lot at £1.

More significantly, Jon offered the Lundy 1982 definitives in rare dual value gutter pairs at £125 for a mint set in the horizontal format, or at £110 for a mint set in the vertical format, or at £200 for one each mint set in horizontal and vertical formats. Details of the printing formats and illustrations of these items are given on the right center page of the *Lundy Collectors Club British Newsletter* for Autumn 1992.

L.C.C. mini mail sale number 10, which closed March 22, 1993, consisted of 17 different fixed price lots totaling £36 (or as a single lot discounted at £27) and 27 auction lots with reserves totaling £1163. The Neville Smith Lundy Collection was featured in this sale as it was broken down into four volumes of material at reserves totaling £460, and the Donald Oakden Lundy Collection was also offered in two albums as a single lot at a reserve of only £125 against a catalogue value of approximately £475.

I will be curious to find out how these five "collection" lots fared in this sale since Jon broke them down into tantalizing units that at the reserve values appear to be substantially discounted from current catalogue valuations and market prices. The first lot of the Smith Collection and the Oakden Collection lot appear to be excellent "starter" collections for a beginning or intermediate collector to build on. The other three lots from the Smith Collection are interesting amalgams of Lundy issues and privately produced items that offer any collector an excellent opportunity to obtain substantial "specialist" material at a single crack for a modest price (that would be many times more if purchased item by item from a dealer or through Lundy auctions).

Auction Odds and Ends

- There were three Lundy lots offered in the November 6, 1992 auction conducted by Imperial Auctions held in Headingley, Leeds, England. One lot consisted of four covers—1947 and 1949 inward covers addressed to Mr. Waghorn (the lighthouse keeper), both franked with ½-puffin definitives, and two 1930s real photocards of the South Lighthouse and Rat Island—at a hefty estimate of £50. Another lot, estimated at £20, was described as "1952 the Coast of North Devon nine se-tenant poster stamps in a sheetlet in special album produced by Atlantic Coast Studios, Bideford." The third lot was a redirected outward November 9, 1954 cover with a complete set of 1954 airmails on the reverse; it was an "open bid" lot without an estimate given.
- The December 3, 1992 auction of Messinger's (8 Parkside Road, Pinhoe, Exeter, EX1 3TN, England) offered a Twiss Bros. "Montagu wreck" postcard, with G.B. KEVII 1d definitive tied by a clear strike of an August 7, 1919 "Lundy Island" *thimble* postmark, at an estimate of £60. Thanks go to Pat Herst for bringing this lot to my attention.

## MORE ON SHUNA'S 1949 "STAMP" — IT'S STILL IN USE TODAY

My article about former Lundy Agent Donald T. Heaysman and his part in the issuance of a Shuna 2d "local" stamp (Summer 1992 *LCCPQ*, page 13) prompted a response from John R. Holman, long-time chronicler of British locals, railway letter stamps, and Strike Post labels. John pointed out in his January 26, 1993 letter to me (that, unfortunately, I misplaced) that he had documented the Shuna 1949 2d issue as a "souvenir" stamp rather than a true "local" stamp (in the sense of Lundy or Herm Island issues where the stamps paid for mail delivery services) [*The Cinderella Philatelist*, July 1981, pages 52-54, and *Stamps*, July 1991, page 26].

Although John's articles go into great detail about the Shuna stamp's production, he neglected to mention the "Heaysman" connection to the issue. The Shuna 1949 stamp was printed by Bradbury, Wilkinson Ltd. in sheets of 60, and a total of 250,000 stamps were prepared at an approximate cost of £200 to Lady Veronica Selby, wife of then-owner of Shuna. John's articles indicate that the initial mailings of covers bearing the stamps (on the reverse) were tied by a 25-mm diameter single-ring date-stamp inscribed "SHUNA/date/SHUNA" that continued in use throughout 1950 and 1951 but was used less regularly thereafter. By 1971 the Shuna stamp was being tied by a simple single-line datestamp still used in 1983. Other covers John had seen were "cancelled" by manuscript date over the period 1981 into 1991. John later wrote in *Stamps* (November 1991, page 53) that a new Shuna datestamp, measuring 33 mm in diameter and worded "ISLAND OF SHUNA" with the date across the center (*illustrated below*), was put into use about July 31, 1991.

What is remarkable about this is that the 1949 Shuna stamp is still in use today, more than 43 years after its date of issue! To prove this



point, John arranged to have his letter to me posted from Shuna, and the relevant franking on the rear of the cover is dutifully shown here. As a matter of coincidence, Shuna is approximately 2½ miles long by 1 mile wide (1173 acres), and its economy consists of farming and holiday letting, much like Lundy!

Anyone desiring a Shuna 1949 2d stamp can still obtain them (although they now cost 20 pence each—inflation at work!) from the present Island owner, The Hon. Edward Gully, Island of Shuna, Arduaine, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4S2, Scotland, United Kingdom. Remember to include a stamped, self-addressed envelope or return postage with your request. (Why not arrange for a Shuna stamp to be handstamped on the rear of your return envelope for a real kick!) Thanks, John, for bringing this additional information to our attention. --RSC

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#### NEWS ABOUT LUNDY (Continued from Page 13)

Felix Gade's Grandson Married on Lundy. Peter Squire, the son of Mary (nee Gade) Squire and grandson of the late Felix Gade, and bride Chrissie Ayrton were wed in a ceremony conducted in St. Helena's Church on September 24, 1992. Peter, an artist, and Chrissie, who works at the Ilfracombe Job Centre, have lived together in Lunbridge for the past 13 years. Chrissie said, "Peter is quite a renowned artist and because he spent his early life on the Island, he certainly has a feel for what he is doing. His paintings of Lundy are really popular, and people are now coming back to add to their collections." (*North Devon Journal*, September 24, 1992, and *Western Daily Press*, September 25, 1992)



LUNDY

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