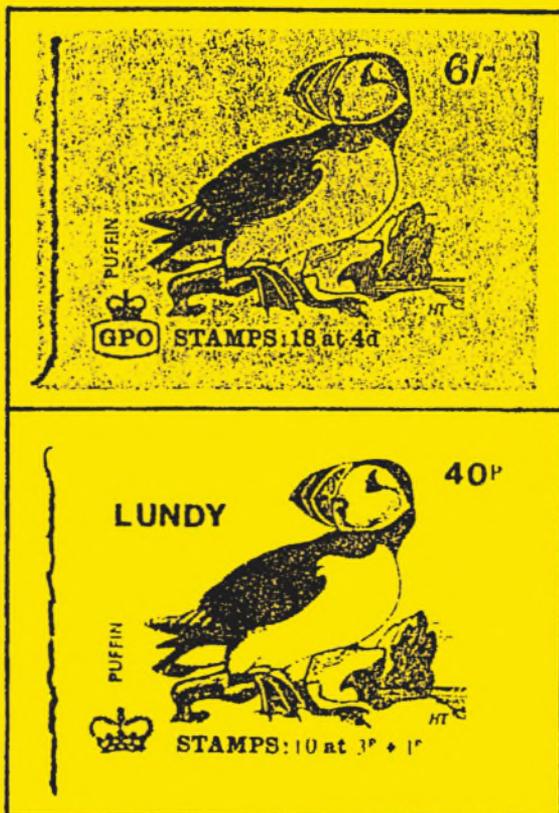


# PHILATELIC QUARTERLY



LUNDY PHILATELIC SERVICE  
EXPERIMENTAL BOOKLET COVER  
PATTERNED AFTER 1969 G.B. BOOKLET  
(SEE PAGE 11 FOR DETAILS)

## SUMMER 1995

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE LUNDY COLLECTORS CLUB

**SUMMER 1995 LUNDY COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIC QUARTERLY**

(Volume 17, Number 2 — Whole Number 66)

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**PREVIEW of Items Coming in the Fall 1995 LCCPQ:**

**Letters to the Editor** (*Distinguished Philatelic Writer Mentioned Lundy in Book, Cacheted Special Event Covers Available from Roger E. Allen, Lundy to Obtain a New Postal Franking Machine, John Harman's Sister Replies to the V.C. Memorial Article, Recent News About John Dyke's Family Members, New "m. s. OLDENBURG" Handstamp Introduced, Lundy's New Franking Machine, An Account of the July 1994 Silver Jubilee "Error" FDCs, and Another Recent Lundy Meter Slug Date Error Reported*)

**News of Lundy** (*Drought Leaves Lundy High and Dry, New Lundy Agent Hired by The Landmark Trust, New Lundy Agent Gets Off to Inauspicious Start, Lundy Animals Moved to Mainland Because of Drought Conditions Plus a Follow-up Report, and Fishing Vessel Tragedy Outside Lundy*)

**Lundy at Auction** (*Western Auctions Ltd. September & December 1995 Sales, Channel Island Stamp Company Postal Bid Sales, Warwick & Warwick Ltd. Philatelic Auctions, Four Auction "Odds and Ends," and a Postscript*)

# L.C.C. PHILATELIC QUARTERLY

"THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE LUNDY COLLECTORS CLUB"

Volume 17, Number 2 (Whole No. 66)

Summer 1995

## LUNDY COLLECTORS CLUB

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

### L.C.C. Officers:

George Fabian, *President*  
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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\$12.50 per year (U.S., Canada, and foreign surface rate) or of US\$18.75/G.B.£12.50 (overseas airmail) include subscriptions to the *Lundy Collectors Club Philatelic Quarterly* and the *L.C.C. British Newsletter*.

## Letters to the Editor

### A Lewis Carroll - Lundy Connection

Amongst my collection of books with a Lewis Carroll connection, I have one which I just discovered also has a possible Lundy connection, thus uniting my two main interests. I have been a member of the International Lewis Carroll Society for nearly 20 years, and until recently I was the treasurer. The book I refer to is a children's fantasy book titled *Pecker the Super Bird*. It concerns the adventures of a set of children who live by the sea and who meet up with Pecker, a wonderful sea gull. He takes them on a trip to the magic island of Lindy (*sic*) where there are many caves and where there is a way to reach Wonderland. In one cave they have a tea party to which many characters from children's stories are invited, but the principal guests are Alice and the Mad Hatter.

The island itself is described as being down a wide river along the way to the open sea. Pleasure steamers take trippers out to the island but do not land there. There is only one secret place to land, in a little bay. A rough path leads inland to a flat tableland, and there are many caves and also many crags and rocky ledges. It is the home of the sea gulls. The town from where they set out is called Dunhead, which could be a combination of Minehead and Dunster, both close together and on the Somerset coast of the Bristol Channel.

The book was published by Sergeants Press, London, in 1948, written by Reuben Lincoln, and illustrated by Marie Chant. It is unlikely that it went into more than one edition. The book is something of a collector's item and a delightful volume to have on one's shelves.

--Roger E. Allen, Harrow, Middlesex, England  
(February 26, 1995)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (Continued)Just a Coincidence — Did Anyone Else Notice?

On page 17 of the Fall 1994 *LCCPQ* you published my parachute mail cover, which was posted in Stockton-on-Tees on May 3, 1959. But how is it possible you also published a picture of "My Favorite Cover" from Raymond Morgan (pages 8-9), which also was posted on the same day in Stockton-on-Tees? If you look closely, you will notice that the handwriting is the same.

--Wim Ros, Schagen, Holland (March 7, 1995)

*Strictly coincidence! Did anyone else besides sharp-eyed Wim notice? The LCCPQ Editor did not! Can anyone offer further information about these two covers? Was the addressee (H. J. Winter) the preparer? --RSC*

Recent News About Lundy and a New Stamp Issue in 1995

As promised, a short note on what came to light at the Annual General Meeting of the Lundy Field Society at Exeter last Saturday (*March 4*). The Landmark Trust intends to carry on as before and ride out the bad publicity/scandal of late. John Puddy is still ashore on "sick leave", and Reg Lo-vel (*L.C.C. #345*) is Acting Agent, while Norman Hunter is manning the Lundy Office. Emma Parkes, the new Warden, was at the meeting. She seems a most pleasant girl and should carry on Andrew Gibson's work very well. Nobody is sure what Wendy Puddy will be doing this Summer—it was her intention, I know, to return to work on the Island this Summer, but I have not been kept up-to-date on this.

What I did learn was that there are plans to issue in 1995 a set of stamps depicting Lundy's flora. I know that Lorna Gibson, before she left, was asked for and submitted some beautiful photographs. I have no idea of the print run, stamp size, number, value (*denomination*) or date of issue—or indeed whether recent upheavals will delay plans for issue.

The year 1996 will be the 50th Anniversary of the founding of the Lundy Field Society, and The Landmark Trust is interested in issuing a set of commemorative stamps relating to the Society's work. Again, I have no details whatsoever, and I believe ideas and designs are being sought. There is little more to report at present. We all expect things to be clarified a lot during the next few weeks, and as soon as I have anything of interest I shall let you know at once.

--A. F. Langham, Reigate, Surrey, England (March 9, 1995)

Cover and Cachet Strike Offered and Two Stamp Varieties

I recently attended a stamp exhibition in Creil in Northern France as a representative of the Pendle Philatelic Society and was invited to display my Lundy collection. Whilst I was there, I sent a total of ten covers from France to Lundy, where the Lundy stamp was affixed and canceled with the date of arrival. If anyone would like one of these covers, I would be pleased to dispatch on receipt of £2.50, which includes postage. I only have six available, so first-come, first-served. They have a First Day French stamp canceled with the special exhibition postmark. I have a small cachet (*illustrated right*) (which is also on the



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (Continued)

above-mentioned covers), which reads "Stamp Out/LUNDY/Stamps!" If anyone would like an impression, please send me a self-addressed, stamped envelope (or send an *International Reply Coupon in lieu of G.B. postage*) to my address: 10 Avon Drive, Barnoldswick, Colne, Lancs., BB8 6ET, U.K.

There are a couple of Lundy varieties that you probably know about, but I am surprised that so far they have been omitted from the catalogue!

- 1943 "IX Anniversary" overprint issue "broken propeller" variety — this shows a break in the top of the propeller spin and occurs in the middle row, second stamp.
- 1954 Silver Jubilee surface mail 4-puffin (*MV Lerina*) — there is a variety showing a "step" on the left-bottom serif of the value figure. I have seen more than one example and have both types in my collection.

Finally, I have a Tighearna miniature sheet postmarked with the "spare" type boxed cancellation (*Chinchen/Newman* type Bb) for February 3, 1942. Is this the last known date of use?

--Barrie King, Barnoldswick, Colne, Lancashire, England  
(March 16, 1995)

Barry N. D. Chinchen's *A Catalogue of Lundy Stamps* lists only the two (as Barry terms them) "popular varieties" of the 15-subject overprint block used to produce the 1943 "IX Anniversary" issue: (a) "no propeller spin" (position 9, stamps 9 and 24 of each pane), and (b) "no dot on 'i'" (position 15, stamps 15 and 30 of each pane). There are two additional constant plate overprint varieties not listed by Chinchen: (c) "bottom leg of 'A' missing" (position 2, stamps 2 and 17 of each pane), and (d) "break in the top of the propeller spin" (position 7, stamps 7 and 22 of each pane) (the variety mentioned by Barrie King). Stanley Newman's *Stamps of Lundy Island* lists the "bottom leg of 'A' missing" as the "(c)" variety, but also neglects the "spin break" (d) variety even though all four are constant plate types and clearly show in the Rigby-Hall reprint of the 15-subject overprint block on page 25 of the *Second Edition of Stamps of Lundy Island*. Since the "spin break" variety is also a constant plate variety, I believe it deserves the same status as the other three and should be catalogued as a "(d)" variety! However, the "spin break" variety is not as dramatic (hence not as noticeable) as the other three, so this is probably why it has not been listed.

The 4-puffin stamps of the 1954 Jubilee issue (Newman #96) are marked by numerous constant plate flaws. In *The Puffin*, Issue Number 15, May 1966, pages 46-49, Barry Chinchen reported on his plating of what he termed the "top-half sheet" (actually, the top pane of 20 stamps cut by the printers from the sheet of 40); however, he failed to report Barrie King's "step" variety (illustrated left), which appears as stamp 4 (the upper right-hand stamp) in the top pane of 20. I did not have access to a bottom pane, so I am not sure if this variety is repeated. Can anyone help?



I cannot provide an answer to the last known date of use of what Barrie King terms "the 'spare' type boxed cancel" (I presume this to be type Bb, but he may mean type Ba). I suspect that since the type Bb canceller was still on Lundy as late as 1969 (or since the type Ba canceller, according to *A Catalogue of Lundy Stamps*, was around until 1968 and "found used on some wartime issues"), dates of use later than Barrie's February 3, 1941 may exist. Readers, can you respond to this query? --RSC

## News of Lundy

### Lundy Agent John Puddy Resigns from The Landmark Trust

*Editor's note:* The following report was compiled from information given in newspaper articles that appeared in the March 10, 1995 editions of *The Times* (by Emma Wilkins) and *The Daily Telegraph* (by Paul Stokes). --RSC

John Puddy, The Landmark Trust's Agent for Lundy, has resigned effective March 13, 1995, after the collapse of his marriage and much publicized affair with former Marisco Tavern barmaid, Cait Scanlon. John left his post after 14 years of service as Lundy Agent, following a telephone call to Landmark Trust officials to inform them he was resigning. Mr. Puddy's departure follows that of Miss Scanlon, who did not resign but left "by mutual consent", according to Trust spokeswoman, Ms. Rebecca Morgan.

Ms. Morgan stated: "John has been in touch with us to resign. He feels that the time has come for him to have a career change. Frankly, he did not sound very well. This episode has taken its toll. I think he wants to take stock and start all over again. Cait already left the Island, and I don't know if she is with John at the moment."

The Landmark Trust has begun its search for a new Lundy Agent while Lundy resident Reg Lo-Vel (L.C.C. #345) is presently serving as interim agent. *The Daily Telegraph* article indicated that Wendy Puddy has decided not to return to Lundy after she completes her teacher-training course in July.

## Offer

Cherrywood Wall Mirror Picturing Puffins. *Ecosong*, Coldwater Creek's Spring 1995 Catalogue, lists a handsome 10½-inch by 21½-inch cherrywood framed wall mirror with three vibrantly colored puffins screenprinted on cotton and protected by glass (item E6426), at \$60 each. The other two puffin items described on page 20 of the Spring 1995 *LCCPQ* are also still available. *Terms:* Add shipping and handling charges of \$6.75 (\$50-\$75), \$8.75 (\$100-\$150), or \$9.75 (over \$150). Charge card (MasterCard, VISA, AMEX, Discover) orders welcome. Toll-free telephone 1-800-262-0040 (anytime). Coldwater Creek, 1123 Lake Street, Sandpoint, Idaho 83864, U.S.A.

## News of L.C.C. Members

- According to Honorary L.C.C. Member Herman ("Pat") Herst, Jr., Rowland Hill did not invent "stamps" as the British were using revenue stamps to collect fees for centuries before 1840. Pat (P.O. Box 1583, Boca Raton, Florida 33429-0494, U.S.A.) offers at \$25 each postpaid a 200-year-old, handwritten British indenture on vellum with a revenue stamp fixed in place by a lead seal. Pat states, "They make a magnificent spectacle framed, and what a gift for a lawyer!" [*Editor's question:* Why would anybody in their right mind want to give a gift to a lawyer?! --RSC]
- Stanley Newman (#083) is the author of an article titled "Carteret in 1994 — A Postscript" that appears in the February 1995 issue of *Les Iles Normandes*, the quarterly journal of the Channel Islands Specialists' Society. Stanley's article deals with three postcards with Carteret scenes that he purchased at a provincial postcard fair near Rouen, Normandy, France. Tom Green (#129) is the Editor of *Les Iles Normandes*, and flatteringly mentioned Stanley in an Editorial in this same issue about Spring 1995 STAMPEX in London, England: "Stanley Newman, of course, will be about here, there, and everywhere looking for the bargains." *Touche!*

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

• Honorary L.C.C. Member Gwyneth White was one of two featured speakers at the November 26, 1994 meeting of the Paddle Steamer Preservation Society held in Cardiff, Wales, where she presented an hour-long memoir of her 82 years of Bristol Channel sailings, beginning with her first childhood trip at age three to Bristol during 1913! Miss White's first trip to Lundy took place September 22, 1929, and she fondly recalled it:

Daddy took us on our first trip to Lundy, which he had first visited in 1906 to view the first-class battleship *Montagu* hard and fast on a reef close to the Shutter Rock at its sou'west point on to which it had run in dense fog, becoming a total loss, though its guns were salvaged. But on that sunny September day, I fell instantly under the Island's spell, and it and its inhabitants have been part of my life ever since, a magnetic influence felt by so many others with all sorts of temperaments but united in loving Lundy!

Miss White, a Penarth, Wales resident, is a longtime "Friend" of Lundy whose chronicles of Island history, persons, events, and topographical features have frequently appeared in *LCCPQs* over the past twelve years. Gwyneth was recently bestowed lifetime Honorary Membership in the Lundy Collectors Club by the Board of Officers in recognition of her numerous literary and humanitarian contributions to our organization. She joins Barry N. D. Chinchin, William Rowcroft, and Herman Herst, Jr. who were previously granted lifetime Honorary Memberships by the L.C.C. Board.

• Roger S. Cichorz (#022) is the author of a feature article titled "Faroe Islands: Essays for the 1975 Definitive Stamps" that appears in the November 1994 issue of *The Posthorn*, the quarterly journal of the U.S.-based Scandinavian Collectors Club. Roger's article deals with an interesting Faroes "postal history" item—a multipage pamphlet, written by Danish philatelic journalist Ib Eichner-Larsen, which shows on its cover color reproductions of six "private design" essays (including one depicting a puffin!) for a proposed inaugural set of Faroes stamps. The text of this pamphlet traces the years of effort and work that went into the release in 1975 of the Faroe Islands' first postage stamp set.

Readers who want a black-and-white photocopy of the article and pamphlet and/or information about the Scandinavian Collectors Club should request these from Roger S. Cichorz, 3925 Longwood Avenue, Boulder, Colorado 80303-7233, U.S.A. [Note: U.S. residents, please include a SASE (with 55¢ in postage); readers elsewhere, please include 60p in mint G.B. stamps. For readers who want a beautiful photographic-quality multi-color photocopy of the Faroes essays, Roger will include one for an additional \$1.50 (or £1 in mint G.B. stamps) to cover his costs.]

• Jon Aitchison (#167) was one of five exhibitors with his one-frame, 12-page display of "Lihou" in the Channel Islands Specialists' Society's second annual Postcard Competition, held June 4, 1994 in London, England.

• Jamie Selko (#353) is the author of a four-page feature article in the January 1995 issue of *The American Philatelist*, the monthly journal of the American Philatelic Society. Titled "Hitler — Birthday Stamps and Special Cancels," Selko's profusely illustrated article deals with the Reichspostministerium of Nazi Germany paying tribute to the Führer with a series of birthday emissions from 1937 to 1944. Jamie, a U.S. Army linguist for almost twelve years, served as an interrogator in Berlin, Germany from 1987 to 1992 during the "Fall of the Wall"!

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

• Christer Brunstrom (#116) of Halmstad, Sweden, was the subject of a personal "spotlight" feature article that appeared in the February 1995 issue of *Global Stamp News*, a monthly periodical published in the United States that focuses on stamps of the world. Christer, a schoolteacher by profession, is a regular *Global Stamp News* columnist who writes about Nordic stamps and themes. He collects worldwide local stamps (including Lundy), old bogus stamps, and the stamps of "dead" countries that no longer issue postage stamps. Christer is married, but cautions us that his wife does not share his interest in stamp collecting and philately. The Brunstroms are avid travelers and enthusiastic theater-goers who appreciate and enjoy good meals at fine restaurants.

Christer is the author of an article titled "Swedish Locals in the News" that appeared in the March 1995 issue of *Luren*, the monthly newsletter of the Scandinavian Philatelic Library of Southern California, Inc. Christer's article mentions rare provisionals issued about 1947 from Ostersund, a 1947 Sandvikens Local Post Service cancellation of the same period, and a rare 1860s cover franked with the 10-öre stamp issued by the Jemtlands Kommunikations Bogag. This cover has only the second recorded example of this local stamp and was acquired at auction by the Swedish Postal Museum in Stockholm for a paltry 36,000 kroner (\$5000).

• David Kols (#298) and Richard E. Drews (#199) recently announced in the philatelic press that their respective auction firms, Regency Philatelic Auctions, Ltd. and Richard E. Drews Philatelic Auctions, have been appointed the Official American Philatelic Society (A.P.S.) Auctioneers for 1995 and will conduct six major auctions during 1995. Two of these auctions will contain more than \$1 million in world-class stamps and be conducted in St. Louis, Missouri on August 25-26 during STAMPSHOW '95, the annual A.P.S. convention and philatelic exhibition.

By the time this information appears here, two of the six auctions will be completed, but two sales (besides the two STAMPSHOW '95 auctions) are still on the 1995 calendar—Drews' November 17-18 CHICAGOPEX Auction and Regency's December 9 auction in St. Louis. For additional information and to obtain auction catalogues, contact: Regency Philatelic Auctions, Ltd. (10411 Clayton Road, #106, St. Louis, Missouri 63131-0066, U.S.A.; telephone 1-800-782-2231 or Fax 314-997-2231) and/or Richard E. Drews Philatelic Auctions (7139 West Higgins, Chicago, Illinois 60656-1972, U.S.A.; telephone 312-775-2100 or Fax 312-792-9116). Be sure to mention to David and/or Rich that you are a member of the Lundy Collectors Club.

• Congratulations go to the Collectors Club of Chicago (#037), who celebrates its Golden Anniversary in 1995—50 years of service to philately!

• *The Beck Handbook of Printed Cachets* is a new 48-page book compiled by Les Winick (#037) that lists and values the 1000 cacheted U.S. naval covers produced by Morris Beck over the period of February 1962 - October 1975, 389 of which are related to space exploration. The price of this book is \$10 from the Space Unit Study Group, Box 52229, Marathon Shores, Florida 33052-2579, U.S.A.

• As is customary every Spring, the L.C.C. Officers were again active in bringing about the annual PARFOREX stamp show. PARFOREX XXXV, sponsored by the Park Forest (Illinois) Stamp Club, was held April 1-2, 1995 in Park Forest, a South Side suburb of Chicago. PARFOREX chairmen included L.C.C. President George Fabian (#001) (cachets), Vice President Jim Czul (#002) (refreshments), Secretary-Treasurer Duane Larson (#003) (publicity), and Art Director Richard Barnes (#004) (rentals).

## ANTHONY F. LANGHAM (1928 - 1995) — AN APPRECIATION

On May 11, 1995, after a very long illness most courageously endured, Tony Langham passed away at the Royal Marsden Hospital, Sutton, Surrey, England. L.C.C. members Roger Allen, Diana Keast, and myself, along with over 100 of Tony's family and friends, were privileged to have attended Tony's funeral held May 17 at the Surrey and Sussex Crematorium. This turned out to be an unforgettable, very uplifting nonreligious ceremony enriched with music and humor, which could only have been orchestrated by Tony himself!

Probably best known for his contribution to Lundy literature, Tony, in conjunction with his former wife Myrtle, wrote his first authoritative work on Lundy, which was published by them in 1960 as a limited edition of 250 copies. This was followed by *Lundy* in the series of David & Charles "Islands" books, which was published in 1971, with the Second Edition appearing in 1984. Tony also wrote other books devoted to Lundy, notable amongst which were his famous paperbacks, *Shipwrecks of Lundy* and *The Pirates of Lundy*. However, the culmination of Tony's literary works on Lundy was published in June 1994, *The Island of Lundy*. Tony referred to this book as his "magnum opus" and spent endless time during the last few years in preparing the manuscript—time when he was often feeling far from well.

Always an ardent Lundy postal historian and philatelist, Tony first visited and fell in love with Lundy shortly after the Second World War. Since 1949 he regularly stayed on the Island with his family to be found there, year after year until 1994. Accordingly, he was a veritable fountain of knowledge on everything "Lundy", but, more importantly, he was only too happy to share his knowledge with all Lundyphiles he met.

My first meeting with Tony occurred at an auction of Lundy material way back in 1984, when we realized we both had an interest in Lundy postcards. Tony prepared a very fine catalogue of all known Lundy postcards, which, due unfortunately to the very limited number of collectors, was never published. However, for many years we corresponded, not only about Lundy postcards but also about the Island's postal history and stamps, and I shall never forget the kind assistance Tony gave me in researching material for my own books on the Island's postal history and Lundy's ships. Tony frequently visited me in Brighton (he loved visiting the town as well as my office), and any "session" with Tony was an unforgettable occasion, for his genial personality as well as his inexhaustible fund of Lundy folklore will long be remembered.

I am sure that all L.C.C. members will join me in offering their condolences to Tony's wife Jennifer, his three daughters, and all his family. Tony will be sadly missed and long remembered by all of us.

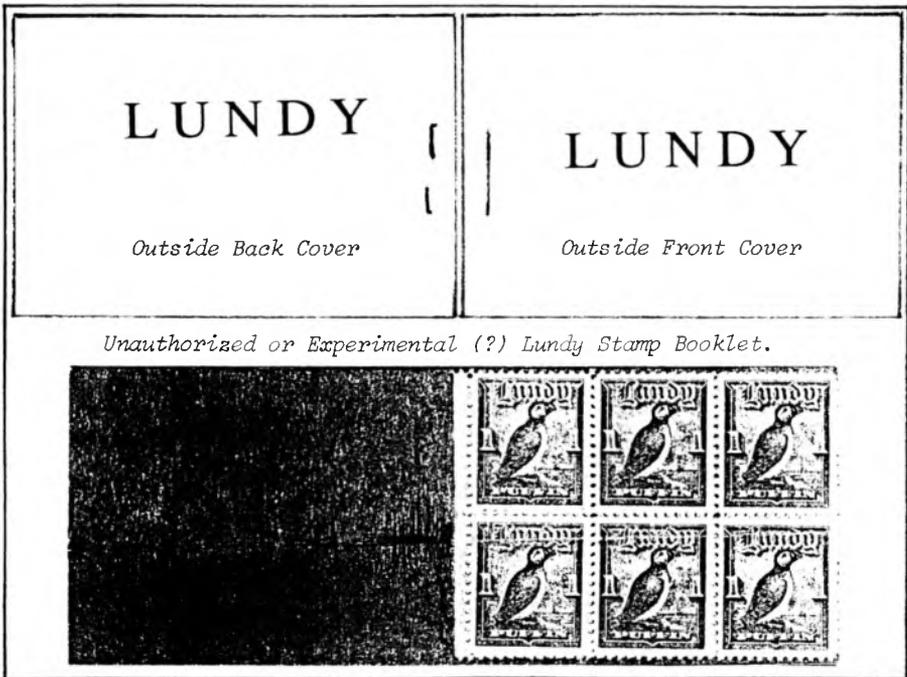
--Stanley Newman, Brighton, Sussex, England, May 1995

*Postscript:* Both Stanley Newman and Gwyneth White have pointed out that Lundy has a living reminder of Tony's fondness for the Island. During 1993 Tony had arranged for the construction of a seat at the head of Millcombe path, and, with prescience, its slatted back has a plaque inscribed: "FOR TONY LANGHAM — WHO LOVED LUNDY"! --RSC

## Odds and Ends

### Lundy First Definitive One-Puffin Stamp Booklet

Roger Hudson seeks information about an unusual Lundy item he recently acquired. It is a stamp booklet containing two "panes" of six of the 1929 1-puffin definitive stamps attached to the inside back booklet cover by left-margin selvage. The booklet's covers consist of thin card, dull green in color, with a purple handstamped "LUNDY" appearing on the outside front and back. The capitalized "LUNDY" letters are in 26-point *New York Times* typeface, identical to the "LUNDY" lettering of the narrow "LUNDY/Lights and Leads" paper sealing tape introduced in 1953. The folded booklet measures  $2\frac{1}{8}$  by 2 inches (73 by 51 mm) and is stapled at left by an old silver-type staple of approximately  $\frac{5}{8}$  inch (16 mm) in length. Constructions of the outer front and back covers showing the "LUNDY" handstamps and staple positions are illustrated below. Also shown below is the opened booklet so that the position of one of the two overlapped panes of six 1-puffin stamps can be seen.



*Unauthorized or Experimental (?) Lundy Stamp Booklet.*

The *LCCPQ* Editor has not seen this item before, and a search of the Lundy philatelic literature (issues of *The Puffin Journal*, F. W. Gade's *The Postal History of Lundy*, etc.) was unable to unearth any information about this booklet. I suspect that the booklet was either "privately produced" (and therefore not officially authorized) or "experimental" (perhaps one of Martin Coles Harman's schemes to sell more Lundy stamps). The similarity of the "LUNDY" handstamp lettering to that printed on the sealing tape suggests 1953 as a possible time frame for the booklet's production. Readers who have additional information about this booklet are encouraged to contact the *LCCPQ* Editor. --RSC

## ODDS AND ENDS (Continued)

Stamps from Former Soviet Republics That Depict Puffins

Two cities within the Russian Soviet Federal Socialist Republic of the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics—Birobijan (Birobidzhan in the Jewish Autonomous Oblast) and Zabaikal (Zabaykal'sk)—apparently have issued for their own local postal purposes sets of five surcharged U.S.S.R. stamps in se-tenant blocks of four overprint arrangements. I use the word "apparently" because I do not know the official status (if any) of these issues. It is uncertain whether these stamps are authorized overprints (bona fide locals issued and sold at the cities' post offices during a period in which Russian stamps were unavailable), unauthorized labels issued for propaganda purposes by some separatist group, or philatelically inspired creations aimed at stamp collectors' pocketbooks. However, it is almost certain that because of their status as provisionals/locals, these "issues" will be outside the scope of and not listed in future editions of the standard catalogues such as *Scott* and *Stanley Gibbons*. Nevertheless, they seem worthy of mention here because of their potential interest to *puffin* stamp specialists or topicalists/thematelists.

The overprint arrangement for the Birobijan issue consists of three of the stamps having Cyrillic text surrounding a hexagonal Star of David with three different surcharged denominations (counterclockwise from the upper right 400, 600, and 1000 rubles?); the fourth non-denominated label shows a tufted puffin (*Lunda cirrhata*) (illustrated right). The other four stamps of the set depict other fauna (rodent, spider, elk, and prairie dog). All the overprints are in black, except for the stamps and label of the block depicting the prairie dog, which are in red.

The overprint arrangement for the Zabaikal issue consists of three of the stamps having Cyrillic text above the same three different surcharged denominations as the Birobijan issues (counterclockwise from the upper right 400, 600, and 1000 rubles?); the fourth non-denominated label depicts an Atlantic puffin (*Fratercula arctica*) or possibly a horned puffin (*Fratercula caniculata*) (shown right). The other four stamps of the set depict other fauna (hawk, Afghan hound, squirrel, and owl). All the overprints are in black, except for the stamps and label of the block depicting the owl, which are also in rust red.



The Republic of Abkhazia, the separatist area of Georgia that had been the scene of vicious fighting prior to June 1992, during 1994 issued a set of seven stamps picturing different birds, all of which have 50-ruble denominations. One of the stamps in the set depicts an Atlantic puffin (*Fratercula arctica*) (illustrated to the left atop the following page). These stamps are also available as a miniature sheet of eight (the set of

## ODDS AND ENDS (Continued)

## Puffin Stamps from Former Soviet Republics (Continued)



seven plus a nondenominated label) and in compound sheets of eight (seven stamps of a single design plus a non-denominated label). These are part of a larger issue of 28 "birds" stamps, seven each in denominations of 30, 50, 200, and 500 rubles, all designed by Mary Ann Simpson and printed by the Mansfield (Massachusetts, U.S.) Press.

Recently, the Abkhazian rebels secured the major Georgian city of Sukhumi and its airport, with United Nations peacekeeping forces being involved since 1993. Moscow has refused to intercede in this civil war, and some knowledgeable observers believe the Abkhazian revolution will succeed, with the Republic of Abkhazia becoming a recognized political entity. The Republic of Abkhazia, consisting of an area of 8700 square kilometers (3350 square miles) located in a mountainous area on the Black Sea, has seven regional post offices, with Sukhum (*note new spelling with the absence of an "i" at the end*) regarded as the capital city, but Abkhazia is not a member of the Universal Postal Union at this time.

The 30-ruble stamps are intended for internal mail use, and the 50-ruble and higher-denominated stamps are intended for international mail use. International mail is sent through Russia instead of Georgia because Georgia does not recognize Abkhazian stamps. However, there is ample evidence that Abkhazia is presently functioning as an independent state. Here again, whether or not the Abkhazian stamps will be listed in future editions of standard catalogues such as *Scott* and *Gibbons* is uncertain.

I obtained these stamps from Westminster Stamp Gallery Ltd. (W.S.G., P.O. Box 456, Foxboro, Massachusetts 02035, U.S.A.; telephone 508-384-6157, Fax 508-384-3130) at relatively modest cost (\$6 each set for the over-printed/surcharged blocks of four and \$3.25 for the Abkhazian set of seven sheet), but I am not certain if W.S.G. still has stocks of these available. As of February 1995, W.S.G. had several misperforated and imperforate sheets and some FDCs of the Abkhazian issues in stock and available for \$30-\$50 each. Write, telephone, or Fax W.S.G. about their current availability and cost (credit card orders accepted). --RSC

## Viet Nam 1994 Stamp Pictures Tufted Puffins

During 1994, Viet Nam (Democratic Republic of Viet Nam = North Viet Nam) issued in conjunction with the PHILAKOREA international stamp exhibition a set of six stamps and one souvenir sheet that pictured birds. The

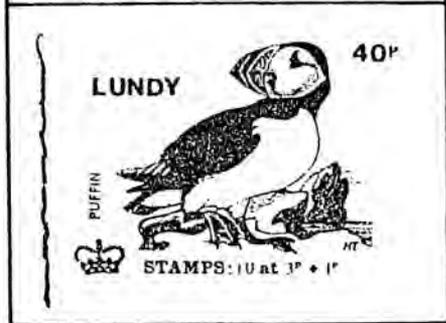


fifth stamp of the set (denominated 3000 dong, *illustrated left*) depicts two tufted puffins (*Lunda cirrhata*), one standing and the other in flight. The other stamps in this set include: 400d (*Numenius arquata*), 600d (*Oceanites oceanicus*), 1000d (*Fregata minor*), 2000d (*Morus cepensis*), 11,000d (*Larus belcheri*), and the 10,000d souvenir sheet (*Collocalia tuciphaga germani*). Both the stamps and souvenir sheet exist perforated and imperforate. --RSC

ODDS AND ENDS (Continued)Addenda/Corrections to the "Checklist" of Puffin Stamps

Charles E. Nickel (#363) offers the following three addenda/corrections to the *Checklist of Stamps Picturing Puffins* that appeared in the Summer 1989 *LCCPQ* as Supplement Pages 1 and 2:

- Great Britain issued two stamp booklets in July 1969 and in September 1969, respectively, with identical orange front covers that pictured a puffin (*illustrated top right*). The major differences between the two booklets are the sizes of the "Oxfam can't/stop earthquakes" heading of the advertisement on the outside back covers and the month (either July or September) of the month/year imprint at the foot of the outside back covers. These booklets contain 18 (three panes of six) *Scott* #499b, the bright-red "Machin head" QEII 4d definitive (not *Scott* #498b as originally given), and assigned, respectively, *Stanley Gibbons* #QP49 and #QP50. These G.B. booklet *puffin* covers obviously inspired Barry N. D. Chinchon of the Lundy Philatelic Service to create a "dummy" trial booklet for Lundy (*shown right*). This proposed Lundy stamp booklet was (unfortunately) never issued, but the mock-up "dummy" booklets (with interleaving but no stamps) were eventually distributed to L.P.S. account holders about 1972. These booklets are eagerly sought by Lundy collectors today, and when occasionally offered, command a high price.



- The Calf of Man 1972 definitives are *Rosen* #CA.272-281 (not #CA.271-281 as originally listed).
- The Staffa *Rosen* #SF.64 and #SF.123 listings are incorrect as neither of these stamps picture puffins. However, the 4-pence denomination of the February 1, 1974 "birds" set depicts a puffin and is assigned *Rosen* #SF 186 in the 1982 edition of the *Catalogue of British Island Local Stamps*, edited by Marcus Williams. This set was not listed in the 1978 *Catalogue of British Local Stamps*, edited by Gerald Rosen.



ODDS AND ENDS (Continued)Additional "Local Stamps" Picturing Puffins

In addition, during 1981, Staffa, Eynhallow, and the Berneras (all off-shore Scottish isles) each issued fl-denominated "local stamps" (shown at the bottom of the preceding page and at left) that are not listed in Marcus Williams' 1982 *Catalogue of British Island Local Stamps*. The examples I have are imperforate, and I do not know if these were issued perforated. Mint examples are still available at fl.50 each (plus additional for postage and handling) from Rushstamps, P.O. Box One, Lyndhurst, Hampshire, SO43 7PP, England; telephone 01703-282044, Fax 01703-282981.

The "local stamps" of Staffa, Eynhallow, Bernera, and Grunay from this time period fell into disrepute with collectors and were the subject of a U.S. Department of Justice civil suit against promoters of an abusive tax shelter centered around the printing masters for these labels (Spring 1987 *LCCPQ*, pages 3-4). --RSC

Additional Information on the Lundy 1943 Provisionals

Michael Bale reports: I believe that Ken Gibson's article (originally appearing in the *Winter 1982 LCCPQ*, page 6, and then reprinted in the "Questions and Answers" feature, *Fall 1994 LCCPQ*, page 10) was probably based on the two panes from the upper right-hand corner in the George Ulrich Collection. The overprints match exactly his diagram both as to the width of the overprints and the position of the short fraction bar variety. I also have an imprint block of six of the 1½p and 2½p with the margin beneath, and these match his diagrams as well, so I would assume that the printing was the same on all four panes of the sheet.

Michael Bale adds: Incidentally, as well as the trial overprints on the 6p with different types of obliterators, of which I have three examples (shown on page 17, *Summer 1994 LCCPQ*), I have two examples of the 12p overprinted stamp with only the colored bars over the 12p values and missing the value "1½" [*Newman #55(c)*]. George Ulrich had these listed as "Trial Prints"! I also have the 1½p provisional with inverted overprint [*Newman #55(b)*], another example of the 1½p provisional with double overprint [*Newman #55(a)*], and the 2½p provisional with double overprint [*Newman #56(a)*]. These must be fairly unusual.

*Editor's comments:* And rare as indicated by 1993 *Newman* valuations of £75 for #55(c) ("missing '1½'"') and £70 each for the "(a)" (doubled) and "(b)" (inverted) overprint varieties. Michael Bale wrote the notes above in March 1993. At that time, I was aware of only one of these varieties appearing on the philatelic market since I began following Lundy in 1978. This was a mint example of *Newman #55(c)* that was offered as lot #128 in Negev Holyland's No. 5 Lundy auction, which closed November 19, 1992; it sold for £70 against a modest estimate of £47.50. In my summary of this sale (Spring 1993 *LCCPQ*, pages 18-19), I noted this was "the first example I have seen offered at auction"! Michael Bale subsequently offered mint singles of *Newman #55(c)* and #55(a) at estimates of £75 each in his Negev Holyland's No. 8 Lundy auction, which closed April 27, 1994. The #55(c) fetched £100, while the #55(a) (the first example I have seen offered at auction) sold for £110. Surprisingly, Stanley Newman has

ODDS AND ENDS (Continued)

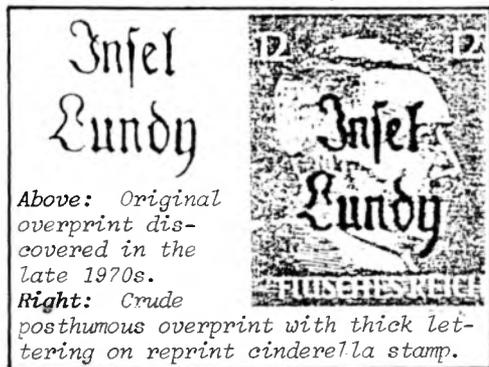
never offered even one of these five varieties in any of his 23 (I.P.P.A. or C.I.L.A.) Lundy auctions since he began offering Lundy material in 1981—probably a testimony to their true scarcity! In light of their infrequent appearance in the philatelic market and the realizations of *Newman* #55(a) and #55(c) against estimates in the two Negev auctions, I believe these varieties are undervalued (at £70 and £75, respectively) in the 1993 (second edition) *Newman Catalogue* even though they increased from £50 valuations in the 1984 (first edition) *Newman Catalogue*. The most recent auction realizations probably are more indicative of "true value", but, by contrast, just imagine the value of a United States or Great Britain stamp that comes up for sale once or twice a decade! --RSC

"Insel Lundy"—Overprinted German Stamps — Caveat Emptor!

Roger E. Allen cautions readers that the "Insel Lundy"—overprinted stamps appearing in C.I.L.A. auctions beginning in 1993 are posthumous forgeries of the original overprints *discovered* in the late 1970s.

Roger writes: In April 1978 I wrote an article in *The Cinderella Philatelist* concerning the "Insel Lundy" overprint that appeared on "Hindenburg head" stamps of the Third Reich. These stamps date from the time of WWII and were current when the two Heinkel 111 bombers were downed on Lundy. The overprint on these stamps was of a professional nature and executed in a thin fine (*Gothic*) typeface. Very few of these overprints have sur-

faced, and they fetched quite high prices on the rare occasion that they were seen at auction. During the past three years, a crude imitation of this overprint has appeared on the scene and particularly in the C.I.L.A. auctions. The new version is much thicker than the original typeface, and there is a break in the "L" of "Lundy". The prices of the original overprints deserve to be high as they are a Lundy rarity. High prices should not be paid for this recent forgery,



*Above: Original overprint discovered in the late 1970s.*

*Right: Crude posthumous overprint with thick lettering on reprint cinderella stamp.*

however, as I suspect that as many as are required can be easily reproduced. This new and crude version of the "Insel Lundy" overprint has even been seen on a modern reprint of the famous "Futches Reich" cinderella showing Hitler with his jawline in the form of a skull. To my knowledge, the new imitation has never appeared on any Wartime German stamps. Illustrations of the two versions of the overprint are shown above.

*Editor's postscript:* Imitation indeed is the sincerest form of flattery! A fake of a phantom overprint certainly qualifies. In any case, before purchasing any of these items (either the "original" or modern forgery), be certain you know what you are getting. Caveat emptor! --RSC

1955 Millenary 9-Puffin Stamps Only on Unglazed Paper?

Stanley Newman makes a remarkable observation: the common 1955 Millenary 9p stamp appears to exist only on unglazed paper, unlike the other values in the set, which all appear to be on glazed (shiny) paper! Does anyone have an example of the 9p stamp on glazed paper to contradict this? --RSC

# Lundy at Auction

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

## Negev Holyland Stamps Ltd. Lundy Postal Bid Sales

The eighth 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 1, Ilfracombe, Devon, EX34 9BR, England; telephone 1271-862857, Fax 1271-867161), which closed April 27, 1994, contained 870 lots with a cumulative estimate of £18,422.50. This auction paled in comparison to Negev's seventh Lundy sale (reported in the Winter 1993-94 *LCCPQ*, pages 11-15) as only 41.6 percent of the lots sold and these represented only 37.2 percent of the total estimate value for the auction. The 362 lots that sold, however, realized £7227.75 against a cumulative estimate of £6861, or a reasonable 5.3 percent above estimate. A summary of the realizations by major lot category for this auction is given in Table 1 below.

TABLE 1. Summary of Negev's Eighth Lundy Auction (April 27, 1994).

Category	Lots Offered		Lots Sold			
	No.	Estimates	No.	Estimates	Realiz'ns	%R:E*
stamps	329	£ 8882.75	163	£ 3111.75	£ 3341.55	107.4
proofs	82	3922.00	35	1148.00	1198.85	104.4
covers	250	3507.25	104	1794.25	1757.95	98.0
postcards	23	124.50	8	47.50	48.00	101.1
booklets/packs	20	334.50	6	151.00	155.65	103.1
bogus	61	500.50	21	143.50	180.90	126.1
L.C.C. souvenirs	52	398.50	11	87.00	92.85	106.7
miscellaneous	10	147.50	4	59.00	73.00	123.7
literature	34	331.50	5	109.00	172.00	157.8
non-Lundy stamps	9	273.50	5	210.00	207.00	98.6
Total (all lots)	870	£18422.50	363	£ 6861.00	£ 7227.75	105.3

\*R:E is the ratio of realizations to estimates for the sold lots.

There were many rare and pricey items for sale in this auction, and the results were mixed. For example, there were offered 16 stamp lots with estimates of greater than £100 each, but only five of these sold (three below and two above estimates). There were offered 27 stamp lots with estimates of £50 to £100 each, but only ten sold (five below and five above estimates). Covers fared slightly better in that four of seven with estimates of £50 or above sold, but only one of these realized above estimate. There were offered 13 proof lots with estimates of greater than £100 each, but only two sold (one below and one above estimates). There were offered nine proof lots in the estimate range of £50 to £100, and four of these sold (two above and two below estimates).

As usual, covers and postal history lots were among the better performers as 41.6 percent of these lots sold—amazingly, the identical percentage of the lots in the auction as a whole! However, the 41.6 percent sold represented 51.2 percent of the total estimate value, which indicates the better (more costly) items sold. The 98.0 percent of realizations to estimates is misleading—skewed by the fact that a properly used 1969 "APPEAL" stamp on acknowledgment card fetched only £500 against its £600 estimate. If this card is ignored from the estimates and realizations, the other cover lots that sold represent 44.5 percent of the total estimate value (still significantly above the auction mean of 37.2 percent),

LUNDY AT AUCTION (Continued)

and the ratio of realizations to estimates increased to 105.3 percent, which compares favorably for the 107.5 percent adjusted ratio for the auction as a whole.

That good Lundy postal history items do not necessarily appreciate in value (particularly when one grossly overpays in the first place) is in evidence by an A. St. Claire "Herding Cattle/Lundy Island" postcard postally used with a superb July 20, 1911 "LUNDY ISLAND" *thimble* postmark and squared-circle "INSTOW" receiving mark of July 21 that sold for only £66.50 (\$100) against its estimate of £85. Michael Bale mentioned in the lot description that the previous owner paid \$240 for it in 1979! This postcard was originally purchased as lot #3 in the now-defunct Puff'N Company's second mail auction which closed June 1, 1979 (see my Winter 1979 column on page 4 for details). This card was acquired by Puff'N Company proprietor John Van Emden from longtime L.C.C. member dealer Argyll Etkin Ltd. of London (#051) during 1979 when very few appeared on the market (but when they were often available for a few pence at North Devon antique markets provided one had the patience to search for them)! The other "LUNDY ISLAND" *thimble* item, a June 25, 1909 strike on G.B. KEVII  $\frac{1}{2}$ d definitive on a Twiss Bros. multi-view Lundy postcard, realized only £70 against its modest £80 estimate.

On the previous page I had mentioned the full "APPEAL" acknowledgment card selling for £500, but what is half an "APPEAL" acknowledgment card worth? This time Michael offered the torn card (left cacheted side with the "APPEAL" overprint stamp and the datestamp portion of an October 16, 1969 Bideford machine cancellation) that went unsold in Negev's 7th auction as a used stamp on piece estimated at £200. It fetched £215, probably quite reasonable when one considers there is still enough there to show G.P.O. service and thus qualifying it as a "postal history" item, albeit far from pristine! Most of the other covers in this sale realized within £2 to £5 of their estimates, except for a 1949 favor cover from Felix Gade having two ACAS "tramtickets" attached, which sold for £50 against its estimate of £40, and a March 31, 1974 cacheted "LAST POSTING BEFORE MACHINE FRANKING" cover, which fetched £15 against its £8 estimate. A *smorgasbord* lot consisting of 32 postally used covers and six postcards ranging from 1945 to 1992 was evidently hotly contested among bidders as it realized £22 against its estimate of £15.

Some of the better stamp lots, either in terms of scarcity or realization against estimate, include the following (£ estimate/£ realizations are given in parentheses following brief lot descriptions): a used ACAS  $\frac{1}{2}$ d "tramticket" example from scarce roll 4 (#01891, only 38 stamps recorded from roll 4—mint, used, or on cover) (£35/£60), a slightly damaged (light crease and partially hinged) mint full sheet of 12 ACAS "large map" 2d stamps (£50/£42), unused (no gum) 1937 "air view" violet  $\frac{1}{2}$ d stamp (*Chinchen/Newman* #18e) (£80/£120), unused ("gum mostly missing") 1937 LACAL "5-line" overprint vertical pair with "ATTANTIC" error (top) se-tenant with normal stamp (bottom) (£85/£76.50—a bargain!), complete mint NH set of six 1940 "Red Cross" overprints (£230/£183—the bargain of this auction considering the current £275 *Newman* valuation!), mint LH "Red Cross" 2p double overprint variety, *Newman* #31(c) (£160/£150), mint (LH + NH) set of nine 1942 "V + plane" overprints, all 21 overprint color varieties except the violet 1p, *Newman* #38B (£125/£145), used "V + plane" violet 1p (*Newman* #38B) (£17/£30), mint NH 1943 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ p on 12p overprint provisional horizontal pair, the left-hand stamp the 14-mm setting [*Newman* #55(c)] and the right-

LUNDY AT AUCTION (Continued)

hand stamp the 12-mm setting [*Newman* #55(a)] (£32/£65), RARE\* mint LH 1943 1½p on 12p provisional overprint missing "1½" variety (with only the red obliterators present) (£75/£100), RARE\* mint LH 1943 1½p on 12p provisional double overprint variety (£75/£110) [\* these are the first examples of these varieties I have ever seen offered!], a complete set of seven 1951 "flying birds" definitives mounted in a John Dyke-designed and signed presentation folder (£20/£45), and a mint 1969 "APPEAL" stamp (£160/£133). What did not sell among the stamp, proof, and cover lots offered in this auction would make the basis for an exhibition-quality Lundy collection!

The better proof items (all mint unless otherwise noted) include the following (£ estimate/£ realizations are given in parentheses following brief lot descriptions): imperforate proofs on thin ungummed paper of the first definitive set, ex-Stanard/ex-Ulrich (£150/no sale), vertical pair imperforate ACAS "large map" 3d proofs, top stamp LH (£150/£133), "V + plane" full proof sheet of 15 overprint impressions in green on thin, yellow ungummed paper (£85/£92), "V + plane" full proof sheet of 15 overprint impressions but in red on thin, ungummed blue paper (£85/£80), "V + plane" 1p red trial overprint in pair with unoverprinted stamp, one stamp LH (£40/£40), 1943 Tighearna sheetlet imperforate with inverted gold overprint (£90/£100), 1945 "Wright Brothers biplane" ½p inverted overprint (£42/£55), "Wright Brothers biplane" 3p "biplane only inverted" variety (£40/£50), "Wright Brothers biplane" 6p "biplane doubled" variety (£22/£24), 1957 definitive proof sheetlet in issued color of the 6p lake-brown with serial no. "0041" from the printer's archives (£275/no sale), 1982 definitives - horizontal pairs of complete set in issued colors but badly misperforated (£85/£76.50), and 1982 definitives - color trials/proofs in wrong colors as perforated singles (£75/£76).

The best booklet lot was the first Lundy booklet of 1988 (*Newman* #B246) pane of stamps and front cover mounted on a cacheted first day cover (only 20 produced by Jon Aitchison, thus RARE), which realized £41 against its £35 estimate. The best "miscellaneous" lot was "an original folded Military (Naval) Pass to enable a lady to visit Lundy at her own risk in a Naval Auxiliary vessel, dated September 6, 1944 and signed by Naval Officer in Charge at Appledore—a special pass for a civilian to travel on a naval vessel, typed and signed"—a remarkable wartime ephemera item, which fetched £52 against its £40 estimate. The only significant literature item to sell was a first edition of Felix Gade's *My Life on Lundy* (no. 422 of the limited edition of 500 copies), which sold for a whopping £135 against its estimate of £75—setting a new market price for this highly sought-after book!

The only "L.C.C. souvenir" lot of note to sell was one comprised of complete sheets of 25 of the 1991 5p and 10p definitives overprinted "1991/L.C.C. VISIT" + "SEABORNE BOTTLE MAIL" + "TIDAL TESTING", which sold for £33.35 against an estimate of £30. (Send me your unoverprinted sheets and return postage and I will overprint them for you at no charge as Jon Aitchison provided me with the "overprint proofs" at the time he produced these with a photocopier!) Amongst the non-Lundy lots, the Herm Island 1965 Liberation Anniversary set (*Backman/Forrester* #90-95) as mint imperforate complete sheets of 20 in issued colors sold for £133 against an estimate of £133 and B/F valuation of £300.

This auction was so chock full of rarities and seldom-offered items, one wonders what Michael Bale could do for an encore? Read on to find out!

LUNDY AT AUCTION (Continued)

The ninth Lundy postal bid sale of Michael Bale's Negev Holyland firm, which closed October 5, 1994, was a smaller sale than its predecessor in that 853 lots with a cumulative estimate of only £14,752.25 were offered this time. However, a whopping 454 lots sold, realizing £8531.42 or 99.0 of the cumulative estimate of £8617.25 and thoroughly eclipsing the estimates (£6861) and realizations (£7727.25) of the lots that sold in the previous Negev auction summarized on the preceding three pages. The 454 lots that sold in Negev's ninth Lundy auction represented 53.2 percent of the lots and 58.4 percent of the cumulative estimate of the auction as a whole, indicating (in contrast to the previous sale) that the pricier material sold. A summary of the realizations by major lot category for this auction is given in Table 2 below and permits further comparisons with the previous sale which is summarized in Table 1 on page 14.

TABLE 2. Summary of Negev's Ninth Lundy Auction (October 5, 1994).

Category	Lots Offered		Lots Sold			
	No.	Estimates	No.	Estimates	Realiz'ns	%R:E*
stamps	169	£ 6748.50	111	£ 4244.00	£ 3919.02	92.3
proofs	35	1343.00	18	862.50	805.55	93.4
covers	274	3145.75	153	2080.75	2205.65	106.0
postcards	19	115.50	8	44.00	46.00	104.5
booklets/packs	48	406.00	27	184.50	214.80	116.4
bogus	79	542.50	40	242.50	281.45	116.1
L.C.C. souvenirs	111	1013.50	47	325.00	366.90	112.9
ephemera	50	388.00	25	247.00	262.30	106.2
literature	58	633.50	18	226.00	249.75	110.5
non-Lundy stamps	10	416.00	7	161.00	180.00	111.8
Total (all lots)	853	£14752.25	454	£ 8617.25	£ 8531.42	99.0

\*R:E is the ratio of realizations to estimates for the sold lots.

The ratio of realizations to estimates of this auction is typical of the previous Negev sales. The low 99.0 percent cited here is misleading in that five pricey lots of 1940 "Red Cross" material sold for only £1688, or 85.0 percent of their £1985 cumulative estimate. If one subtracts these five lots from the auction summary, the other 449 lots that sold fetched £6843.42, or 103.2 percent of the adjusted cumulative estimate of £6632.25, which puts the ratio exactly at the 103.2 percent mean figure for seven of the eight previous Negev Lundy auctions (only the Negev #5 Lundy sale was an anomaly from this statistic as its ratio of realizations to estimates was a whopping 119.3 percent).

There were fewer outstanding stamp lots offered in this auction as it focused more on L.C.C. souvenirs, paper ephemera, and literature than its predecessor. There were only 25 stamp lots with estimates of £50 or greater offered, and although 15 of these sold, only four realized or exceeded their estimates. The best performing of these costlier stamp lots was a rare "BUREAU MAIL" (*Chinchen/Newman* type G) cancellation on a 1929 1p definitive on piece which sold for £63 against its £50 estimate; arguably this lot could have been included in the "postal history/cover" category, but I chose to summarize it with the stamp lots as Michael designated it a "used stamp" in the sale catalogue. Most of the unsold pricier stamp lots were panes or large multiples with high catalogue values rather than single stamps.

LUNDY AT AUCTION (Continued)

One unusual stamp offering was a 9p "Red Cross" stamp with a portion of a second "Red Cross" overprint at the bottom; it fetched £111 against an estimate of £125. Rather than being an uncatalogued *error* as indicated in the description, this stamp (in my opinion) is simply a *freak*—one of the bottom row stamps from a pane that was misaligned downward during the overprinting (or alternatively had a shaved down bottom salvage to begin with) so that the "Red Cross" intended for the bottom salvage got printed onto the stamp instead; the upward position of the full surcharge on this stamp supports this explanation.

Some of the other scarcer/pricier stamp lots included the following items (£ estimate/£ realization figures are given in parentheses after brief descriptions): complete mint set of eight of the 1940 "Red Cross" issue (£225/unsold), used "Red Cross" 12p value with "Pnffins" error overprint (£140/£111), mint horizontal pair of "Red Cross" 12p values with vertical gutter between (£120/£130), complete set of eight of the "Red Cross" issue in mint blocks of four with six of the eight (except 3p, 4p) blocks having one stamp with the "Pnffin(s)" error (£1150/£950), "Red Cross" mint block of four 12p value with inverted overprints and one stamp a "broken cross" variety to boot (£450/£386), 1943 "Wright Brothers bi-plane" overprint ½p value in mint blocks of 10 and 20 with several varieties (row 3 with 17.5 mm overprint spacing, unlisted faint "½" on stamp 13, and "broken tail") (£60/£50.62), scarce mint 1950 narrow-setting "BY AIR" 1p stamp with additional "Hundy" variety (incorrectly catalogued by *Newman* at £30 when normal mint stamp is £36) (£60/£60), 1953 Coronation ½p and 1p with wrong color overprints in mint central cross-gutter blocks of four (£360/£291), and mint 1972 blue surcharge 1p on 9p provisional (*Newman* #172) (£90/£80).

Some proof lot offerings of note included (£ estimate/£ realization figures are given in parentheses after brief descriptions): complete set of five imperforate singles of the 1929-30 first definitives on thin, un gummed paper (ex-Stanard, ex-Ulrich) (£150/£130), strike of 1942 15-setting "V + plane" proof overprints in violet on thin yellow, un gummed paper (£85/£66.50), set of Rigby-Hall original 30p Bureau essays in six different colors on thin yellow, un gummed paper (£170/£175), 1954 Silver Jubilee surface set of seven printer's bromides (black photo proofs) on thick white card mounted on display sheet of black paper (from the original paste-ups—"only 12 sets known to exist" according to the lot description) (£200/£158), and a large A4-sized sheet of white paper showing the original sketch of the finished stamp for the 1991 new puffin issue, without a value in the value tablet but with a "22" outside the stamp (£40/£40).

Postal history and cover lots made a much stronger showing in this sale than in Negev's previous auction as 55.8 percent of the lots (153 of 274) sold, realizing 6.0 percent above cumulative estimate. More importantly, these lots represented 64.5 percent of the category's cumulative estimate, indicating that a great amount of the pricier items sold. In fact, there were 24 cover lots with estimates of £25 or greater offered and all but four of these sold. Only three of these 20 covers failed to reach their estimates. One of these three appeared overestimated—a complete set of eight 1940 "Red Cross" stamps on a G.B. imprinted envelope (but with no G.P.O. postal markings) cancelled on Lundy February 5, 1945 (thus obviously a souvenir or philatelic C.T.O. "late use") that sold for £253 against its £350 estimate. The £253 price tag for this

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cover still seems too high when one considers that a mint "Red Cross" set at an estimate of only £225 went unsold in this auction and another mint set sold in the previous Negev sale for only £183 against a £230 estimate. In contrast, let's see what a proper timeframe, "nonphilatelic" use of a "Red Cross" stamp on cover commands? The best cover performer in this auction was an inward 1940 cover addressed to South Lighthouse keeper Waghorn from Boise, Idaho, which took four months in transit and was then franked with a "Red Cross" 1p stamp on arrival. Despite this cover's "rather torn" condition and the fact a used "Red Cross" 1p stamp catalogues only £14, this cover fetched a whopping £91 against its estimate of £50!

Other covers of note included (£ estimate/£ realization figures are given in parentheses after brief descriptions): an April 12, 1936 outward to Bristol with a complete set of six ACAS "large maps" (£120/£126), December 30, 1940 outward to Australia with superfluous ACAS "large map" 3d tied by the "AIR SERVICE...SUSPENDED..." cachet (£45/£51), 1954 inward from Herm Island via B.E.A. carriage (thus B.E.A. 9d letterstamp label franking in addition to two Islands' locals!) (£40/£44), and a complete pane of 25 R.S.P.B. stamps (2nd printing with imperforate top row margin) tied to a G.P.O.-serviced January 17, 1989 FDC (according to the description, "believed only 9 FDCs with full panes exist") (£30/£38).

A rare outward November 12, 1943 Lundy Philatelic Bureau cover from Northamps. addressed to M. C. Harman in London, with an "IX Anniversary" ½p stamp on back with a "BUREAU MAIL" (*Chinchen/Newman* type G) cachet, was hotly contested, selling for £155 against its £135 estimate. I have seen only several of these Bureau covers offered over the past 16 years, so an example addressed to the then-Island owner certainly is a plus even if "slightly torn" at the top according to its description. If it was in fact roughly opened at the top to account for this tear, it would demonstrate that Mr. Harman gave little thought to the philatelic significance of such Lundy-related mail!

Postcards were a minor portion of this auction, and none of the eight lots that sold exceeded £10. The best postcard was a Twiss Bros. real sepia "H.M.S. Montagu Ashore Lundy Island" that realized £9 against its £9 estimate. The "booklets/packs" category consisted of private display packs and folders and official Lundy presentation packs. The best of these was a John Dyke-produced Atalantic Coast Studios folder with a complete mounted set of the 1957 definitives, which realized £24 against an estimate of £16. The best lot in the "L.C.C. souvenirs" category was a potpourri of progressive proofs and other items related to the souvenir sheet prepared for the August 5, 1989 L.C.C. Bideford meeting, which sold for £28 against an estimate of £20.

This auction featured several lots of desirable paper ephemera. Perhaps the best of these was "an original, unfolded naval pass from the Naval Officer in Charge, Appledore, to enable a lady to be taken to Lundy by military vessel between August 6, 1942 and August 17, 1942/rare document" (a somewhat similar item fetched £52 in the previous Negev sale), which sold for £57 against its estimate of £50. An original typed letter on "LUNDY, BRISTOL CHANNEL" stationery dated August 26, 1938 from Felix Gade to J. T. Goldup, Beckenham, referring to the pending sale of the *Lerina* and possible discontinuance of some of the stamps, realized £30 against an optimistic £35 estimate. A framed print of "The Castle in the Isle of Lundy" originally published by Grose about 1785 (and the subject of the

LUNDY AT AUCTION (Continued)

design of the 45p stamp of the May 17, 1994 Marisco Castle 750th Anniversary set) fetched £26 against its £20 estimate. A pair of the 1929 Lundy coins (condition not stated in the lot description) realized £27 against an estimate of £25.

This auction featured many exceptional literature lots that originated from the estate of an unnamed Lundy collector from Britain who passed away earlier in 1994; however, bidder interest in these was not strong as less than one third of the literature lots sold. A complete set of originals (Numbers 1 through 16) of John Dyke's *Illustrated Lundy News and Landmark Journal* in a special binder fetched £52 against an estimate of £50. A complete run of Issues 1-62 of the *British Private Post Study Group Newsletter*, with the A4-page-sized Issues 1-40 (edited by John Holman from 1977-87 before Roger Allen assumed the editorship with Issue 41 and changed the size format) in a binder, realized only £31 against an estimate of £40 (that I thought was modest!). Five nonphilatelic booklets about Lundy-related topics surprised me by selling from 30 to 67 percent above their estimates, but none of these exceeded £13 in cost. We'll see in my next column how Negev's tenth (and final) Lundy auction fared—stay tuned.

Western Auctions Ltd. May 20, 1995 Sale

The May 20, 1995 sale conducted by Western Auctions Ltd. (Bank House, 225 City Road, Cardiff, CF2 3JD, Wales, G.B.; telephone 01222-484934, Fax 01222-450522) offered 14 lots of Lundy material at a cumulative estimate of £705. The stamp offerings ranged from a lot of 226 of the LACAL 1939 red "air view" 1d issue in mint NH singles and multiples up to blocks of 30 (estimated at £60) to the 1954 Silver Jubilee surface issue set in complete mint NH panes of 20 (estimated at £40)—both lots being flyspeckers' delights in a search for constant plate flaws, which abound in both of these issues. There were five lots of WWII overprints ranging from four 1940 "Red Cross" stamps (estimated at £55) to fifteen 1943 provisionals (estimated at £50).

One Lundy "wholesale" lot was offered; it appeared to be the remainder of a collection or dealer's stock. Described as a "duplicated range in stock book" from the 1951 "flying birds" definitives to the 1978 Marine Reserve issue, this accumulation was given a reasonable estimate of £100 against an approximate *Newman* valuation of £615. Two accumulations of covers were included in this sale: a lot comprised of 39 assorted covers and cards from 1976 to 1992 was estimated at £45, and another consisting of 24 covers addressed to "F Workman (*sic*—*Waghorn*), Old Light, and Mr. Gade, Postmaster" was estimated at £30.

David Perris reports the Lundy section of this auction was a "disaster" in that only one lot sold (#792), fetching £60. David added that despite some 80 L.C.C. members being informed, only one bid was received from them, and the person who purchased the lot was not an L.C.C. member. Perhaps the fact that Western Auctions adds a buyer's premium of 10 percent to the hammer price and an additional handling charge of £2 per lot (in addition to the Value Added Tax of 17.5 percent to E.E.C. and inland clients), exclusive of the successful lot bid, is a deterrent to potential U.K. buyers from entering competitive bids. Two subsequent Western auctions also featured Lundy material, and these lots fared considerably better. I will discuss these two auctions in detail in my next column. Please stay tuned and keep those cards and letters coming!



**LUNDY**

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