

PHILATELIC QUARTERLY



LUNDY'S NEW POSTAL FRANKING MACHINE
FIRST DATE OF USE SEPTEMBER 6, 1995
(OR WAS THAT 2005?) — SEE PAGES 6-9



NEW LIGHTHOUSE AND "DELAYED BY STORM"
OVAL METER SLUGS
AND "M.S. OLDENBURG" CACHET
ALSO INTRODUCED — STORIES INSIDE

FALL 1995

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE LUNDY COLLECTORS CLUB

FALL 1995 LUNDY COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIC QUARTERLY

(Volume 17, Number 3 — Whole Number 67)

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PREVIEW of Items Coming in the Next Two LCCPQ Issues:

? QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS! (*Previously Unreported, Mysterious Lundy 1953 Coronation Sheet Probably a Forgery, Comments About the "LUNDY LIGHTS AND LEADS" Slogan, Newman Catalogue Lists Nonexistent Proofs, Origin and Status of "Puffin Head" Stamps, and Pitman Cachet Use on Covers*)

Odds and Ends (*Additional Stamps and Postal Stationery Showing Puffins Produced by Great Britain, Sierra Leone, Canada, and the U.S.S.R.*)

Feature Articles (*Jon Aitchison Presents Evidence to Support That the "Bogus" Black-Overprinted Tighearna Sheet Was Authorized by Martin Coles Harman! and Stanley Newman Discovers a Lundy Philatelic Service Glassine Envelope with an Imprinted ½-Puffin Definitive—A Proof?!*)

L.C.C. PHILATELIC QUARTERLY

"THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE LUNDY COLLECTORS CLUB"

Volume 17, Number 3 (Whole No. 67)

Fall 1995

LUNDY COLLECTORS CLUB

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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 rates) or of US\$18.75/GB£12.50 (overseas airmail) include subscriptions to the *Lundy Collectors Club Philatelic Quarterly* and the *L.C.C. British Newsletter*.

Letters to the Editor

Distinguished Philatelic Writer Mentioned Lundy in Book

Earlier this year I obtained a copy of *The Romance of Stamp Collecting* by Ernest A. Kehr at a local charity book sale. I just recently got around to reading the book. Copyrighted in 1947, this book is an overview of stamp collecting, but is much more interesting than the normal book for beginning collectors. The 19 chapters of the book are divided into four main parts: History of the Stamp, History of Stamp Collecting, Stamps and Collecting, and Some Famous Collectors. The enclosed pages come from Chapter 10, which is in the "Stamps and Collecting" section. The subheadings of the section, other than this one on Puffin Stamps, include the One-Cent British Guiana, Post Office Mauritius, Hawaiian Missionaries, Two-Cent British Guiana, Flimsies (New Zealand Pigeon Post), Air Mail Stamps (Pioneer Flights), V-Mail, Tin Can Mail Service (*Niuafo'ou/Tonga*), and Vanity Stamps. That puts Puffin Stamps in with some pretty elite company for the most part. [*The Puffin Stamps section*] discusses the blue "original color" of the six-puffin stamp. I still think it is more likely this is a color "changeling" caused by exposure to the sun. In any case, I wanted to share these pages with you.

--Larry Dodson, Phoenix, Arizona (May 14, 1995)

The late Ernest A. Kehr (1911-1986) was one of the most well-known and respected American philatelic writers of his generation. He held just about every philatelic award and honor of merit, including posthumous election into the American Philatelic Society's Hall of Fame 1987 and as a signatory in 1975 to Great Britain's Roll of Distinguished Philatelists. The verbatim excerpt about Lundy Stamps from The Romance of Stamp Collecting appears on the following two pages. Incidentally, I am in agreement with Larry's assessment of the blue 6-puffin definitive stamps being color changelings, but that will be the subject of a future article. --RSC

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (Continued)*Puffin Stamps*

The *Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue* does not recognize the local adhesives issued for "postal service" between Lundy Island, the geographical division of the Atlantic Ocean from the Bristol Channel, and the nearest British post office at Barnstaple on the southwest coast of England; but John D. Stanard, of Chattanooga, Tennessee, has made an intensive study of these queer "puffin stamps" and assembled an extensive collection of them.

In a book about the history of these stickers, which is based on his collection and which was published by the American Philatelic Society in 1938, Mr. Stanard presents a complete history not only of the stamps, but also of the small, privately owned island as well.

During the nineteenth century and up to 1927, an English post office was maintained on the island, and all mail dispatched thence was franked with regular English postage stamps. In 1927, Martin Coles Harman, a London financier, who had purchased the island from Augustus Langham Christie in 1925, advised the English postmaster general that "a post office on Lundy is not required" but that he would personally carry mails from the island to the mainland in his private vessel without remuneration.

With an eye to emphasizing his jurisdiction over the island, Mr. Harman decided to issue his own currency and postage stamps on November 1, 1929. Instead of using the conventional "pence" currency of England, he established a new unit of money called the "puffin." He selected this because, a century before, Lundy Islanders did a brisk business in the sale of feathers from this native sea parrot called the puffin, and used them as a medium of exchange for such necessary commodities as butter, cheese, and shoes. The first token coins and postage stamps, then, depicted a puffin and were inscribed "half-puffin" or "one-puffin."

At a later date, the British government challenged Mr. Harman's right to infringe upon a royal prerogative of issuing currency. Mr. Harman, holding that he had a right to do as he pleased on his private island, refused to entertain the command of the crown agents to "stop issuing private coins." The matter was finally brought into the higher courts, and official records indicate that Mr. Harman "lost the day." His right to issue and use postage stamps also was questioned, but he was permitted to continue the practice. However, none of his privately issued labels was allowed to be affixed to the face of any envelope or to be placed anywhere near the British stamps which had to be used to frank the mail to any place beyond the island itself.

The first issue of Lundy Island stamps was printed by Bradbury, Wilkinson and Company, of New Malden, Surrey, England, in sheets of 120, divided into four panes of thirty stamps apiece. The half-puffin depicts the head of a puffin and is printed in red. The one-puffin shows a full picture of the queer bird and is executed in blue. Five hundred thousand copies of each value were delivered to Mr. Harman on May 13, 1929, and were sold to the natives, all of whom were his employees, and to tourists. A large quantity of them were exported to wholesale stamp dealers who

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (Continued)

bought them eagerly, since there was no way of knowing at the time whether they would stick or whether they would be condemned—as later they were—by postal officials and catalogue editors.

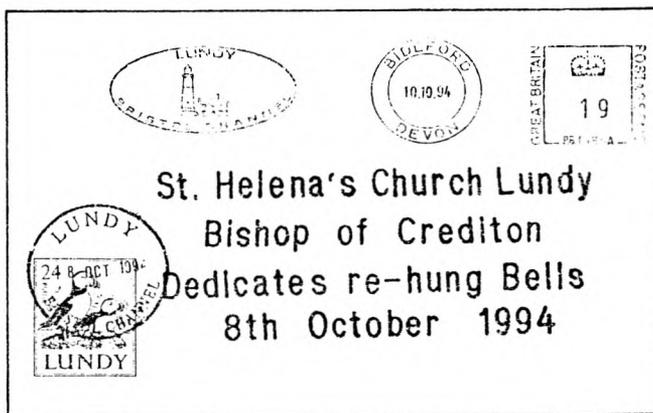
In his collection, Mr. Stanard had the original photographic designs of the issued stamps as well as a set of die proofs in black. In May or June 1930, Mr. Harman, pleased with the successful sale of his first adhesives, increased the set by adding a six-puffin in mauve, a nine-puffin in brown, and a 12-puffin in green. Two hundred and fifty thousand copies of each were delivered on July 11, 1930, and August 11, 1930.

The Stanard collection contains a canceled copy of the six-puffin stamp printed in blue instead of mauve, and, according to its owner, this was the original color of the stamp. It seems that shortly after the stamps were ordered the color was changed, so that specimens of the original color are scarce. Unused copies of the blue stamp are unknown, and the only other canceled copy is in the collection of an English collector who refuses to allow his name to be mentioned.

Although Mr. Harman has been admonished to desist from selling these labels as postage stamps, he has nevertheless continued. He has issued quite a number of special sets since then, and in spite of the fact that the standard catalogues do not recognize them, and wide publicity in the philatelic press has admonished collectors of the true nature of the labels, it seems that there still are persons who insist on buying them. But then, again, that is not surprising, for as we mentioned before, stamp collecting has no rules; it may be enjoyed exactly according to personal preferences of the hobbyists.

Cacheted Special Event Covers Available

I have just read Gwyneth White's report on the Victoria Cross week on Lundy in June last year (Winter 1994-95 *LCCPQ*, pages 2-5). I wrote and published in the July 1994 *BPPSG Newsletter* an account of the arrival and reception of the Burma Star contingent and gave their names and military relevances to the event. I also gave background details to the event and



illustrated the souvenir postcard, which includes the whole history of how John P. Harman won the Victoria Cross. I also illustrated the covers that I produced for the event and which were signed by various survivors of the Burma Campaign who were present on the Island that week. I still have five of these covers left

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (Continued)

at U.S.\$8 each should any members like one. The covers are illustrated with a map of Burma, pinpointing Kohima and with John Harman's dates and name. They contain an insert with full details of the events on Lundy that week. I also have two of the postcards produced by the Burma Star Association for the event, also signed by a member of the Burma Star survivors, at U.S.\$6 each.

I enclose an example, with a self-explanatory cachet, of the Bell Dedication covers (*illustrated at the bottom of the preceding page*), which I produced in October of last year. I have others for sale at U.S.\$5 each if anyone is interested.

--Roger E. Allen, Harrow, Middlesex, England (May 20, 1995)

Roger Allen, a longtime member of the L.C.C. and frequent contributor to the LCCPQ, is the Editor of the quarterly Newsletter of the British Private Post Study Group of the Cinderella Stamp Club (London). Readers interested in obtaining these interesting Lundy event covers (first-come, first-served) should remit payment in U.S. currency to Roger E. Allen, 146 Headstone Lane, Harrow, Middlesex, HA2 6JT, England. --RSC

Lundy to Obtain a New Postal Franking Machine

As you probably know, John and Wendy Puddy both left Lundy and Wendy had decided not to return. This is sad as they both did a very good job in really building up the Island. For the first time ever—surely within the past 100 years—they also managed to make the Island profitable! I hardly think everybody understands what a challenge that had been. The Landmark Trust is at the moment looking for a new Agent for Lundy. When I spoke to Robin Evans at Landmark recently, he said they already had gotten several hundred applications!

On the philatelic side, I think Wendy also did a very good job. For sure, she will have a chapter in the story of Lundy postal history. The Lundy stamp business is profitable now, runs smoothly, and gives positive publicity to the Island. For this, Wendy deserves a great *thank you* from all of us collectors! The postal business on the Island is now looked after by Norman Hunter. No changes regarding the stamps and postal service are planned. Landmark is pleased with it all and wants to continue it. Some new postmarks are now in the pipeline. They should have come earlier, but due to all the recent changes, these have taken some extra time. A written Newsletter will come out soon. One of the news items is that Lundy will be getting a new franking machine that is electrical, replacing the old hand-used one dating from 1976. At the same time, the oval "Lundy" meter slug in it will be replaced with a new one, designed by John Dyke, which shows a close-up view of the Old Light.

--Lars Liwendahl, Hagersten, Sweden (May 23, 1995)

Lars, a longtime Lundy collector and member of the L.C.C., serves as a consultant to Landmark Trust on Lundy stamp and postal matters. --RSC

John Harman's Sister Replies to the V.C. Memorial Article

It was very good of you to send me the LCCPQ and extra copies of Gwyneth White's article (Winter 1994-95 LCCPQ, pages 2-5), which was a tremendous effort on her part. I am so glad that you gave such prominence to the 50th Anniversary of my Brother John's award of the Victoria Cross. We

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (Continued)

had a really good time here on Lundy (June 1994) celebrating it, even if things did not quite go according to plan.

I am on Lundy for a few more hours before returning home after a very good week here. Superb weather and excellent company at a time of year that is almost my favorite. The Island is doing well under the acting Agent Reg Lo-vel, John Dyke's son-in-law, who is a member of the permanent estate staff. He and his wife Jill seem the ideal intermediary couple. All the accommodations are full so they are very busy. A new wildlife Warden is also very able, and for a month, an ornithologist who knows Lundy well is here to take visitors on birdwatch walks.

In case you have not seen *Lundy's War*, I am sending you a copy. As you see, Mary Gade and my cousin, Michael Harman who now lives in North Devon, have put these reminiscences together. The little book joins many others to emerge from the Lundy experiences of so many enthusiasts, but there is no other place quite like it.

I expect that you were very sorry to hear of Tony Langham's death on May 11. It seems that he had a form of leukemia that could not be cured. He came down to Exeter at the beginning of March for the Lundy Field Society A.G.M. and was his old self, but looked very ill. It is a huge loss to all of us who love and know of Lundy. This evening I shall call on John and Joan Dyke, now living in Northam, Bideford. I am sure that my Sister Ruth and Peter Harman Jones would send you greetings if they knew I was writing.

--Diana P. Keast, Marlborough, Wiltshire, England
(Posted from Lundy, May 27, 1995)

Diana Keast is Martin Coles Harman's Daughter and a member of the L.C.C. Lundy's War is a 42-page paperback booklet, profusely illustrated with photographs from the subject period of 1939-1945; it was published in 1995 as a limited edition of 750 copies and has a cover price of £4.95. I suspect it is available directly from the authors and may be sold at the Lundy Store and aboard the m.v. Oldenburg, but do not have ordering information at this time. A review in the LCCPQ will appear soon. Finally, I echo everyone's sentiments when I write that everybody who knew Tony will miss him and his large storehouse of Lundy lore—R.I.P.! --RSC

Recent News About John Dyke Family Members

I have nothing of importance to report other than to say what a pleasure it is to see John and Joan Dyke around the Market occasionally now that they live in Bideford. I made a day-trip to Lundy in April, my first for a couple of years, and I am pleased to say that everything appears normal after the recent "disturbances" and obviously Reg Lo-vel and his team are doing a grand job. Reg informs he is not among the 1000 odd applicants for the Agent's job! The Island is as beautiful as ever.

--Ian T. Arnold, Bideford, Devon, England (June 5, 1995)

For newcomers to the Lundy scene, John Dyke is the artist responsible for most of Lundy's stamp designs since 1951, Reg Lo-vel (John's son-in-law) is Acting Lundy Agent for The Landmark Trust until a permanent Agent is chosen from among the myriad of applicants, and Ian Arnold is the owner of Market Coins in Bideford who makes periodic Lundy-related philatelic offerings. All three of these gentlemen are members of the L.C.C., but Reg has the sole distinction of "Resident Member" status! --RSC

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (Continued)New "m.s. OLDENBURG" Handstamp Introduced

I have just received a letter from John Lavington (L.C.C. #380), Purser of the *Oldenburg* and was pleasantly surprised to find this "m.s./OLDENBURG" cachet (*shown left*) applied to the front of his cover. It is in black and measures approximately 17/32 inch (14 mm) wide by 2-7/32 inches (56 mm) wide.

**m.s.
OLDENBURG**

--Jim Mullett, Watlington, Oxford, England (July 31, 1995)

Incidentally, the first recorded use of the "m.s./OLDENBURG" handstamp on philatelic covers was July 1, 1995, according to John Lavington in a report on page 48 of the October 1995 British Private Post Study Group Newsletter. This handstamp was applied to the reverse of covers prepared by Roger E. Allen to mark the occasion of the Lundy Field Society's annual excursion to Lundy. --RSC

Lundy's New Postal Franking Machine

I would like to begin this Newsletter by thanking you all for the very positive response on our two latest stamp issues. It has been very encouraging for us. We are also happy to have many new names on our mailing list, and we welcome you all.

Our franking machine system was introduced in 1974 and has given many years of good service. The dies have been changed a couple of times, but the original machine is still in use. The machine is operated by hand, but with today's increasing volume of mail we have decided to opt for an electrically powered version which will be installed in the office. We will no longer have to send the machine off to the Post Office for recrediting as we have done for many years—the new machine can be topped up by telephone.

On September 6, 1995, we will bring into use the new franking machine with a new closer view of the Old Light on the slogan die. On the same day, we will also start using a new hand canceller of the traditional rubber type. We find that rubber gives a better print than other materials, but the rubber cancellers do get worn out after some time. The new one is similar in design to the present one, but a different font had been used for the lettering.

Our "Delayed by Storm" cachet first introduced back in 1972 over the years has become one of the well-known features of the Lundy postal service. The present one is really worn out, and in conjunction with the new franking machine and hand canceller we will introduce a new one with a design incorporating the silhouette of the Island. This cachet will be used in the same way as before—i.e., applied on the outgoing mail (but not canceling the stamps) when the transport to the mainland is delayed due to be weather.

m.s. Oldenburg, our supply vessel, is well known to all Lundy collectors. There is also a Lundy mailbox on board, and it has proved very popular to write and send cards from the ship. All mail posted on board must bear the Lundy stamps. From September 6, 1995, all this mail will receive a special cachet depicting the ship and the wording "m.s. Oldenburg - Posted on Board." This cachet will not be used to cancel the stamps. They will be canceled at the Lundy Office as they are now.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (Continued)

All the new cancellations and cachets have been designed by John Dyke. They will be used from September 6, 1995. The "Delayed by Storm" cachet will be in use from the first delayed sailing after this.

For collectors of Lundy stamps and postmarks, we have prepared a complete set of cards and covers for you:

- one postcard - "Last Day of Use - Old Franking Machine"
- one postcard - "First Day of Use - New Franking Machine"
- one postcard - "First Day of Use - New Franking Machine with New m.s. Oldenburg 'Posted on Board' Cachet"
- one cover - "Last Day of Use - Old Franking Machine and Stamp Cancellor"
- one cover - "First Day of Use - New Franking Machine and Stamp Cancellor"
- one cover - "Last Day of Use - Old Franking Machine and Stamp Cancellor with Old 'Delayed by Storm' Cachet"
- one cover - "First Day of Use - New 'Delayed by Storm' Cachet"

The total price for the above set of seven items is £3.50.

All these new items mentioned above will be sent to you as soon as possible, but please allow some time, this especially since we don't know then the first delayed by storm sailing will be after the introduction date.

As mentioned in the beginning, our sales of last year's two issues have been very good. Both FDCs are sold out (quantity made: 650 for the Marisco Castle Anniversary and 1000 for the Silver Jubilee of the Landmark Trust on Lundy). Mint sets and presentation packs are still available. Our new presentation packs with a selection of Lundy stamps issued last year have also sold very well, but are still available.

There have been several staff changes on the Island since our last Newsletter, but we are now well into Summer and things have settled down and are going well. We have welcomed many old and many new visitors to the Island and are looking forward to visits from many more as the season progresses.

--Reg Lo-Vel (Acting Lundy Agent), Lundy, Bristol Channel

This letter is the verbatim text of the Lundy Postal Service Newsletter posted from Lundy on August 4, 1995 to collectors. Enclosed with the Newsletter was an order form for the set of seven new cards and covers described in the text at £3.50 per set. Additionally, the order form offered two new (unused) 1995 postcards ("Aerial View of the Island" and "m.s. Oldenburg in the Landing Bay") for 20p each and a new presentation pack (with a selection of 25 old and new Lundy stamps issued from the early 1970s to date) for £2.95 each. Postage and packing per order are extra: £0.80 for Britain and E.C., £1.50 for non-E.C. Europe, and £2.00 for the rest of the world.

Also included with the Newsletter was a separate order form for the two most recent paperback books about Lundy:

- A Lundy Album - *the Third Edition of this popular 68-page, A5-sized book is published by M. S. Langham (Ternstrom) jointly with the Landmark Trust, has improved photographic reproduction plus some corrections and additions to the previous two editions, and is priced at £5.95 per copy plus postage and packing (see top of page 8).*

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (Continued)

- Lundy's War - *the First Edition of this 42-page, A5-sized book about memories of the 1939-1945 period is compiled by Mary Gade and Michael Harman and priced at £5.95 per copy plus postage and packing (below).*

Note that postage and packing per book are extra: £0.90 for Britain, £1.90 for Europe, and £2.15 overseas.

Most readers are probably Lundy "new issue" clients and already receive these periodic Newsletters from the Lundy Postal Service, but if you are not, I suggest you write and ask that your name and address be added to the mailing list. There is nothing to lose by doing so (as nobody forces you to make a purchase) and everything to gain as each Newsletter is posted from Lundy and its recipient receives a nice collectible piece of modern Lundy postal history! The address to order stamps and/or books or to request that your name be added to the list of Newsletter recipients is Lundy Postal Service, Lundy Island, Bristol Channel, via Bideford, Devon, EX39 2LY, Great Britain. Charge card (Access/MasterCard or VISA) purchases are accepted, or you can remit payment by bank draft, cheque/postal order, Eurocheque, or international money order (all payable to "Lundy Company" in pounds sterling). --RSC

An Account of the July 1994 Silver Jubilee "Error" FDCs

I have some information about the different dates on the 1994 Landmark Trust Silver Jubilee issue first day covers. In total, 1000 FDCs were made. The miniature sheets were started to be put on the covers and canceled on the correct day, July 12. (I wonder how many Post Offices in the world do this on the correct FDC date?) Wendy told me all was going well, although it was a hectic day with many other things going on, being the annual Open Day on Lundy. As soon as some (*an unknown "two-figure" quantity, less than 100*) covers were ready, they were taken to the Shop for sale. People started to buy them immediately. When some 750 covers had been made at the Office, someone there stopped for a moment and took a good look at the FDC. Everybody was pleased with them. Then that person suddenly shouted, "But the month is wrong!" What to do now?!

The simplest solution was to alter the month on each of them by hand with the help of a red pen. This was done immediately. At the same time, one of the workers rushed to the Shop and stopped the sale of the covers there. Some 20 to 25 had already been sold by then. All the remaining ones in the Shop were taken back to the Office and altered. The last 250 covers not yet serviced got the correct month (July) from the start. When looking at the "7" covers altered by hand (TipeX* was sometimes used first), some of the covers look different from others. This is because the altering was done by more than one person. This can also be seen on the ordinary commercial mail sent that day. All this means is that we have FDCs with a total of three types of dates. (* *TipeX is apparently a brand of "white out" correction fluid.* --RSC)

Could something be added to this story about the July and August FDCs? All of these FDCs are now sold out on the Island. Although this incident is a piece of postal history, I would not emphasize it too much. Wrong dates, missing dates, etc. are found now and then on Lundy items. Over the years I have received or seen a dozen or so of such covers. In connection with this, I cannot resist referring to Felix Gade's comment to me once when I had asked him about the years 1967 to

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (Continued)

1979 sometimes appearing in error as 1957 in the Lundy cancellation on covers: "Well, you see it was not always easy to locate the right numbers (to place in the canceller) as the light in my office was not too good, especially in the wintertime, so I had to use whatever numbers I could find!" Life out there on the windswept Island was not (and is still not today) the same as on the mainland. I think this is one of the elements of Lundy's charm!

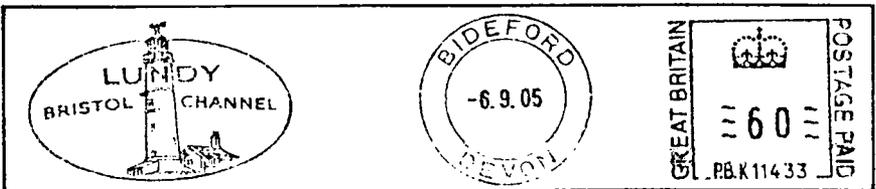
Finally, I just learned from Norman on Lundy that the 1992 24p stamp booklet is now sold out. The same is the case with the 1991 24p one.

--Lars Liwendahl, Hagersten, Sweden (September 23, 1995)

The use of the incorrect date slug and subsequent manuscript altering of most of the "error" FDCs were first brought to our attention by Roger Hudson (see pages 1-2 of the Spring 1995 LCCPQ). Lars Liwendahl, who serves as a consultant to The Landmark Trust in philatelic matters, now provides us with an interesting first-hand account of the circumstances. The "three types of dates" on the Jubilee FDCs are the unaltered error type (where "8" appears in the meter date slug strike on the few covers that were sold prior to the discovery of the error), the manuscript-corrected type (where the "8" was covered by correction fluid and a "7" written in after the "error" on the initially prepared FDCs was discovered), and the correct type (where the "8" in the date slug was replaced with a "7" and the remaining covers canceled properly). Despite Lars's admonishment to the contrary, no doubt the error type (the "20 to 25" FDCs sold at the Shop before the "8" was noticed) will be a highly sought-after rarity that should command a good price if and when one appears for sale on the philatelic market! --RSC

Another Recent Lundy Meter Slug Date Error Reported

With reference to the new Lundy meter mark now being used, I was fortunate to receive a cover dated September 11 with the meter slug date error of "11.9.05"! I wonder how many slipped through? This cover also had good



impressions of the new "LUNDY/DELAYED BY STORM" oval and "M.S. OLDENBURG/POSTED ON BOARD" oval cachets (shown below). My general order of these



has not arrived yet as Norman has had to wait for a storm. So what is the first day of use of the new "DELAYED BY STORM" cachet?

--Jim Mullett, Watlington, Oxford, England (October 9, 1995)

The "05" instead of "95" meter slug date error must have gone unnoticed for several days as I also received an "incorrect year" cover from Lundy postmarked five days earlier than Jim's (see inset above). --RSC

News of L.C.C. Members

LUNDY COLLECTORS CLUB MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Welcome to the following new members:

- 407 Mrs. Pauline Bellew -- Harpenden, Hertfordshire, England
- 408 David G. Elliot -- Lower Parkstone, Poole, Dorset, England
- 409 (Mr.) K. Lee -- Arnold, Nottinghamshire, England

Resigned membership:

- 219 Noel Beer -- Rayleigh, Essex, England
- 247 Derrick R. Stratton -- Paignton, Devon, England
- 258 (Mrs.) M. Elizabeth White -- Crediton, Devon, England
- 274 (Mr.) M. J. Steward -- Oxted, Surrey, England
- 305 Vicky Wigmore -- Appledore, Bideford, No. Devon, England
- 312 Ralph T. Hodson -- Swallownest, Sheffield, England
- 354 Owen L. Atkinson -- Riverton, Southland, New Zealand

Dropped from membership for nonpayment of dues:

- 164 J. Nigel Weaver -- Badminton, Bristol, Avon, England
- 205 Edward A. Hooper -- Garland, Texas, U.S.A.
- 261 Martin A. White -- Littlehampton, West Sussex, England
- 267 Dr. S. Scrope-Howe -- Heavitree, Exeter, Devon, England
- 282 (Mr.) W. Banks -- Parramatta, New South Wales, Australia
- 283 (Mrs.) A. G. Carne -- Coleford, Gloucestershire, England
- 313 (Mr.) G. W. Birks -- Sittingbourne, Kent, England
- 347 Tom Harris -- Wilton, Connecticut, U.S.A.
- 349 Scott Henault -- Dedham, Massachusetts, U.S.A.
- 357 Jeff Mittelholtz -- Oakdale, Minnesota, U.S.A.
- 358 Noel Benson -- Bemidji, Minnesota, U.S.A.
- 360 Howard R. Lutz -- Warren, Ohio, U.S.A.
- 364 (Mr.) G. A. Caron -- South Windsor, Connecticut, U.S.A.

Editor's Comment: Several readers protested dropping The Landmark Trust (L.C.C. #310 - Michael Tubb/Lundy Company) from membership for nonpayment of dues as reported in the summary on page 6 of the Fall 1994 *LCCPQ*.

L.C.C. Secretary-Treasurer Duane Larson is pleased to announce that a complimentary *LCCPQ* subscription is now being mailed directly to Robin E. R. Evans, Director of The Landmark Trust, at the Trust's Headquarters in Shottesbrooke, Maidenhead, Berkshire, England. --RSC

Deceased:

- 113 Anthony F. Langham -- Reigate, Surrey, England
- 306 Frank Norman -- Fremington, Barnstaple, No. Devon, England

Deceased former member:

- 126 William B. Huckenpoehler -- Annapolis, Maryland, U.S.A.

June 1, 1995 L.C.C. Membership Summary: 194 members having the following geographical distribution: U.K. 95, U.S.A. 71, Canada 8, Netherlands 4, Australia 3, Germany 3, Sweden 3, Norway 2, and others 5 (one each from Belgium, Finland, Italy, Japan, and Switzerland).

ITEMS ABOUT L.C.C. MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES

● Two L.C.C. members were among the exhibitors of noncompetitive displays presented at the first annual Boulder (Colorado) Stamp Club Show, held February 24-25, 1995. Jean Love (#311) displayed a two-frame thematic exhibit on "Stamp Collecting" and Roger S. Cichorz (#022) presented a two-frame exhibit of "Twentieth Century Faroe Islands Postal History"!

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

• L.C.C. Secretary-Treasurer Duane Larson (#003) received the Grand Award ("Best in the Show") and a Gold Medal at PARFOREX XXXV, held April 1-2 in Park Forest, Illinois, for his exhibit of "Jamaica - British Transatlantic Mail"! Two other L.C.C. members also received awards at PARFOREX XXXV for their exhibits: President George Fabian a Gold for "Ireland 1922-1937" and Art Director Richard Barnes a Bronze for "Vasco da Gama Commemorative Postal Cards"! Congratulations, fellows.

PARFOREX is the annual stamp bourse and philatelic exhibition sponsored by the Park Forest (Illinois) Stamp Club. The *LCCPQ* Editor received a press release dated April 10, 1995 from the PARFOREX XXXV Publicity Chairman that gave news of the aforementioned awards and provided some additional insights about the L.C.C.-member participants/attendees:

Once again the Park Forest Stamp Club presented its annual PARFOREX XXXV philatelic exhibition and weekend of debauchery, and, once again, several members of your organization made spectacles of themselves. The enclosed press release cannot begin to cover the extent of their wild antics and carryings-on, but use your imagination (based on past experience)...

Duane Larson also received a Gold Medal at CHICAGOPEX '95 for his exhibit of "Ireland - Postal Markings, 1660 to 1840"! In addition, Duane received the Chicago Philatelic Society (C.P.S.) Award for the best exhibit by a C.P.S. member. CHICAGOPEX '95, sponsored by the C.P.S., took place November 17-19 in Rosemont, Illinois.

• Stanley Newman (#083) presented a display of postcard views and hotel and ship cachets of Chausey Island, the largest of the French Channel Islands, at the Channel Islands Specialists' Society's weekend convention held April 21-23, 1995 in Exeter, England.

• The Collectors Club of Chicago (#027) issued the *Arthur Salm Foundation Report No. 3* on acidity/alkalinity evaluations of various paper products used in stamp collecting. This report concludes that the Foundation was unsuccessful over the past 30 months in evaluating various plastics for philatelic purposes, indicating that this research is beyond its limited resources. *Report No. 3* is available at no charge to those who send a No. 10 size, stamped envelope to the Salm Foundation, Collectors Club of Chicago, 1029 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois 60610, U.S.A.

• Congratulations go to Austin Dulin (#066) who is the newly elected Vice President of CHICAGOPEX '95 and also Chairman of the CHICAGOPEX Show Committee, a position that had been held by his late wife, Jean Macdonald. Austin is a longtime member of the CHICAGOPEX Show Committee, exhibitor, and former President of the Germany Philatelic Society.

• Congratulations go to Randy L. Neil (#300) of Leawood, Kansas, on his reelection as President of the American Philatelic Society (A.P.S.) for another two-year term. The new slate of Officers was installed at the Society's general membership meeting held August 26 during the A.P.S.'s 109th annual convention at STAmPSHOW '95 in St. Louis Missouri. Other news about Randy: After selling his business of 31 years, Randy Neil has joined Andrew Levitt Philatelic Consultants of Danbury, Connecticut, to spearhead a new program to help serious collectors in developing, assembling, and mounting award-level exhibition collections. Full information on the Levitt firm's growing philatelic services is available from Andrew Levitt Philatelic Consultants, Box 342, Danbury, Connecticut 06803, U.S.A.; telephone 203-743-5291.

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

- Wim Ros (#183) of Schagen, Holland, indicated that once a year five or six towns in Holland are chosen to hold three-day weekend exhibitions around "De Dag van de Postzegel" ("The Day of the Stamp"—October 14 in 1995) and special pictorial cancellations are issued by the Dutch Post Office. Schagen was one of the lucky towns in 1995 as the Schagen Philatelic Society celebrated its 60th Anniversary. For the occasion, Wim exhibited a portion of his Lundy collection ("Lundy - Atlantic Coast Air Services Between 1935 and 1939") in the aerophilatelic class. Wim received an official "Certificate of Recommendation" from the Dutch Association of Philatelic Societies (Nederlandse Bond van Filatelisten-Verenigingen) for his efforts and participation. Wim, "good show!: for (once again) publicizing and promoting Lundy philately in Holland!
- Jon Aitchison (#167) and Stanley Newman (#083) presented displays at the September 23, 1995 meeting of the Channel Islands Specialists' Society (C.I.S.S.) held in London. Jon showed a miscellany covering cards and covers from the French Islands, the new issue from Ortac, the Mainbrayce issue, and the latest issue of the Alderney Parcel Service to commemorate 20 years of the service. Stanley showed several items with interesting postmarks, including an early squared-circle and a late double-circle from Jersey, and a fieldpost cover that had been underpaid and surcharged in France. Tom Green (#129) carries on as the Editor of *Les Iles Normandes*, the C.I.S.S. quarterly journal. Good work, fellows!

Council of Philatelic Organizations (1979-1995)

After 15 years of service to the stamp collecting hobby, the Council of Philatelic Organizations (COPO) will be disbanded. The decision was made recently by the COPO Board of Directors after Richard H. Arvonio, United States Postal Service (USPS) Manager of Stamp Services, informed COPO President Patricia A. Siskin that the USPS will provide no future support to COPO. A subsequent vote was taken at a meeting of the COPO Board to close down all COPO operations and distribute remaining COPO funds among the American Philatelic Society, American Stamp Dealers Association, Junior Philatelists of America, and Postal History Foundation for projects aimed at bringing new people to the hobby and for work among youths.

COPO was founded in October 1979 by nine U.S.-based philatelic organizations "to promote stamp collecting as a hobby by providing means for mutual cooperation, information exchange, dissemination of date, and interaction between members"—goals enshrined in its by-laws. COPO was a loose confederation of stamp hobby organizations, and at its peak, more than 400 such organizations, including the L.C.C., were COPO members. COPO was involved in numerous projects to promote philately, including various publications, kits for youth areas at stamp shows, support of AMERIPEX 86, the annual Lidman competition to encourage and reward philatelic writing in nonphilatelic publications, and the so-called Winick Project, which involved mailing of free weekly stamp columns by Les Winick (L.C.C. #037) (sent in batches of four once a month) to U.S. daily and weekly newspapers as sort of a stamp collecting outreach program. The Winick Project also sent beginner stamp collecting kits to every reader who wrote in response to the columns.

(Source: Ken Lawrence, June 26, 1995 *Linn's Stamp News*, pages 1 & 12.)

News of Lundy

Drought Leaves Lundy High and Dry

Lundy is suffering its worst drought in nearly 20 years. Rationing of water has been imposed and washing is dispatched to the mainland while residents are being asked to bathe, if at all, in two inches of water. Climatic difficulties are the latest setback for Lundy.

"If it grows any drier, we will have to ship in water supplies, which will be a nightmare," said Roger Hoad, Captain of the *m.s. Oldenburg*, Lundy's only link with the mainland. "It was boggy in winter—now look at it." Indeed, the Island's one street is so dust-swept it resembles the stage set of a Western movie. The shelves of the Island's only shop were down to the last half-dozen bottles of water and even the puffins looked parched. And, perhaps even more alarming for the Island's 20,000-a-year day-trippers, production of Lundy's own brew, *Old Light*, has been stopped because of the water shortage.

With a hint of wartime spirit, boxes of sea soap are being dusted down, last used in the days when the Island relied on wells to draw its water. Grimly, lavatories are not to be flushed unless "it is absolutely essential." A stoical Mary Gade, 60, said: "It's a good excuse not to wash and you have to recycle your socks. This is at least as bad as the heat wave of 1976." A spokesman for the London Weather Centre said: "Spring was very dry and this has carried on into the Summer. There is no sign of any rain in the foreseeable future." For Reg Lo-Vel, the Island's acting Agent, this is dire news. "If it has not rained by August, we are in serious trouble," he said. "I first came here as a child and know how the people can cope in adversity—it's only in recent times that we have had a reservoir."

Earlier this Spring, an investigation began into the condition of hundreds of animals on Lundy as the Ministry of Agriculture and the R.S.P.C.A. were alerted by visitors returning from the Island. More than 600 sheep and around 30 cattle are on Lundy where water supplies are dwindling after weeks without rain and a dry Spring already had left groundwater sources perilously low. There is no full-time farmer, but a shore-based farm consultant makes regular visits to the Island and other Lundy staff are detailed to keep an eye on animals in his absence.

A ministry spokesman said: "Our vets have gone out there to check on the animals, but obviously it is between us and the owners what we tell them to do. R.S.P.C.A. Spokesman Jo Crozier said after starting its own investigation, the R.S.P.C.A. was now leaving the investigation to the Ministry but would monitor progress. Landmark Trust Spokesman Rebecca Morgan said the Trust had not been made aware of any complaints and that a pond to which the animals had access was full. "It is by no means an emergency situation," she said. "We are taking precautions so that the water does not run out."

If all this drought news was not bad enough, the Island was soon to lose two of its key residents, Nigel Walker and his partner, Linzi Takagi, who run what must be Britain's most remote public house, the Marisco Tavern. They are reluctant to talk about their reasons for leaving, the official line being that they "seek a new challenge." The Landmark Trust is now advertising for a couple to run the Tavern. The job carries an £18,000 annual salary—plus £2000 in bonuses. "Some applicants might think they will be coming just to put their feet up," said Reg Lo-Vel, "but they will have to do everything from brewing ale to serving. Life is hard—they will be in for a shock."

NEWS OF LUNDY (Continued)

Sources: "Vet Alert for Sheep as Lundy Runs Dry," by Chris Rundle, *Western Daily Press*, May 7, 1995, and "Water Torture for Beleaguered Isle," by Jasper Gerard, *The Sunday Telegraph*, July 2, 1995.

New Lundy Agent Hired by Landmark Trust

Chartered accountant Tony Blackler was the person chosen from a field of 275 various contenders to return Lundy to a more composed way of life. South Devonian Tony, whose Cornish wife Cherry is a special-care baby nurse, was hired for the £25,000-a-year Lundy Agent's position by the Island managers, The Landmark Trust, after checking the Blackler's glowing credentials: the couple has been regular Lundy visitors for 12 years, they are "island people" having started his career in Jersey before moving to their present home in Launceston, they adore Tresco in the Scillies, he is described as a "young and enthusiastic 49," he's had years of managerial experience with brewery giant Bass Charrington, and, perhaps most critically, they are in love with nature and wildlife.

"We have our own 11-acre nature reserve at Launceston, and now we'll be looking after a 1000-acre reserve on Lundy," said Tony. "Cherry and I fell in love with Lundy on our first visit and this challenge was too exciting an opportunity to turn away. We consider ourselves enormously lucky to be given custody of a place as wonderful as Lundy. I was captivated by its beauty when I first went there on a day trip 12 years ago. Now I want to put something back."

From a lucrative business and luxury lifestyle in a converted Cornish mill house by a stream, Tony and Cherry will ultimately take over a wooden residence called No. 4 Pigs Paradise. Until the tourist season is over, however, they will grab whatever roof is available. Tony intends to involve himself personally in Lundy's promotional push and is already planning monthly trips ashore to boost its marketing potential.

The newly appointed Agent of Lundy, one of Britain's most remote tourist venues, set himself the daunting task of improving standards and raising the necessary funds by attracting extra visitors, all without spoiling the Island's natural beauty and tranquillity. Tony Blackler spent his first full day (August 2, 1995) as Lundy's Agent promising that the 20,000 people who visit the Bristol Channel outpost every year will get "value for money" despite obstacles posed by the weather, an often turbulent sea, and a severe lack of material and financial resources. Mr. Blackler, who was chosen from more than 1000 initial applicants to run the Island, is expected by The Landmark Trust to produce a profit while coping with high maintenance costs caused by salt spray and gales and with limited electricity supplies that mean the power is switched off from midnight to 7 a.m.

His solution is to "improve the quality of what's here without spoiling anything." He added: "We won't be stripping out the bar in the Island tavern, for example, but we may make changes to improve the service it provides." Similarly, the Island's 23 self-catering properties, including a medieval castle and a former lighthouse, will not be provided with televisions and videos they lack but with smarter furnishings. "It's a matter of keeping the Island 50 years behind the mainland, but making it comfortable and friendly as well," Tony said. Tony believes he can attract more visitors for longer stays by improving the quality of the experience from the moment they arrive at Bideford or Ilfracombe in Devon to sail for Lundy on the *m.s. Oldenburg*, and that this will balance the books.

NEWS OF LUNDY (Continued)

Mr. Blackler plans to use his marketing as well as financial skills to make the Island pay its way by wooing the secretaries of specialist interest clubs. "Lundy could be a wonderful place to host photography and astronomy weekends because it has no light pollution at all," he said. "I would also like to market the Island as a 'mini Galapagos' because it attracts plant and fish life that can be found nowhere else in Britain, as well as its renowned puffins and other seabirds."

Sources: "A New 'Lord' Sails for Lundy," by Graham Andrews, *North Devon Journal*, August 3, 1995, and "The New 'Lord' of Lundy," by Tony Dawe, *The Times*, August 3, 1995.

New Lundy Agent Gets Off to Inauspicious Start

Within days of Tony Blackler's early August arrival on Lundy, the 49-year-old chartered accountant was involved in a confrontation that ended in the firing of the Island's £18,000-a-year Shepherd, Frank Elson, after hearing him curse. Mr. Elson is alleging unfair dismissal and will claim compensation from The Landmark Trust at an industrial tribunal later this year.

Frank Elson admitted swearing but said it was in frustration after a Land Rover carrying Mr. Blackler drove up and scattered 500 sheep he had spent two hours herding towards a pen. "I just stopped and said, 'Well, that's a --- waste of time then'," said Mr. Elson from Cahors in South-west France where he is now working. "Then this man I'd never seen before started telling me he wouldn't have swearing on the Island. I asked who he was and he replied, 'I'm your new Agent and I can have you off the Island in 24 hours.' Next thing I knew I was sacked. I've had a 25-year working relationship with Lundy as a ferryman, fisherman, and a stock hand. I would have happily spent the rest of my life there, but one man has destroyed that dream."

Mr. Blackler said: "Frank Elson was sacked for gross misconduct on the first day I was there. He swore at me and was given a warning and then swore at me again. It was unforgivable and we will not tolerate that sort of behavior."

The new Agent's tough stance since his appointment has upset employees, among them kitchen staff at the Marisco Tavern. They have been told they must wear formal long trousers or skirts rather than shorts and mini-skirts despite the recent heat wave. "It's ridiculous in such weather," said one. Mr. Blackler claimed, however, that the uniforms were popular with staff and had been introduced by his predecessor. "My Wife, like everyone else, will be wearing it," he said. "They are designed to boost Lundy's corporate image. Staff who work outside the pub will have the option of wearing a uniform of shorts and T-shirts."

The new tension came at an embarrassing time for The Landmark Trust. Mr. Blackler and his wife Cherry were officially introduced to the media on August 23 at a lunch in the garden of the Marisco. Invitations describe how the couple was selected from 275 applicants on the basis of "managerial experience, sound commercial judgment, an abundance of energy, and an ability to get on with others"! One member of the staff admitted, "You have to be pretty odd to work here. Lundy has always attracted characters. It's in the nature of the place."

Source: "The Curse of Lundy Claims a Swearing Shepherd," by Luke Harding, *Daily Mail*, August 22, 1995.

NEWS OF LUNDY (Continued)Lundy Animals Moved to Mainland Because of Drought Conditions

A Noah's Ark rescue in reverse was launched August 17, 1995 as 300 sheep and 80 cattle were being relocated to the mainland to escape from the acute water shortage on the Island. Like the rest of Britain, Lundy is suffering from this Summer's drought conditions. Without enough to drink, most of its animals are being removed to the North Devon village of Appledore where they will spend a holiday on land belonging to the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds on the Somerset Levels. They will return to Lundy when the drought eases.

These animals were transported down a half mile of dusty chalk road by tractors to the beach and then driven onto a Royal Marines landing craft, a camouflaged brown-and-black vessel which normally carries tanks and soldiers, but for the occasion, the deck of which was covered in straw. The 100-foot landing craft from the Marines' base at Instow returned the following day to transport Lundy's remaining 400 sheep to safety. Staying behind on Lundy are its feral goats, ponies, and 300 rare Soay sheep that live wild. The landing craft that took the sheep has already been used to bring in six 400-gallon containers of water which is being stored in tanks.

Lundy Agent Tony Balckler said: "We have only enough water left for 40 days and we decided it would be prudent to move our stock somewhere else. Once the animals are on the mainland, we are confident that the Island will have enough water to continue, although as with the rest of the South West, we'll just have to make sure we're careful with our supplies."

Follow-up: Hundreds of sheep and cattle returned to Lundy the last week of October after a two-month holiday on the mainland to escape the effects of the drought that affected Lundy water supplies. Accompanying them on their return home was Emma Humble-Smith, an 18-year-old agricultural consultant trainee from Lyme Regis who had just started work on Lundy when she was pitched into the middle of the drought emergency. More than 2300 head of livestock had to be taken off Lundy in mid-August when water supplies dwindled and grazing ran out on the parched outcrop. Emma said: "The animals look so much better now. The water shortage had started to affect them and you could tell they were tense."

Sources: "Voyage to Pastures New," by Luke Harding, *Daily Mail*, August 18, 1995, and "Lundy Livestock's Holiday Ends," no byline, *Western Daily Press*, October 30, 1995.

Fishing Vessel Tragedy Outside Lundy

Three Cornish fishermen were missing and feared drowned after their trawler, *Provider*, mysteriously sank in calm seas northwest of Lundy. Maritime rescuers found in the search area wreckage that included the registration number of a fishing boat, fish boxes, nets, a large slick of diesel fuel, an empty survival life raft, and a few personal effects, according to a spokesman at Swansea Coastguard Station. The intense search for survivors continued in 120 square miles of sea in the Bristol Channel with three fishing boats and Appledore and Ilfracombe lifeboats being assisted by an RAF Sea King from Chivenor, North Devon.

Sources: "Fishing Vessel Tragedy," no byline, *South Wales Echo*, November 7, 1995, and "Three Missing in Trawler Tragedy," by Jonathan Smith and David Green, *Western Morning News*, November 8, 1995.

Lundy at Auction

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

Western Auction Ltd. September and December 1995 Sales

The September 2, 1995 sale of Western Auctions Ltd. (Bank House, 225 City Road, Cardiff, CF2 3JD, Wales, G.B.; telephone 01222-484934, Fax 01222-450522) was its largest Lundy offering to date as there were 33 lots of Lundy material at a cumulative estimate of £2152. (Note: The realizations cited below are the *hammer price*, exclusive of additional buyer's premium, handling, and/or V.A.T. charges.) Fifteen of these lots sold, realizing £1245 against a cumulative estimate of £1266, indicating there still is a demand for good Lundy material! All but four of these lots sold at or near (within £5) of their estimates. The material offered ranged from complete sheets of 120 of the 1929 ½p and 1p definitives (estimated at £125 each and selling for £130 and £120, respectively), 14 covers from 1930 to 1947 (at estimates ranging from £15 to £35 with seven realizing £166 against a cumulative estimate of £180), 10 WWII overprint lots ranging from four "Red Cross" stamps to the accumulation of 15 1943 provisionals that failed to sell in the previous Western auction (at estimates ranging from £20 to £90), to a mint upper right-hand pane of 30 (without margin selvage) 1969 1p on 9p provisionals (estimated at £95 but did not sell).

The best Lundy lot in the September 2, 1995 sale was a properly used Lundy Appeal acknowledgment card, typewritten addressed to Saltash, Cornwall, franked with a 1969 "APPEAL" overprint stamp, and G.P.O. Ilfracombe—postmarked June 24, 1970. It was estimated at £525 and sold for £475—about right when one considers the buyer's premium and potential V.A.T. (I don't know that it sold to a U.K. buyer, so V.A.T. may not have been a consideration) and the fact that one sold for £500 in Negev's No. 8 Lundy auction of April 27, 1994. Two "Red Cross" items are worthy of note—a mint top-left margined corner block of nine (three by three) of the ½p surcharge with two "broken cross" flaws, which was estimated at only £90 and sold for a bargain £85, and a mint example of the 12p inverted surcharge, which was estimated at £80 and fetched £90.

A mint double-overprinted "IX Anniversary" ½p stamp with one inverted was estimated at £90, a mint "IX Anniversary" 12p stamp with inverted overprint was estimated at £80, and a mint double-overprinted "Wright Brothers biplane" overprint 12p stamp was estimated at £80. However, despite the reasonable estimates considering the relative rarity of these items and the so-few times they appear on the auction block, none of the three lots sold. The "wholesale" lot that went unsold at the reasonable estimate of £100 in the May 20, 1995 sale was offered this time at an even more modest estimate of £85, and it realized £115! An unused (as new and rarely offered) example of Barry N. D. Chinchin's *A Catalogue of Lundy Stamps* was estimated at £50 and fetched £35.

The December 2, 1995 sale conducted by Western Auctions Ltd. offered 20 lots of Lundy material at a cumulative estimate of £1028. Only five of these lots sold, realizing £260 against a cumulative estimate of £312. There were 11 lots of postal history offered at a cumulative estimate of £433. Perhaps the best cover was a postally used postcard of the Church and Manor House franked with a G.B. KEVII ½d definitive in 1910 tied by a "LUNDY ISLAND" thimble postmark and an Instow receiving postmark nearby; it was estimated at £75 and realized £80 (the only lot of the five that sold for more than its estimate).

LUNDY AT AUCTION (Continued)

The aforementioned three scarce WWII-era items that did not sell in the Western Auctions September 2, 1995 sale were reoffered this time at reduced estimates of £70 each but again failed to sell. Other stamp lots ranged from an accumulation of 417 LACAL ½d red "air views" and 1d "lighthouse" stamps (in large blocks to a sheet of the latter), which was estimated at £95 (27.5 percent of a *Newman* valuation of £345) and sold for £70, to an accumulation of 32 1943-53 provisionals, which was estimated at £65 and sold for £50. The other two lots that sold were a flown 1939 cover, which fetched £20 against its £22 estimate, and a range of 74 covers, which realized £40 against an estimate of £55. My thanks go to David Perris for sending me the auction catalogues and prices realized for these sales and to David Donald for additional comments.

Channel Island Stamp Company Postal Bid Sales

After a hiatus of four successive monthly postal bid sales without a Lundy lot (as previously mentioned, neither no. 123 nor no. 124, and since then, no. 125, which closed April 28, 1995, nor no. 126, which closed May 31, 1995, had Lundy material), Channel Island Stamp Company (C.I.S.C., 4 Havilland Street, St. Peter Port, Guernsey, Channel Islands; telephone 0481-725660) finally offered two Lundy lots in its postal bid sale no. 127, which closed June 30, 1995. An unused Twiss Bros. black-and-white "Wreck of H.M.S. *Montagu* at Lundy Island" postcard was estimated at £9, and a piece from a large envelope addressed to the Lundy Lighthouse with G.B. paid 6d meter franking and a Lundy 1p definitive tied by a September 12, 1961 c.d.s. was estimated (way too high) at £16.

Three Lundy lots were offered in C.I.S.C.'s postal bid sale no. 128, which closed July 31, 1995. These were a "1929 printed envelope from H. E. Harris & Co., Boston, Massachusetts, 'The Strange Story of Puffinland' with two printed letters within giving story of Harman crowning himself King of Lundy" (possibly a printed approval glassine with two premium sheetlets?) and including a set of the first definitives (estimated at £16), a 1939 outward cover to Ipswich franked on rear with "1929-1939" ½p and 1p stamps (estimated at £22.50), and an unaddressed, cacheted "1954 (*sic*) Millenary FDC and similar item but air types" (estimated at £25). Caveat emptor: if these Millenary FDCs are with Lundy stamps only and no G.P.O. service, they are considered "souvenir" (i.e., C.T.O.) covers and are worth only £4 each. There were no Lundy lots in C.I.S.C.'s postal bid sale no. 129, which closed August 31, 1995, or in C.I.S.C.'s postal bid sale no. 130, which closed September 29, 1995.

C.I.S.C.'s postal bid sale no. 131, which closed October 31, 1995, had two Lundy lots—a 1958 inward cacheted ("Experimental Stamps...") cover franked with G.B. QEII ½d and 2½d graphite-lined definitives and on back Lundy 1954 2p and 3p airmail stamps postmarked April 14, 1958, which was estimated at £16, and an unused Twiss Bros. black-and-white "Wreck of H.M.S. *Montagu* at Lundy Island" postcard (probably the unsold item from sale no. 125) estimated at £7.

Warwick and Warwick Ltd. Philatelic Auctions

Warwick & Warwick Ltd. (Pageant House, Jury Street, Warwick, CV34 4EW, England; telephone 01926-499031, Fax 01926-491906) offered one Lundy lot in its public auction sale no. 412, which closed March 1, 1995. This lot was described as a duplicate stock of mint (NH and LH) Lundy stamps on Hagner leaves and Lundy FDCs and a few Herm, and was estimated at £25.

LUNDY AT AUCTION (Continued)

Warwick & Warwick's sale no. 417, which closed June 5, 1995, included two Lundy lots. The first was described as a "range of mint and used locals in stock book with Herm, Alderney, Lundy Island, etc." and estimated at £30. The second lot (probably of more interest to the Lundy collector) was described as a "miscellaneous range of Lundy Island, including 1936 and 1937 covers bearing ½p puffin and ½d Atlantic Post labels each tied by boxed 'BARNSTAPLE' handstamps, selection of commercially used picture postcards and envelopes from 1930 to 1952 (6 items—3 without G.B. adhesives), later FDCs, picture postcards from 1952 to 1973, various presentation packs, etc., plus book on history of Lundy, etc." This lot was estimated at £70 and sold for £112.50, which included the 12.5% buyer's premium. This lot contained 36 postcards and covers, two presentation packs, and an official 1990 *Lundy Guide*, with a conservative value of £243 based on Newman and Bale auction estimates for similar material. The most expensive cover was a 1957 definitive set FDC (*Newman* catalogue = £48 and C.I.L.A. estimate = £42), but the best cover in this columnist's opinion was an outward 1972 "Illustrated Lundy News"-cached cover franked with the blue surcharged 1972 provisional (conservatively valued at £10). An early (190?) mint J. Welch/Portsmouth postcard of Lundy, which I had never seen before, was included and also conservatively valued at £10. (By now readers might have correctly guessed that I was the purchaser of this lot.)

Warwick & Warwick's sale no. 419, which closed August 2, 1995, offered one Lundy lot. Described as a "vast accumulation of Lundy Is. mainly from 1951 to 1991, mint (NH and LH) plus range of covers, picture postcards, presentation packs, booklets, air services labels, etc.," this lot was estimated (modestly?) at £40.

Warwick & Warwick's sale no. 420, which closed September 6, 1995, also offered one Lundy lot. Described as a "1935 Selfridges and Co. envelope bearing ½p-puffin cancelled by 26 Oct 1935 puffin canceller and also bearing G.B. photogravure ½d tied by Barnstaple machine cancel and along-side ½d 'tramticket' uncanceled," this lot was estimated at £25. It is my experience that the uncanceled "tramtickets" on covers addressed to "Selfridges" are invariably from roll 7, and steaming them off these covers offers one an opportunity to obtain a scarce mint example (albeit with slight gum disturbance) from roll 7—an extremely difficult stamp to come by as only four unused copies have been recorded by Michael Bale in the *Tramticket Register*. This cover did not sell and was reoffered at the same estimate (£25) in Warwick & Warwick's sale no. 423, which closed November 1, 1995. This cover again failed to sell in no. 423, and was reoffered at £25 in Warwick & Warwick's sale no. 425, which closed January 10, 1996. Sale no. 425 also offered a "mixed lot" that was modestly estimated at £10 and consisted of a Lundy collection from 1930 to 1969, several Lundy covers, correspondence from the Island, Felix Gade's *Postal History of Lundy*, and a small range of other locals.

Auction Odds and Ends

● My eyesight must be worse than I thought as there were four Lundy lots (not three as I reported on page 20 of the Fall 1994 *LCCPQ*) offered in the May 30, 1994 sale conducted by Richard E. Drews Philatelic Auctions (7139 W. Higgins, Chicago, Illinois 60656, U.S.A.; telephone 312-775-2100, Fax 312-792-9116). The lot I overlooked was a partial set of seven mint 1943 "IX Anniversary" overprints (missing the 4p stamp); it realized \$40 against a *Newman* (1989 *Supplement*) valuation of \$94.80. The other

LUNDY AT AUCTION (Continued)

three Lundy lots also sold: one mint set of five "1929-1939" overprints realized \$45 against a *Newman* 1989 valuation of \$72, a second mint set of the "1929-1939" overprints (but with the key ½p stamp having a corner crease) fetched only \$30, and a basic mint set of eight 1942 "V + plane" overprints realized \$45 against a *Newman* 1989 valuation of \$112.50. My thanks go to the Auctioneer (Rich Drews, L.C.C. #199) for providing me with the prices realized for these four lots and subsequent catalogues.

• Philangles (Beech House, Wilderspool Causeway, Warrington, Cheshire, WA4 6QP, England; telephone 01925-231151, Fax 01925-232204) offered one Lundy lot in its February 6, 1995 sale no. 48. Described as ten "1958-59 inward covers with 1p canceled on arrival LUNDY circular dated cachet, plus two 1961 Europa FDCs," this lot was estimated (too high in my opinion) at £60. Philangles' sale no. 54, which closed July 14, 1995, had one Lundy lot described as "11 items of postal history 1958-59 including covers from all over the U.K. addressed to "The Old Light - Lundy" with 1d (*sic*) puffin applied on arrival, note Ireland, '61 Europa stamps on cover, etc." and given an estimate of £40 (way too high in my opinion).

• The 65th postal auction conducted by Principality Auctions (139A Harefield Road, Uxbridge, Middlesex, UB8 1PN, England; telephone 01895-258753), which closed March 5, 1995, offered two Lundy lots. A cover described as "1936 at 1½d rate, tied by Ilfracombe machine cancel, to Lundy with ½d A.C.A.S. Label and ½-puffin adhesive applied, both canceled boxed Lundy dated handstamp on reverse, cover has been sent on to U.S.A. with 3¢ adhesive added and tied" was optimistically estimated at £120! The second lot consisted of mint "V + plane" ½p, 1p, 2p, 3p, and 4p, "IX Anniversary" ½p and 1p, and "Wright Brothers biplane" ½p, 1p, and 1½p stamps estimated more realistically at £20. My thanks go to Roy Bentley for bringing these lots to my attention.

• The 30th postal auction conducted by Andrew M. Rundle (L.C.C. member #123) under the aegis of his Windsor Stamps firm (52 Mount Durand, St. Peter Port, Guernsey, Channel Islands; telephone 01481-725209), which closed May 3, 1995, included 22 Lundy lots at a cumulative estimate of £184.50. Lundy lots ranged from a mint LH set of eight 1929-39 definitives estimated at £5 to three mint 1977-92 sets estimated at £10. Perhaps the best Lundy item was a 1937 outward flown cover franked with Lundy ½p definitive and LACAL ½d violet "air view" estimated at £16. The 31st postal auction of Windsor Stamps, which closed November 29, 1995, offered six Lundy lots at a cumulative estimate of £125. All six lots were selections of the 1942 "V + plane" overprint issues. The Windsor auctions generally contain a few Lundy lots but primarily consist of Channel Islands material. If your collection interests include the Channel Islands, you might consider a subscription for the Windsor Stamps auction catalogues; cost of the next six editions is £2.95 U.K., £3.85 Europe, or £5.00 overseas airmail.

Postscript: My apologies to all! During 1995 I became inundated with work pressures, family illnesses, and other circumstances too numerous to mention here. As a result, I fell considerably behind in *LCCPQ* matters; however, I should catch up within the next two months. During 1995 there have been several exciting auctions (two C.I.L.A. sales, Michael Bale's Negev #10 and newly inaugurated Lundy Philatelics #1, and a Christies' sale that offered unique Lundy material from Format Printers' archives). These, along with other smaller sales, will be presented in my next two columns, so please stay tuned for my attempt to catch up! --RSC

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