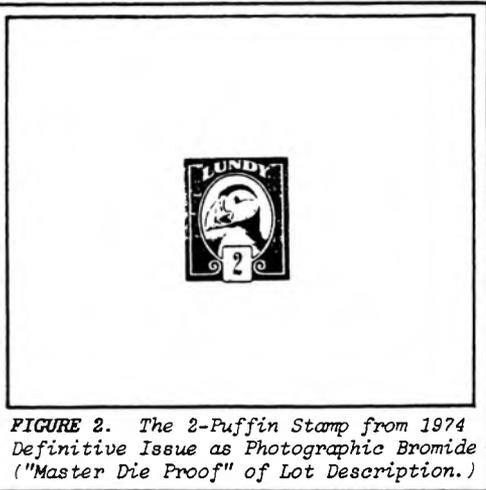


# PHILATELIC QUARTERLY



CHRISTIE'S JULY 1995 AUCTION FEATURES RARE ITEMS FROM FORMAT INTERNATIONAL SECURITY PRINTERS ARCHIVES

DETAILS OF LUNDY LOTS GIVEN IN "LUNDY AT AUCTION"  
SEE PAGES 5 - 7 FOR LOT DESCRIPTIONS AND REALIZATIONS

## WINTER 1995-96

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE LUNDY COLLECTORS CLUB

WINTER 1995-1996 LUNDY COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIC QUARTERLY

(Volume 17, Number 4 — Whole Number 68)

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FREE GIFT IN THIS ISSUE: Compliments of Michael H. Bale (L.C.C. #161), a blue impression of the 1939 3-puffin definitive from his now-defunct "Lundy Philatelics" firm's letterhead is included (details on page 10).

PREVIEW of Items Coming in the Spring 1996 LCCPQ:

Letters to the Editor (*Winter Storm Batters Lundy and News of STAMPEX*)  
 News of Lundy (*Lundy's Access Road Damaged by Storm, Tanker Sea Empress Grounding and Breakup, Lundy Threatened by Oil Spill, Puddy-Scanlan Reunite on Mainland, Lundy Agent Tony Blackler Resigns Landmark Trust Position, and Lundy Field Society 50th Anniversary Celebration Week*)  
 Lundy at Auction (*C.I.L.A. No. 23 and 24 Lundy Postal Auctions, Lundy Philatelics First Lundy Postal Bid Sale, Western Auctions Ltd. February 24, 1996 Sales, and Three Auction "Odds and Ends" Items*)

# L.C.C. PHILATELIC QUARTERLY

"THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE LUNDY COLLECTORS CLUB"

Volume 17, Number 4 (Whole No. 68)

Winter 1995-1996

## LUNDY COLLECTORS CLUB

*Affiliate Number 121 of the American Philatelic Society (APS)  
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*.

## **Letter to the Editor**

### January 1996 *National Geographic* Features Article on Puffins

I have just finished reading the January 1996 issue of the *National Geographic*. The last article in this issue is "Puffins" written by Kenneth Taylor with photographs by Frans Lanting. It covers pages 112 through 131. There is also a small background note on the article in the "On Assignment" section at the back of the magazine. I found the article quite interesting, but the high point for me was that Lundy was mentioned. Counting the May 1947 article, that brings the total mentions of Lundy in *National Geographic* to at least two!

The paragraph mentioning Lundy (page 122) says:

If the obvious appeal of the puffin is its clownish look, a deeper attraction may lie in its connection with wildness, of which it has become something of a symbol. Hence the boatloads of day-trippers who alight on Lundy Island off the southwest coast of England. They rarely see a live puffin, but Lundy's only store does a roaring trade in plaster statuettes, puffin-label wine, and other puffinabilia.

How do you like that last word—**puffinabilia**? I doubt we will ever see it in *Webster*.

--Larry Dodson, Phoenix, Arizona (December 18, 1995)

*Larry is correct on both counts. Although puffinabilia does not appear in any of the dictionaries I consulted, we all know the author had "puffin memorabilia" in mind when he coined this word. Since you asked, I liked puffinabilia even if it is unlikely to gain acceptance in the English language through widespread or common usage. Does anyone know of any other mention(s) of "Lundy" in the National Geographic besides the two Larry cited? Could someone who has the Cumulative Indices for National Geographic consult them and let us know? --RSC*

## News of L.C.C. Members

### IN MEMORIAM — CHARLES ANGUS PARKER (1927 - 1995)

Charles Angus Parker, one of Great Britain's best known stamp dealers and a respected collector, died November 15 at the age of 68 after a long illness. Mr. Parker was joint managing director of longtime L.C.C. member dealer Argyll Etkin Ltd. (#051) of London. Angus served with the Royal Army Medical Corps at Tobruk during World War II. After the war, Mr. Parker joined the family business, manufacturing bricks and stone building materials. By the early 1950s, he found it possible to pursue his passion for stamps and established the Argyll Stamp Company Ltd. During the 1950s and 1960s, Angus built up a successful business centered upon his ever-increasing stock. It is important to remember that in those years collecting the esoteric and unusual, including postal history, was an eccentric thing to do. Angus did much to develop the retail side of postal history, and the service he provided enabled numerous philatelists to develop totally new facets to their collections. In 1976, Argyll Stamp Company merged with Eric Etkin's stamp business to form the present Argyll Etkin Ltd.

As a stamp and postal history collector, Mr. Parker specialized in early Yemen, the Norwegian Missionary stamps of Madagascar, and the maritime mail of Iceland. He was a founder of the Pacific Islands Study Group and the Scandinavian Philatelic Society of Great Britain. Angus was a distinguished philatelic judge, serving on both national and international philatelic exhibition juries, and a member of the judging accreditation committee of the British Philatelic Federation. He was also active in the Philatelic Traders' Society and served as its representative on the board of the American Stamp Dealers Association. Mr. Parker is survived by his wife Betty, a daughter Alexandra and her husband, a son Roderick, and three grandchildren. The L.C.C. Officers extend their condolences to the Parker Family and to Eric Etkin and the other employees of Argyll Etkin Ltd. --RSC

- Honorary L.C.C. member Herman "Pat" Herst, Jr. discusses "President John Quincy Adams and Freemasonry" in the September-October 1995 issue of *The Philatelic Freemason*, the bimonthly journal of the Masonic Study Group of the American Topical Association. Annual dues for the Masonic Study Group are \$8 (\$14 overseas). Further information is available from Otto Steding, 1033 Hollytree Drive, Cincinnati, Ohio 45231, U.S.A.
- The following information appears in the *Philatelic Exporter* January 1996 issue: Dastardly deeds in darkest Devon have been reported by the Ilfracombe Rotary Club which, in its November 1995 Newsletter, denounces its former president and "a well-known dealer in Israel's (and Lundy's) philatelic items"! It seems that when the all-conquering Ilfracombe Rotary Club skittles team played its Torrington counterpart, the latter team was one player short. So, Ilfracombe sportingly allowed Michael Bale (#161), their "finest skittler" to skittle for Torrington as well as themselves, whereupon he performed magnificently for the opposition, but remarkably less so for his own team. The outcome was defeat for Ilfracombe and damnation for Michael! [Do the Brits take their skittles seriously, or what?! What a sporting fellow our Michael! For Americans unfamiliar with the game, *skittles* is also known as *British ninepins*—I imagine rather like our duckpin bowling without the headpin. --RSC]

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

- Randy Neil (#300), President of the American Philatelic Society, won the 1995 National Merit Award presented annually by the Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition (PNSE). Randy was on hand at the PNSE's awards banquet on September 30 to accept the award, given in recognition of his many years of leadership and contributions to the hobby. The PNSE Merit Awards have been presented for more than 50 years, and the list of PNSE honorees reads like a "Who's Who" in philately. Congratulations, Randy!
- Jamie Selko (#353) is the author of a feature article titled "Patriotic Medals and Russian Philately" that appears in the February 1996 issue of *The American Philatelist*, the monthly journal of the American Philatelic Society. Jamie, a U.S. Army linguist for almost 12 years, served in Berlin from 1987-92 as an interrogator during the "Fall of the Wall."

## News of Lundy

Day-Tripper Jailed for Lundy Church Rampage

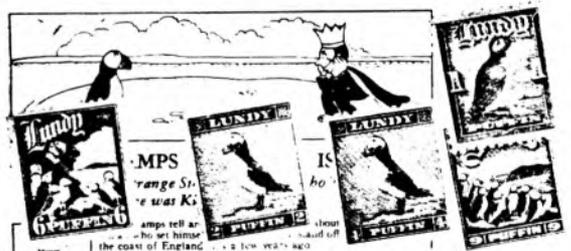
A 40-year-old day-tripper who committed the first recorded crime on Lundy in ten years was jailed for three months on January 12, 1996 by Barnstaple magistrates after he admitted criminal damage and assaulting a police officer. David Twiddy missed his boat back to the mainland from Lundy in August 1995, and because there were no accommodations available, he was advised to shelter in St. Helena's Church. Once in there, he went berserk, throwing out kitchen equipment stored in the building. Police flew out to Lundy by helicopter to arrest him, and Twiddy assaulted three Barnstaple policemen while being held in custody.

Source: *Western Daily Press*, January 13, 1996.

## Offer

Mystic Stamp Company Features Lundy Item

Mystic Stamp Company  
(9700 Mill Street,  
Camden, New York 13316,  
U.S.A.), an approval  
firm in business since  
1923, is offering the  
well-known "...King of  
Puffinland" sheetlet  
with a mint set of Lundy  
1929-30 definitives for  
only \$10 (plus \$1.45  
shipping and handling  
charges for U.S. orders  
or \$3 for international  
orders). Please specify  
item no. M2198 on orders  
for this Lundy item.  
Mystic only accepts  
charge card payments for  
international orders.  
U.S. customers who wish  
to order by credit card  
can telephone toll-free  
1-800-433-7811.



### Lundy Island Stamps issued by the King of Puffinland

This is the extraordinary tale of Lundy Island and the man who would be King! When Martin Harman purchased Lundy Island in 1925 and declared himself King, his first royal act was to issue postage stamps for his new country.

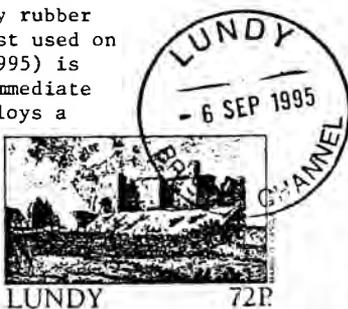
Today, Lundy Island is part of the British Empire, but its stamps remain a fascinating item for collectors. When they're available, these unusual stamps sell at auctions for as much as \$15. Now you can get a set of 6 Lundy stamps complete with the amusing story of their issue for just \$10!

☐ Lundy Island Set, 6 Mint Stamps M2198.....\$10.00

## Lundy Philatelic Update By Jim Mullett

• The first use of the new "DELAYED BY STORM" cachet (shown on page 9 of the Fall 1995 *LCCPQ*) is September 9, 1995. This cachet incorporates a cloud-covered profile view of Lundy within an oval border and is used as a slug for weather-delayed mail in place of the usual "LUNDY/BRISTOL CHANNEL" oval lighthouse slug in conjunction with Lundy's new electric franking machine introduced September 6, 1995.

• The new Lundy rubber handstamp (first used on September 6, 1995) is shown to the immediate right. It employs a sans serif typeface in contrast to its serif-typefaced predecessor shown at the far right.



• Apparently that "05" instead of "95" year error in the circular date-stamp of the new electric franking machine (see page 9, Fall 1995 *LCCPQ*) was caused by meter paper tape jamming the mechanism at odd times.

• During January 1996, Lundy was subjected to very bad storms, which had demolished the cliff road. This incident was extensively covered by the British media. There are currently plenty of supplies on Lundy thanks to deep-freeze units, but the road damage will cost extensively to repair in time for the Easter rush. I wrote to The Landmark Trust suggesting that they rush out a fl-surcharged charity stamp to help get in some cash as I am sure many people would purchase these stamps for such a good cause. What do you think?

• I have come out with a 1996 version of the "COLLECT LUNDY STAMPS..." propaganda (publicity) cachet (*illustrated below*) that has the wording previously agreed to by The Landmark Trust. This cachet is practically the same as the 1995 version (shown on the front cover and on page 6 of the Spring 1995 *LCCPQ*) except for the postcode amended from "(0237)" to "(01237)" to suit the British Telecom re-numbering program. Readers who want to acquire a strike of this cachet should write Jim Mullett, 26 Orchard Drive, Watlington, Oxford, OX9 5RD, England. Please include a self-addressed envelope and sufficient postage for the return.



• Have you noticed the envelopes used for FDCs of the 1979 unofficial essays (*Newman* #228E2 and #228E3) come in two types? When held to the light or, even better, when opened, type 1 has the wording "QUEEN'S VELVET" imprinted in a single straight line on the inside of the envelope. Type 2 has the wording "QUEEN'S/VELVET" imprinted in a two-line format. These envelope types appear to have been used in roughly equal numbers.

# Lundy at Auction

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

## Christie's Sale Features Format Printers' Archive Material

During July 1995, Christie's (Christie's Robson Lowe Auctions, 8 King Street, St. James's, London, SW1Y 6QT, England; telephone 071-389-4034 and 071-389-9060, Telex 916429, and Fax 071-389-2688) held an auction that included all of the material (essays, proofs, printer's paste-ups, etc.) under the control of the liquidation of the now-defunct Format International Security Printers. One exceptional Lundy lot was offered at an extremely low estimate of £150-200. Christie's lotterers obviously underestimated the popularity of exotic Lundy material and the competitiveness of Lundy collectors trying to acquire it. This observation is somewhat surprising when one considers that five lots of Lundy 1939 and 1957 "puffin definitives" proofs from the Bradbury Wilkinson archives in Christie's April 21, 1993 auction fetched a magnificent £12,704 against a modest cumulative estimate range of £910-1130! (See Fall 1993 *LCCPQ*, pages 9 and 10, for details of the April 21, 1993 Christie's auction.)

The "Format Printers" Lundy lot in the July 1995 sale was described as:

LUNDY ISLAND: 1981c., Puffin pulls (2) of eleven values each on thin surfaced card (270 x 220 mm), one impression deeper than the other; also a pull of eleven values with larger-sized numerals on thin surfaced card (265 x 205 mm) endorsed "2N PROO(F) / LARGER VALUES / 28.9.81"; also a photographic overlay, master die proof, and a further die proof; also Steep Holm Island 1981 Butterflies imperforate plate proofs, "make ready" sheets (1) (*sic*) with 128; stamps (64), face £12.

This lot sold through an auction agent representing the eventual owner, finally being knocked down by Christie's after spirited floor bidding for £800 plus the 15 percent surcharge and 17.5 percent V.A.T., resulting in a final price tag of a whopping £1081 (excluding the agent's fee)!



**FIGURE 1.** "Small Numeral" and "Larger Numeral" 18-Puffin-Denominated Stamps from Photographic Bromides Shown as Figures 3 and 4 on the Following Page.



**FIGURE 2.** The 2-Puffin Stamp from 1974 Definitive Issue as Photographic Bromide ("Master Die Proof" of Lot Description.)

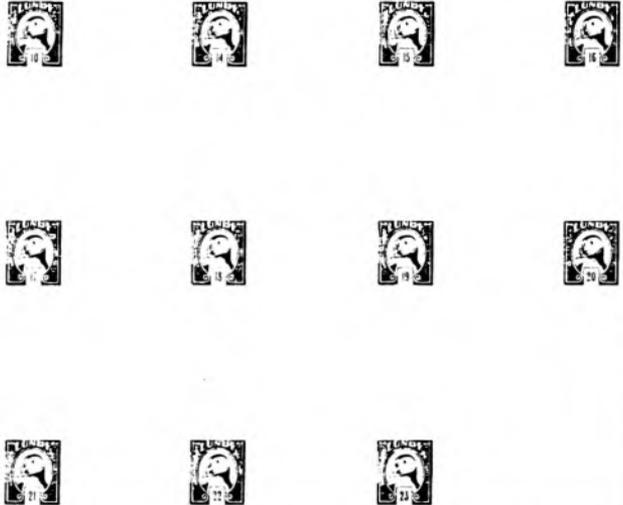
LUNDY AT AUCTION (Continued)

The three items referred to as "Puffin pulls" in the lot description are black-and-white photographic bromides of the subject stamps rather than their actual printed impressions. The numerals of the denominations of the stamps in two of these bromides are smaller than the numerals of the issued stamps (*Figures 1 and 3*); consequently, the stamps pictured are *essays or design trials* rather than *proofs*. The numerals of the denominations of the stamps in the third "larger values" bromide (*Figures 1 and 4*) are identical to those of the issued stamps; therefore, the subject

**FIGURE 3.**

*Proof sheet of 11 imperforate stamps with smaller (unissued) numerals, described by Christie's as a "Puffin pull"! It is a black-and-white photographic bromide of essay (unissued) stamps.*

*This illustration is considerably reduced and the margins cropped, shown primarily for the arrangement of stamps.*



**FIGURE 4.**

*Proof sheet of 11 imperforate stamps with larger (as issued) numerals, described by Christie's as a "Puffin pull" but actually a photographic bromide.*

*Note the arrangement of stamps differs from the item in Figure 3.*



LUNDY AT AUCTION (Continued)

stamps shown are *proofs*. The stamps pictured in the bromide proof sheet are arranged in a different order than those pictured in the bromide essay (design trial) sheets—compare Figures 3 and 4 on the preceding page. Additionally, the bromide proof sheet (*Figure 4*) has a "2N PROO(F)/ LARGER / VALUES / 28-9-81" handwritten annotation ("endorsement").

The "photographic overlay" item is in a negative format and has a blank value tablet. The two "master die proofs" are also photographic bromides. They differ from one another in the value tablet—one is blank and the other has a "2" denomination (*Figure 2*) (undoubtedly the 2-puffin stamp from the 1974 definitive series that was used as the model for the 1982 definitive issue). The buyer commented about the items in this lot: "They did not come cheap, but I think they are well worth the cost!"

Cinderella Stamp Club Members' Auctions Held During 1995

Lundy offerings in Cinderella Stamp Club's 1994 annual members' auction, which was belatedly held February 25, 1995 in conjunction with CINDERPEX in London, England, were summarized in my Spring 1995 column (pages 15 and 16). Of the 59 Lundy lots with estimates and reserves totaling £681, only 25 lots (42.4 percent) sold. These had estimates and reserves of £282 and realized 312.70, or 10.9 percent above estimates/reserves.

In the "optimistic" consignor grouping, 15 of the 41 lots (36.6 percent) sold, primarily at reserve prices, but with three notable exceptions: a lot comprised of ACAS 1936 "large map" 2d and 3d stamps postmarked in blue fetched £6.50 against a reserve of £4, a set of three 1939 "birds" definitives in mint margined imprint blocks of eight realized £15 against a reserve of £10, and a short set of five high-value "Wright Brothers biplane" overprints sold for £11 against a conservative estimate of £5. The postcard franked with a G.B. KGV definitive tied by a 1911 "LUNDY ISLAND" *thimble* postmark sold for its £75 reserve, but the other postcard with the 1908 "LUNDY ISLAND" *thimble* postmark did not find a buyer at its £75 reserve.

In the second consignor grouping, whose lots were given more modest reserves than the preceding grouping, six of the 13 lots (46.2 percent) sold, fetching £95.50 against reserves totaling £83. Examples from this grouping included a mint 1943 "Red Cross" 6p stamp that sold for its £22 reserve and mint "Red Cross" 9p and 12p stamps that each sold for £25 against respective reserves of £20. The copy of John Stanard's 34-page monograph titled *Lundy Island and the Lundy Locals* fetched £9.50 against its £6 reserve. Four of the five "miscellaneous" Lundy lots sold for £21.20 against a cumulative estimate of £18, but the last miscellaneous lots, a Great Britain "Islands" collection that included other material in addition to Lundy, did not find a buyer at its £34 reserve.

The next scheduled Cinderella Stamp Club members' auction (the first conducted by the new C.S.C. Auctioneer, Ewan Hedger) was held October 8, 1995 in conjunction with the Autumn CINDERPEX show in London. There were 22 Lundy lots offered at total estimates/reserves of £276. The lot with the highest reserve (£85) was a 1989 "R.S.P.B." FDC with a pair of stamps from the first printing, a pair of imperforate blue proofs without the "PROOF" overprint, a pair of perforated black proofs, and a pair of imperforate black proofs (this FDC is one of Ken Gibson's exclusive creations not available to Lundy Philatelic Bureau customers). A similar "R.S.P.B." FDC, but with singles of these four items instead of pairs,

LUNDY AT AUCTION (Continued)

was offered at a more modest reserve of £45. With the exception of two other lots—full mint sheets of the 1978 Coronation Jubilee set at a reserve of £25 and a first printing R.S.P.B. mint sheet at a reserve of £15—none of the other 18 Lundy lots exceeded an estimate of £6.

Channel Island Stamp Company Postal Bid Sales

Channel Island Stamp Company (C.I.S.C., 4 Havilland Street, St. Peter Port, Guernsey, Channel Islands; telephone 0481-725560) had three Lundy lots in its postal bid sale no. 132, which closed November 30, 1995. These were a 1954-1981 collection of 13 mint NH sets estimated at £20, a cacheted, unaddressed 1955 Millenary airmail FDC (postally used or C.T.O. not specified—probably the unsold item from sale no. 126) estimated at £16, and a Pentothal advertising card to the U.S. (Lundy post-marked April 28, 1962) that sold for £14 against its £16 estimate.

C.I.S.C.'s postal bid sale no. 133, which closed December 29, 1995, had three Lundy lots. A 1929-1979 collection of 121 items in mainly mint NH complete sets and several WWII overprint stamps was estimated at £30, a plain envelope to Sweden that was franked on back with late use of the 6p, 9p, and 12p "1929-1939" overprint stamps was estimated at £20, and mint NH 1953 Coronation 2p and 4p stamps with wrong color overprints (*Newman* #88a-89a) comprised a lot estimated at £20.

C.I.S.C.'s postal bid sale no. 134, which closed January 31, 1996, had only one Lundy lot—an accumulation comprised of a mint block of six of the 1937 ACAS ½d violet "air view" and a mint "setting sun" variety of its 1939 red counterpart, mint LH 1943 "IX Anniversary" overprint ½p, 1p, 2p, 3p, and 9p stamps, mint perforated and imperforate 1957 2p stamps, and a 1971 decimal definitives FDC—estimated at £20. C.I.S.C.'s postal bid sale no. 135, which closed February 29, 1996, had only one Lundy lot, a mint NH set of five of the "1929-1939" overprint issue, which was estimated at £17.50 against a *Newman* catalogue valuation of £30. C.I.S.C.'s postal bid sale no. 136, which closed March 29, 1996, had no Lundy lots.

Negev Holyland Stamps Ltd. Lundy Postal Bid Sale Number 10

The tenth and final 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 May 4, 1995, was one of Negev's most successful in terms of the total realizations and percentage of lots sold. This sale had 860 lots estimated at £18,016, with 434 lots selling for a whopping £10,043.60, or 123.4 percent of their £8139.25 cumulative estimate. The lots that sold represented 50.5 percent of the total lots offered, but only 45.2 percent of the total auction estimate, which indicates that many of the more expensive lots failed to attract bids and went unsold.

Additionally, sometimes the statistics can be misleading. In this sale, one behemoth lot—a "voluminous" collection in six albums, which was conservatively estimated at £1500—sold for a remarkable £3100! If this lot is deleted from the auction totals, only £6639.25 (40.2 percent) of the remaining £16,515 cumulative estimate sold, realizing £6943.60, or a more modest 104.6 percent ratio of realizations to estimates—a figure that compares favorably with the mean 105.2 percent ratio experienced for Negev's first nine Lundy sales. A summary of the realizations by major lot categories for this auction is given in Table 1 at the top of page 9.

LUNDY AT AUCTION (Continued)

TABLE 1. Summary of Negev's Tenth Lundy Postal Sale (May 4, 1995).

Category	Lots Offered		Lots Sold			
	No.	Estimates	No.	Estimates	Realiz'ns	%R:E*
stamps	317	£ 9165.00	187	£ 3547.50	£ 3742.75	105.5
collections	3	1570.00	3	1570.00	3152.00	200.8
proofs	73	3010.50	33	980.00	981.00	100.1
covers	168	1565.00	76	842.50	898.75	106.7
booklets/packs	36	241.00	15	102.50	140.00	136.6
bogus	50	285.00	23	166.00	186.50	112.3
L.C.C. souvenirs	137	1129.50	61	493.25	541.60	109.8
ephemera	27	190.50	18	135.50	163.00	120.3
literature	46	637.00	17	279.50	220.00	78.7
non-Lundy stamps	3	222.50	1	22.50	18.00	80.0
Total (all lots)	860	£18016.00	434	£ 8139.25	£10043.60	123.4

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

Negev's tenth Lundy postal bid sale was its third largest auction both in terms of the number of lots offered and the total lot cumulative estimate, being eclipsed in these categories only by sales #7 and #8. However, this auction outperformed both of those prior sales in terms of the percentage of lots that sold and in the ratio of realizations to estimates for the sold lots. In fact, this auction barely missed eclipsing both prior sales in terms of total realizations, losing out only to sale #7 by a mere £138.25. Negev's tenth Lundy auction realizations were typical of the mean results of all ten Negev sales to date in that approximately 50% of the lots sold and the aforementioned adjusted ratio of realizations to estimates (104.6 percent) was close to the 107.5 percent cumulative ratio for all ten Negev sales. Table 2 below summarizes all ten Negev Lundy sales and provides a means of observing how Negev's efforts have grown to the present from its first relatively modest postal bid sale held in March 1989.

TABLE 2. Summary of Negev Holyland Lundy Postal Sales #1 Through #10.

Sale # (Date)	Lots Offered		Lots Sold			
	Sold/Total	% Sold	Estimates	Estimates	Realiz'ns	%R:E*
1 (3/17/89)	223 / 334	66.8	£ 5133.00	£ 2506.50	£ 2618.00	104.5
2 (3/20/91)	202 / 437	46.2	12990.25	5358.00	5724.29	106.8
3 (8/7/91)	215 / 564	38.1	13761.50	4846.00	4972.75	102.6
4 (2/2/92)	231 / 568	40.7	13651.50	3619.50	3644.35	100.7
5 (12/19/92)	409 / 697	58.7	11601.75	6792.75	8106.00	119.3
6 (5/27/93)	410 / 853	48.1	16876.50	8369.50	8841.85	105.6
7 (11/11/93)	475 / 987	48.1	23839.50	9924.00	10181.85	102.6
8 (4/27/94)	363 / 870	41.7	18422.50	6861.00	7227.75	105.3
9 (10/5/94)	454 / 853	53.2	14752.25	8617.25	8531.42	98.8
10 (5/4/95)	434 / 860	50.5	18016.00	8139.25	10043.60	123.4
Sales Totals	3416/7023	48.6	£149044.75	£65033.75	£69891.86	107.5

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

It is interesting to note that over the past few years Michael Bale was able to acquire three sizable "name" lundy collections along with some unique Bradbury, Wilkinson archival items, and some of the material from these acquisitions formed much of the basis of the middle to later Negev

LUNDY AT AUCTION (Continued)

sales. To indicate that these ten Negev sales have made a major impact on the Lundy market and the dispersion of many better and scarce to rare items have enriched the collections of many contemporary collectors is an understatement!

Before I turn my attention to the results of Negev's tenth Lundy postal bid sale, I want to mention why I termed it Negev's "final" sale in the opening paragraph of this section. No, Michael Bale is not giving up conducting Lundy auctions, but rather he broke out the Lundy holdings of his Negev Holyland Ltd. philatelic firm into a separate trading entity known as *Lundy Philatelics*. Michael explained the rationale for this change in the catalogue for the inaugural "Lundy Philatelics" postal bid sale, which closed November 9, 1995. Basically, Negev Holyland Stamps Ltd. was established in 1978 to trade exclusively in the stamps and postal history of the Holy Land (primarily Israel and Palestine Mandate). However, because of Michael's own personal collecting interest of Lundy ("which grew and grew over the past 15 years"), Negev began commercial trading of Lundy during 1987, with that aspect of its trade now firmly established. Michael explains that the ultimate aim as he and his wife Bronnie begin to approach retirement age is to sell the assets of Negev Holyland Ltd. and the *Bale Catalogue* name and publishing rights, but to continue to trade in Lundy under the new partnership arrangement of Lundy Philatelics. Michael explained in a letter dated January 9, 1996:

We established Lundy Philatelics in order to open up a separate business and that when I eventually retire from Negev Holyland Stamps or sell it out, I can carry on trading in Lundy material as long as I want and keep it separate from the company. We hope to make a complete transaction with all our Lundy stock into Lundy Philatelics by the end of March 1996, so from then on all our Lundy business will be channeled through Lundy Philatelics, and Negev Holyland Stamps, as originally, will just trade in Holy Land material. It will certainly make it much easier for us.

Since Michael wrote this explanation, the name of the *Lundy Philatelics* trading company has been changed to *Puffin Stamps* because of an objection by a principal of The Landmark Trust to the use of "Lundy" in a business title. Rather than to contest the objection and cause a bad relationship with the Trust, Michael capitulated to this name change. In a March 6, 1996 letter, he jokingly pointed out: "I think 'Lundy Philatelics' must be the shortest-lived Lundy stamp company ever!" I am anxiously awaiting Michael's next Lundy postal bid sale catalogue to see if he terms it Puffin Stamps' "first" or "second" auction?! The letterhead of the now-defunct Lundy Philatelics company depicted a blue impression of the Lundy 1939 3-puffin definitive. I suggested to Michael that a cut-down portion of his stationery showing the letterhead might make an interesting "free gift" souvenir (a "posthumous imperforate reprint"!) for *LCCPQ* readers, and he kindly provided examples to distribute with this issue. Many of the *free gifts* offered in past *LCCPQs* are now sought-after collectors items that sell for as much as a year's subscription cost, so a hint to the wise: please renew your 1996 L.C.C. membership by paying your dues!

That's enough digression for now and let's return to Negev's tenth Lundy postal bid sale. The star performer was the aforementioned *behemoth* collection that realized £3100 against its £1500 estimate. It was described as: "A voluminous collection in six fairly heavy albums of stamps, postcards, coins, newspaper articles, photographs, photostats,

LUNDY AT AUCTION (Continued)

and Lundy ephemera. The philatelic section includes two Lundy mailed postcards 1908 and 1909, heavily duplicated ranges of all the stamp issues to 1991, including 'tramtickets' (4 x ½d, 4 x 3d, 3 x 1d), ditto covers (3), range 1936 map stamps and reprints, plus covers including 1936 'ship' cover, 1939 ½d red LACAL proof pair, 'Red Cross' to 6p, 'V + plane' to 12p + proof sheet, few 1943 'puffins' essays, Wright Brothers part missing overprint, 1951 birds black proof set, 1954 airmails 12 values proofs in single colors, 1957 puffins in corner blocks, seabirds imperforate sheetlet, 1972 1p blue overprint, range of other issues to date including covers, FDCs, bogus, flights, etc. The majority of the stamps are hinged, an interesting collection."

I would guess that interested bidders must have requested photocopies or further descriptions of the contents of these albums in order to make an informed bid and increase them to these levels. At least two bidders had to be very interested in this collection to drive its hammer price to greater than double its estimate. Often, collections are offered at a fraction of the individual contents' catalogue or market value, and their eventual selling price is determined by intangible factors such as the presentation, type and quantity of collateral material, potential resale value of duplicate or extraneous items, and how many of them are lacking in the collection of the buyer. Purchasing an entire collection can save a vast amount of time for the collector just getting started in an area, as those of us who have spent years of searching for and purchasing Lundy material will attest. Those who have collected Lundy for two decades or longer will recall that vast holdings of Lundy items seldom used to appear on the market, and it has only been in the last decade or so of having the Newman (C.I.L.A.) and Bale (Negev) auctions that concentrated accumulations of Lundy material were made available to collectors in one place at one time. If the buyer of this collection would care to comment on his/her reasons for the seemingly high expenditure and how and/or why he/she determined its "worth" to be so much more than the Negev estimate, I would be pleased to hear from you.

There were many scarce and expensive stamp lots for sale in this auction, and the results were mixed. The telling statistic that 59.1 percent of the stamp lots sold represented only 38.9 percent of that category's cumulative estimate indicates that many of the more expensive items failed to attract bids. For example, 16 stamp lots with estimates of £100 or greater were offered, but only four of these sold, realizing £670 against a cumulative estimate of £725 for a ratio of realizations to estimates of only 92.4 percent (considerably below the stamp category average of 105.5 percent). Of these four lots, only one realized more than its estimate and another sold at its estimate. There were 20 stamp lots each with estimates in the £50 to £99 range, and only six of these sold, realizing £351 against a cumulative estimate of £387.50 for a ratio of realizations to estimates of only 90.6 percent. Five of these lots sold for less than their estimates and only one sold for greater than its estimate. Consequently, to make up for these low realizations, stamps estimated at under £50 had to fare that much better. For example, there were 48 lots offered at estimates in the £25 to £49 range—27 of these sold (18 above estimates, one at estimate, and only eight at less than estimates), fetching £875 against a cumulative estimate of £823 for a respectable 106.3 percent ratio of realizations to estimates. Stamp lots in the under £25 category obviously had to do even better to drive up the total stamp realizations to the 105.5 percent cited in Table 1.

LUNDY AT AUCTION (Continued)

Some representative *better* stamp lots, either in terms of scarcity or realizations against estimates (with f estimates/f realizations given in parentheses following brief lot descriptions), include the following: mint set of five 1929-1930 definitives in horizontal pairs with vertical gutters between (£13/£25), mint 1937 LACAL ½d (*Newman* #18e) (£110/£125), mint set of eight "Red Cross" stamps in margined, horizontal strip of three or four each with full printer's imprint at the bottom (£850/--), mint "Red Cross" ½p "inverted overprint" error (£65/£58), mint LH "Red Cross" 4p "broken cross" variety (£55/£60), mint "Red Cross" 12p "inverted overprint" error with additional top margin so overprinted (£140/£140), mint LH set of eight "Red Cross" stamps—seven being margined examples (£300/£250), mint LH 1943 1½p "short fraction bar" variety provisional (*Newman* #56C) (£28/£45), used 1943 "Wright Brothers biplane" 7p (£13/£21), mint 1953 "BY AIR" ½p "double overprint" error [*Newman* #69a(a)] (£30/£36), mint 1953 Coronation "wrong color" overprints (*Newman* #86a-87a) (£55/£60 despite a tiny mark on the face of the ½p stamp), and mint 1953 Coronation "wrong color" overprints as horizontal pairs with vertical gutter between (£175/£155).

The performance of proof material was disappointing in that only 45.2 percent of the proof lots sold, and the lots that sold represented only 32.6 percent of the category's cumulative estimate, indicating that many of the more expensive lots went unsold. This is borne out in an analysis of the individual lots: Only two of the nine lots estimated at £100 or greater sold, with both selling for below estimate (a ratio of realizations to estimates of only 78.5 percent—£314 realized against estimates of £400). Only one lot of the six lots in the estimate range of £50 to £99 sold, but it realized £60 against its £55 estimate. The 12 lots with estimates in the £25 to £49 range fared considerably better, however, as seven sold, fetching a whopping £293 against a cumulative estimate of £226 (a ratio of realizations to estimates of 129.6 percent)!

Some representative *better* proof lots, either in terms of scarcity or realizations against estimates (with f estimates/f realizations given in parentheses following brief lot descriptions), include the following: mint imperforate 1939 LACAL 1d "lighthouse" proof in brown on white paper (£30/£48), two proof sheets of the 1942 15-subject "V + plane" overprints in blue and in brown on thin, ungummed white paper (£85 each/--), Bureau 1943 imperforate 10p essay in deep blue on thicker, ungummed buff paper (£30/£45), Bureau 1943 imperforate 30p essay in green with black center panel on thin, gummed white paper (£28/£50), mint set of six of the 1954 Jubilee airmail with dates as imperforate proofs in frame colors only (*Newman* #100PF-105PF) in sheet corner blocks of four (£100/£94), 1957 1p definitive color trial (in unissued yellow) as a serial-numbered (0009) imperforate sheetlet from the Bradbury, Wilkinson archives (£300/£220), and 1989 R.S.P.B. proof sheet (*Newman Catalogue*, page 70) (£38/£43).

There were fewer cover/postal history lots in this auction than in the previous two Negev sales, but the 45.2 percent of the cover lots sold represented 53.9 percent of the cumulative estimate for that category, indicating that the better items sold. Perhaps the best cover in this sale was the opening lot, a postally used "St. Helens (*sic*) Church" photocard to Surrey with a G.B. 1d stamp tied by a G.P.O. September 4, 1923 "LUNDY ISLAND" *thimble* postmark, which sold for its £90 estimate. The star performer in this sale—a Sweetman "Landing Stores on Lundy" photocard franked with a Lundy ½p definitive postmarked "29 AUG 1930" alongside a G.B. 1d stamp postmarked "INSTOW/30 AUG 1930"—fetched a

LUNDY AT AUCTION (Continued)

whopping £45 against a modest £20 estimate. In my opinion, £45 is not too high a price to pay for an example of such an early use of a Lundy stamp on a G.P.O.-serviced cover as these items are seldom offered and make nice "postal history" additions to one's Lundy collection.

Some other noteworthy covers (with estimates/realizations given in parentheses following brief lot descriptions) include the following: an inward December 23, 1905 "Happy Christmas" postcard from Minehead addressed to (the Lundy Postmaster's daughter) "Miss Mildred Allday, Lundy Isle" (£30/£34), a Captain Smye-prepared 1940 inward cover from Gibraltar (postmarked July 17) with an unusual red-and-white censor label sealing the envelope and Lundy receiving franking (½p definitive on front postmarked "LUNDY LIGHTS AND LEADS" August 1) (£15/£22.50), a Pitman-prepared inward March 27, 1939 FDC of the red LACAL ½d "air view" stamp (£24/£25), another Captain Smye-prepared 1940 inward cover from Gibraltar (postmarked July 16) with superfluous LACAL airmail stamps and the "AIR SERVICE...SUSPENDED..." cachet (£40/£35), another Captain Smye-prepared 1940 inward cover consisting of a "Civil Defence" leaflet posted from Ireland with superfluous LACAL airmail stamps and the "AIR SERVICE...SUSPENDED..." cachet (£37/£47), and an outward cover (no G.P.O. service, therefore philatelic) addressed to Guernsey and having a short set (no 4p stamp) of the 1943 "IX Anniversary" issue Lundy-postmarked June 6, 1945 (£48/£50).

Booklets and packs (which include the official presentation packs and various unofficial "souvenir" items) performed well. Even though only 41.7 percent of these lots sold, those that did fetched a whopping 36.6 percent over their cumulative estimates. The official Lundy-produced, brown-printing presentation pack for the 1974 definitives was the star performer in this category, selling for £20 against its £12 estimate. Among the "unofficial" pack offerings, the 1957 "flying birds" definitives mounted in a printed "Atlantic Coast Studios" folder that was signed by John Dyke, the designer of both the stamps and the folder, realized £18 against an estimate of £15.

Bogus Lundy material generally seems to fare well at auction, and the offerings in this sale were no exception. Although only 46 percent of the lots sold, they represented 58.2 percent of the category's total estimate, indicating that the more expensive material sold. Examples include a set of six "sheetlet" proofs (most likely posthumous reprints) of the 1935 ACAS "large map" stamps in various colors that realized £19 against its estimate of £25 and two sets of 1962 Europa issues—one overprinted upright in red and the other inverted in black with "SAVE THE SEA BIRDS"—that realized £18 against its estimate of £15.

The category of "Lundy Collectors Club souvenirs" (probably many of which could have been grouped in the "bogus" category) fared about as well as the bogus material did as 61 of the 137 lots (44.5 percent) sold. The lots that sold represented 43.7 percent of this category's total estimates, indicating that the items that sold were representative of the category as a whole. Michael Bale painstakingly classified the L.C.C. material into two categories in the auction catalogue (U.S.-produced and U.K.-produced), but he was not always correct with his assessments (as though this might matter to the bidders who go after this stuff!). There were 35 lots of U.S.-produced material with a cumulative estimate of £247.50; 20 of these lots (57.1 percent) sold, realizing £167 against a cumulative estimate of £163.25 (66.0 percent of the total estimate), for

LUNDY AT AUCTION (Continued)

a ratio of realizations to estimates of 102.3 percent. By contrast, there were 102 lots of U.K.-produced material with a cumulative estimate of £882; 41 of these lots (40.2 percent) sold, realizing £374.60 against a cumulative estimate of £333 (37.4 percent of the total estimates), for a ratio of realizations to estimates of 112.5 percent. There is no clear-cut favorite here: a higher percentage of the U.S.-produced items sold, but the U.K.-produced items that sold realized a higher percentage above their estimates. In the U.K.-produced division, six of the seven 1989 "Barry Chinchin" souvenir sheet lots sold, realizing £110 against a cumulative estimate of £104. In the U.S.-produced division, a large lot of L.C.C. labels estimated at £50 realized £47.

Paper ephemera items fared well as 66.7 percent of the lots sold for 120.3 percent of their cumulative estimate. A lot consisting of an unused Lundy Radiogram, one used in 1971, and a blue envelope printed "LUNDY RADIOGRAM" at the top sold for its £20 estimate. A July 1948 handwritten letter from Felix Gade on "Hartland Quay Hotel" stationery, which mentioned Lundy Agents Brian Rigby-Hall and Donald Heaysman, sold for £15 against an estimate of £13. Literature lots did not fare too well as only 37.0 percent sold and realized only 78.7 percent of their cumulative estimate. However, the lots that sold represented 43.9 percent of the total estimates, indicating that some of the more expensive items sold. The star performer in the literature category was an "old file book from an old-time Lundy collector" that consisted of "many pages of put-together information about Lundy stamps, postal history, etc. to about 1980"—it realized £23 against an estimate of £17.50.

Auction Odds and Ends

- Phillips Auctions (101 New Bond Street, London, W1Y 0AS, England; telephone 071-629-6602, Fax 0701-629-8876) offered one Lundy lot, a collection, in its September 7, 1995 auction. It was described as "Lundy: 1905-1972, a collection, varied condition, including 1905 picture p/c franked KGVII ½d cancelled 'LUNDY ISLAND' c.d.s., 1930 (*sic*) ACAS large map set mint, 1940 Red Cross ½p + ½p and 1p + 1p used on 1940 (July 24, first day) envelope, 1972 1p on 9p surcharge in blue, mint, etc. (95 items), estimate £120/£150." The collection sold for £320. In retrospect, David Donald, who was an underbidder at £300, commented that "the lot was probably worth a lot more than that" since it contained other material such as three ACAS "tramtickets" (½d, 1d, and 3d), a complete set of eight "V + plane" overprints, several "BY AIR" and "By Air" overprints, complete sets of the 1951 and 1957 definitives, and several covers including a Capt. Smye-prepared one with the "AIR SERVICE...SUSPENDED..." cachet. My thanks go to David Donald for sending me the information about this lot.
- Glass Slipper Auctions (c/o The Post Office, Bishop Wilton, York, YO4 1SR, England; telephone/Fax 01759-368577) offered six Lundy postal history/cover lots at a cumulative estimate of £98 in its postal auction no. 32, which closed May 6, 1995. The best of these items was a Capt. Smye-prepared July 26, 1940 cover to Ireland, with a superfluous ACAS 3d "large map" stamp tied by the "AIR SERVICE...SUSPENDED..." cachet, at an estimate of £40. In its "Back and Beyond" net price *List No. 2*, Spring 1995 (Back & Beyond, P.O. Box 52, Selsey, Chichester, W. Sussex, PO20 0TJ, England; telephone 01243-602434, Fax 01759-368577), Glass Slipper offered two Lundy lots—used 1943 "IX Anniversary" ½p and 1p values for £5 for

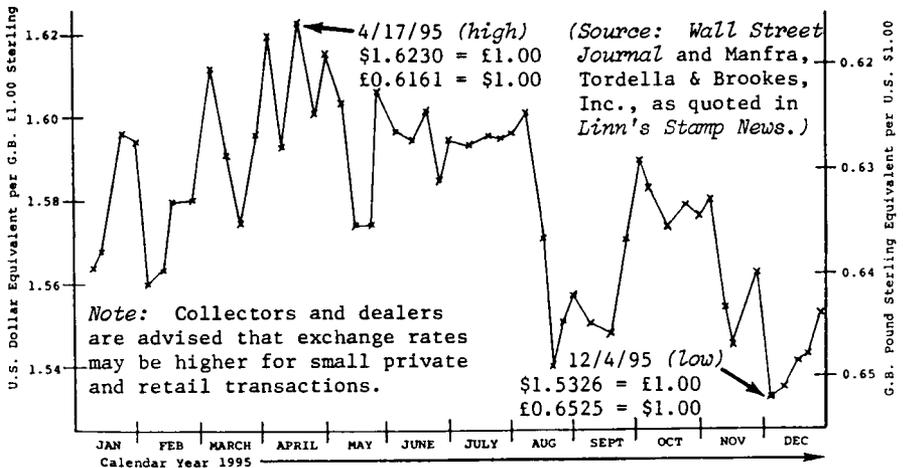
LUNDY AT AUCTION (Continued)

both stamps, and a mint NH 1965 Churchill set of three along with a C.T.O. Sanda 1965 set consisting of "Churchill" overprints on four 1962 Europa stamps for £4 for both sets. Glass Slipper Auctions offered only four Lundy lots at a cumulative estimate of £29 in its postal auction no. 33, which closed August 5, 1995. An example of D. Green's four-page Lundy price list issued circa 1945 was estimated at £8, and a plate proof impression of the 15-subject 1943 "IX Anniversary" overprint in black on white was estimated at £10 (extremely cheap if a contemporary original but too costly if a 1970s Rigby-Hall reprint).

- Stanley Gibbons' November 10, 1995 auction included a Lundy collection at an estimate of greater than £4000, but it went unsold. According to one of the two sources who told me about this collection, most of its value is on one page—a large mint block of the 1972 blue-surcharged 1-puffin provisional (*Newman* #172). According to my other source, the *true worth* of the collection is in the neighborhood of half its Gibbons estimate (i.e., it had been independently appraised for about £2000 retail value by a competent Lundy specialist/dealer prior to consignment with Gibbons). After this collection went unsold in the November 10 auction, Gibbons rejected a subsequent £2000 offer as not meeting the consignor's reserve. In conclusion, it is unlikely to sell at auction for the £4000+ figure the consignor assumes it to be worth.

- Warwick and Warwick Ltd. (Pageant House, Jury Street, Warwick, CV34 4EW, England; telephone 01926-499031, Fax 01926-491906) offered one Lundy lot in its March 6, 1996 public auction no. 428. It consisted of two outward 1965 covers at a too hefty estimate of £20. The uncanceled ACAS roll 7 ld "tramticket" on "Selfridges" cover that was reoffered in Warwick and Warwick's January 10, 1996 auction, which I discussed in detail in my previous column (Fall 1995 *LCCFQ*, page 19), finally sold for £26 against its £25 estimate. The "mixed lot" Lundy collection offered in this sale fetched £32 against an obviously conservative £10 estimate. Warwick and Warwick's sale no. 429, which closed April 3, 1996, offered a "mixed" lot of various G.B. locals including Lundy at a modest estimate of £10.

- U.S. Dollar — G.B. Pound Sterling Monetary Exchange Rates During 1995



## Odds and Ends

### Additional Previously Unrecorded Varieties

#### Misplaced Overprints on Lundy Philatelic Bureau Issues

Maurice Dart reports two "misplaced" overprint varieties on 1943 issues:

- A "2½ and obliterators" surcharge on a 2½p provisional stamp (*Newman #56*) that is totally displaced to the right, resulting in the 6-puffin denomination wholly exposed (*pictured immediate right*). This is caused by faulty centering of the stamp and displacement of the pane during the overprinting. It is not a *constant plate flaw* nor *printer's waste*, and other examples from this pane should exist.



- A 1943 "Wright Brothers biplane" overprint ½p stamp (*Newman #57*) in which the red biplane is displaced way to the right in relation to the black dates and denomination surcharge (*pictured above*). This stamp is a *freak* rather than an *error* since the overprinting took place in two steps (one for the biplane and one for the dates/denomination) because of the two separate colored inks used. There are many stamps in this issue that are known to have the biplane misaligned with respect to the surcharge, but the misalignment would occur throughout the pane rather than at a constant plate position. I suspect that many of the misaligned overprinted panes were separated out as *printer's waste* and sold by Brian Rigby-Hall at a premium rather than being destroyed. Of course, it is always possible that with the poor quality control under wartime printing conditions that these misplaced overprint stamps were "accepted" by the Bureau and sold directly from stock. --RSC

#### 1940 "Red Cross" 2-Puffin "Break in 'u' of '2 Puffin'" Variety

Maurice Dart reports a 1940 "Red Cross" 2p stamp (*Newman #31*) in which there is a break in the right-hand stroke of the "u" in the "2 Puffins" surcharge (*inset right*). This is more likely a *freak* (rather than a previously unrecorded plate flaw variety) in which either the ink did not adhere to the recess-printed stamp or some adhering foreign matter (since removed) caused some of the ink to miss the stamp during overprinting. I suspect there are many more of these "incomplete" letters on other "Red Cross" values as well, and none of these are *constant plate varieties* because of typeface defects. --RSC



#### 1943 "Wright Brothers Biplane" 2-Puffin "Dropped 'u' in 'Puffin'" Variety

There exists an apparent *constant plate flaw overprint variety* of the 1943 "Wright Brothers biplane" 2p stamp (*Newman #60*) in which there is a pronounced dropped "u" in the "2 Puffin" surcharge (*shown on the following page*). This overprint appears on one of the "d" lithographic transfer types of the 6p definitive and has the 18.5-mm ("wide") spacing. It is not known at which plate position nor on which pane(s) this variety occurs, nor whether or not this variety is repeated on the upper and lower panes. I suspect that it might occur at only one position (either stamps 7, 9, 10, 22, 24, or 25 of the left-hand panes or either stamps 8,

ODDS AND ENDS (Continued)

10, 23, or 25 of the right-hand pane) and be either a 1-in-60 or 1-in-120 occurrence depending on whether or not it exists on only one or on both of the upper and lower panes. It is also possible that the type slippage

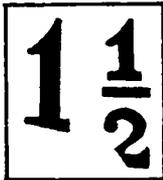
2 P u f

which caused this variety occurred sometime late in the overprinting process and therefore does not exist on all the (same) panes. Alternatively, but less likely, the misalign-

ment of the "u" may have been present from the start, discovered after a few panes (sheets?) were overprinted and examined, and subsequently corrected so that later-overprinted panes do not have this variety. I hope that someone has a complete pane or large multiple of these 2p stamps in which this variety occurs and can provide additional information about the plate position. Absence of this variety in a full pane can also provide some clues about the nature of this stamp. Readers? --RSC

Partially Missing "1½" Surcharge on 1943 Provisional Stamp

Jean Love reports a 1943 provisional 1½p stamp (*Newman* #55) in which the surcharge (*inset*) is missing a portion of the bottom serif of the number "1" and a portion of the "2" in the denominator of the "½" fraction. This stamp is probably a *freak* (rather than a *constant plate flaw overprint variety*) caused by foreign matter (since removed) which adhered to the stamp at the time of overprinting. What makes this discovery such a nice item is that the *freak* overprinted stamp is the left-hand member of a horizontal pair in which the right-hand stamp exhibits a normal overprint!

"1929-1939" Overprint Issue "Short Dash" Variety

Kenneth Munro reports a shortened dash between the "1929" and "1939" of the "1929-1939" overprinted 9p stamp (*Newman* #24). I confess that I was unable to distinguish the difference between this purported "short dash" variety and a normal overprint even after Kenneth provided me with a blown-up photocopy. Readers are invited to examine their 9p stamps (and other denominations of this issue since in all likelihood only one overprinting cliché was used for all the values) and inform me of your findings. If this variety is distinguishable from the normal stamp (hence significant), does it appear at a constant plate position? --RSC

1957 1-Puffin Definitive Constant Plate Flaw Variety

Jim Mullett reports that several of his 1957 1p definitives (*Newman* #126) appear to be a *constant plate variety* with two white spots appearing in



the "PUFFIN" panel (*shown left*)—that is, the panel is completely red except for the two

equally spaced white dots that the ink never reached. Can anyone who has a complete upper and/or lower pane(s) let us know whether this variety appears and at what position if it does? Also, it might be worthwhile to check the other denominations of both the 1939 and 1957 definitives to see if this variety appears on any of the other stamps. Readers? --RSC

ODDS AND ENDS (Continued)Original Printing Plate for LACAL 1937 Airmail Essay Acquired

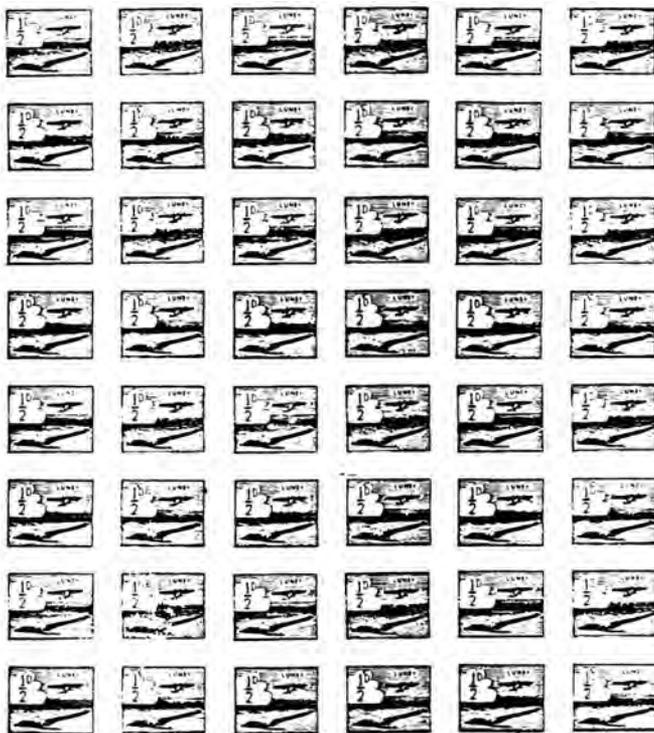
Michael Bale reports that on his last 1995 trip to the United States he purchased the original printing plate of 48 subjects for the LACAL 1937 airmail essay without the airline's name (*Newman* #18e). Michael writes:

I believe it was in the possession of the Montville (*New Jersey*) Stamp Company many years ago. The funny thing is that I originally had this plate in my possession when I was 18. It came together with a huge stock of the local issues that I bought at the time. I sold it at that time and then lost track of it, and it is only now it has popped up again. I don't know what to do with it, but it is a real museum piece!

Michael has a good recollection. The "Montville Stamp Company" he refers to was actually the Lundy Stamp Bureau that was set up in Montville, New Jersey during 1976,

but the plate was in the possession of John Van Emden of the Puff'n Company of Towaco, New Jersey, a firm with close ties to the principals involved in setting up the Lundy Stamp Bureau. The printing plate was offered at retail sale for \$750 by Puff'n Company in its January 1979 *Newsletter Number 4* in which it is described as:

A complete plate of 48 subjects of the 3d 1937 airmail. Originally prepared just as you see it (to the right), the design was rejected by Mr. Harman as misleading. These were overprinted on November 1, 1938, "Lundy Atlantic Coasts Airlines Ltd." (*sic*) and issued (*Chinchen* #18). All four types of transfers reported in the *Chinchen Catalogue* are clearly discernable in this unique piece. The plate is still mounted on a printing board.

Historical Information About the Stucley Family

*Editor's preface:* Roger E. Allen provided the following information about the Stucley Family in a letter written June 15, 1995. I thought it would be of interest to Lundyphiles despite its nonphilatelic nature. --RSC

ODDS AND ENDS (Continued)

As part of the recent Lundy Field Society annual general meeting and long weekend of events in Bideford organized by the Devonshire Association, of which I am a member, we visited Hartland Abbey in North Devon. The Abbey is home to the Stucley Family who have been associated with the area for many hundreds of years. It is a beautiful place dating to Tudor and pre-Tudor times. The Association members were shown around the Abbey by Sir Hugh Stucley, the 6th Baronet, who also gave us a lecture on his Family history and the history of the Abbey before we toured around.

One of the items on display was a book dating from 1618 written by Sir Lewis Stucley. The book is titled *The True Motives and Inducements Which Occasioned His Majesty to Proceed Doing Justice Upon Him (Sir Walter Raleigh)*. The ancestor of Sir Hugh was High Sheriff of Devonshire and was ordered to arrest Sir Walter Raleigh and bring him to London. En route, Sir Walter tried to escape to France but he was recaptured and beheaded. The reason for his being attainted was that he had headed an expedition to Guiana to seek for a fabled gold mine. Not surprisingly, the expedition was a failure.

Sir Lewis Stucley became hated throughout the land after this event as Sir Walter Raleigh was a national hero. Sir Lewis retired to Lundy and was shunned by the nation. He became insane and died there in 1620. Sir Hugh Stucley believed that his ancestor was treated unfairly and has had a very poor press ever since. He had no option but to obey the King, and as High Sheriff of the County, he had to make the arrest personally when so great a hero as Sir Walter was involved.

In Alfred Noyes' book *Tales of the Mermaid Tavern*, written about 1914, there is a section on the event described above and Sir Lewis Stukeley (*sic*) is painted as a very unpleasant and venal personality who received £1000 for doing the dirty deed. In his insanity on Lundy, Sir Lewis writes a poem in which he denies that he drinks blood!

It is interesting to note that an even earlier ancestor of Sir Hugh held Lundy or at least held an interest in the Island in the 14th Century. In the late Tony Langham's book *The Island of Lundy*, published in 1994 only a few months before his death, a paragraph on page 25 concerns Sir John Luttrell Knight and his tenure of Lundy in 1337-1338. There are pictures of the Luttrell Family from the 18th Century in Hartland Abbey. The Luttrells gained ownership of the Abbey by marriage in 1600.

Sierra Leone Issues Stamp Picturing a Puffin

Sierra Leone, a British Commonwealth Republic on the Atlantic Coast of West Africa known for its stamps aimed at topical (thematic) collectors, issued a se-tenant miniature sheet of nine "marine life" stamps for the Singapore 95 International Philatelic Exhibition. The upper right-hand stamp (stamp 3, row 1) (shown far right) of this multicolor sheetlet shows a puffin in flight though I doubt if any Sierra Leonean has ever seen one or, for that matter, will ever use this stamp for postage! The sheetlet is available



ODDS AND ENDS (Continued)

from Tribune Stamp Company, Herrick Stamp Company's new issue service, for \$6.62 each (plus \$0.85 postage/packing for U.S. orders or \$4.85 for foreign orders). Credit card (MasterCard or VISA) orders are welcome. Order from Tribune Stamp Company, P.O. Box 400, Hewlett, New York 11557-0400, U.S.A.; telephone 516-569-3788, fax 516-569-7093. Other new issue suppliers and stamp dealers should also stock this item. --RSC

Great Britain "Puffin" Postmark and Aerogramme Envelope

From John Holman comes news of two British philatelic items depicting an Atlantic puffin. The "puffin" postmark (*shown right*) is one of many used in the U.K. during April 1995 to commemorate the Centenary of The National Trust. Britain also issued a set of five postage stamps (none of which depict puffins) to mark the occasion. The stamp tied to the cover by the "puffin" postmark is the most appropriate one of the set as it pictures coastal scenery (puffin habitat).



The National Trust  
Saving Coast 35

The second item is a "British Coastal Birds" international aerogram envelope that depicts a puffin on its front (*illustrated below*), which was issued during August 1994 by Royal Mail International (the British G.P.O.).



The puffin aerogramme is not available individually from Royal Mail International, but is only sold as part of a set of six different "Birds of Britain" pictorial aerogrammes in sealed cellophane packs for £2.50 (pack of six) at all post office counters in Great Britain. According to the Royal Mail International flier for this issue, the set of six aerogrammes depict "22 British birds superbly illustrated by RSPB-approved artists." Also, an illustrated, 86-page RSPB *Pocket Bird Guide* with full ordering details is available free inside every pack of the "Birds of Britain" aerogrammes. For the benefit of non-U.K. residents, Royal Mail accepts mail orders through its philatelic sales service: Royal Mail International, Freepost, 12 Fenton Way, Basildon, Essex, SS15 4BR, England. --RSC



One of Six Aerogrammes in the "Birds of Britain" Pictorial Issue.

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