

# PHILATELIC QUARTERLY



ENGRAVED & PRINTED BY  
BRADBURY WILKINSON & CO. LTD.  
NEW MALDEN, SURREY, ENGLAND.

This is one of 5 such  
die proofs of the new  
stamps issued Nov. 1939.  
It comes as follows:  
#1. President Roosevelt.  
#2. John D. Steward.  
#3. The Lundy Museum.  
#4. Private collector.  
#5. Private collector.

PROOF  
#2.

*John D. Steward  
Christening  
Jan.*

*1939 Definitive Design  
Imperforate Die Proof  
Mounted on Gilt-Edged Card  
(ex-Stanard, ex-Rowcroft)*

MICHAEL BALE PRESENTS  
SOME LUNDY DISCOVERIES  
(SEE PAGES 4 - 8)

## SPRING 1997

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE LUNDY COLLECTORS CLUB

SPRING 1997 LUNDY COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIC QUARTERLY

(Volume 19, Number 1 — Whole Number 73)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Pages</u>
Letters to the Editor	
<i>Account of Lundy and Steep Holm Visits (Raymond Morgan)</i> . . . . .	1 - 2
<i>m.v. Balmoral (Gwyneth White)</i> . . . . .	2 - 3
<i>"Embossed Puffin" Covers from the L.P.S. (Jim Mullett)</i> . . . . .	3 - 4
<i>Some Philatelic News and New Lundy Discoveries (Michael Bale)</i> .	4 - 8
News of Lundy (Compiled by the Editor)	
<i>Ilfracombe Museum Launches Appeal for Lundy Annex</i> . . . . .	9
<i>Lundy Experiences Severe Autumn Storm</i> . . . . .	9
Guest Commentary (By Ian M. Paton)	
<i>"Puffins" as a Thematic/Topical Subject And Personal Reflections About Lundy Philately</i> . . . . .	10 - 12
Announcements (Compiled by the Editor)	
<i>Canada Post Offers "Birds of Canada" Lithographic Prints</i> . . . . .	13
<i>Jersey Issues Definitive Stamp Depicting Atlantic Puffins</i> . . . . .	13
News of L.C.C. Members (Compiled by the Editor)	
<i>Three Items About Members' Activities</i> . . . . .	13
Questions and Answers (Feature Compiled by the Editor)	
<i>Information About the Paddle Steamer Britannia</i> . . . . .	14 - 15
<i>Newman Type PC-1 "Pitman Cachet" Revisited</i> . . . . .	15 - 16
Announcements (Compiled by the Editor)	
<i>New Edition of Felix Gade's My Life on Lundy Available</i> . . . . .	16
<i>L.C.C. U.K. Chapter Launches The New Puffin Journal</i> . . . . .	16
<i>C.I.L.A. Lundy Mail Auction Slated for April 1997</i> . . . . .	16
Lundy at Auction (Column by Roger S. Cichorz)	
<i>Puffin Stamps First Postal Bid Sale (May 9, 1996)</i> . . . . .	17 - 19
<i>Channel Island Stamp Company Monthly Postal Bid Sales</i> . . . . .	20
<i>Auctions Odds and Ends (Eastern Auctions January 15, 1997)</i> . . . . .	20

PREVIEW of Items Coming in the Summer 1997 LCCPQ:

Letters to the Editor (*Michael Bale Shares Some Additional New Finds and Gwyneth White Reflects About Lundy, Steep Holm, and Foula*)

Questions and Answers (*Previously Unrecorded ACAS "Tramticket" Joined Paper Variety, "Wright Brothers" 7-Puffin "Bar" Overprint Variety, Lundy Pre-1970 Registered Covers — Beginning of a Census, Favor Items with Type Ba and Bb Datestamps, and Information About Lundy Thimbles*)

Odds and Ends, News of Lundy, Lundy Philatelic Update, Lundy at Auction, News of L.C.C. Members, and More!

# L.C.C. PHILATELIC QUARTERLY

"THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE LUNDY COLLECTORS CLUB"

Volume 19, Number 1 (Whole No. 73)

Spring 1997

## 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:*

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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**

### Personal Account of Lundy and Steep Holm Visits

*July 4, 1996:* While on holiday in the West Country, I decided to visit Lundy, my third visit there. While waiting to board the *Oldenburg*, I met fellow L.C.C. member Reg Lo-vel. Unfortunately, he had business on the mainland, so we could chat only ten minutes. The trip over was very rough, with high waves, mainly because we were sailing against the tide. I remembered to take two sickness pills and stand on the highest point I could find on the boat, and I felt fine, but there were many "yellow-looking" people about. The trip back was the opposite, so smooth-going that I fell asleep. Before our return journey started, we had to kill an hour because of tides, so the Master took us on a trip along the East Coast of the Island, just past Gannets Rock, to give us an extra chance to see the bird and marine life and a different-angled view of the Island, which I thought was wonderful.

On the Island I also met L.C.C. member John Lavington and Norman Hunter, who are part of the Lundy staff. While there, I visited places I missed before, I climbed to the top of the Old Light and boy what a view of the whole Island and surrounding area of the North Devon Coast! No doubt about it, it's a photographer's paradise up there. I also took note of the aerogenerator, which was lying on its side. I inquired about it and was told it had broken down and was too expensive to repair—that while lowering the aerogenerator to the ground, the wind kindly did the rest and it has been in that position these last nine months. They also informed me they now installed a generator that gives out more power and is easier to maintain.

My next "port of call" was the Battery, and once again, what a surprise. After seeing a picture, it is actually better and bigger and has a lot more buildings. Why they haven't produced postcards and stamps on this landmark beats me. I hope that in time, given the finances, materials, and craftsmen, the Landmark Trust and National Trust restore the Battery to its former glory. Time will tell!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (Continued)

Because of time, I headed back to the Tavern to get a meal to start the journey home. While walking about the village, I bumped into a group of bell ringers who affectionately called themselves the Far-Sited Ringers. I introduced myself to them, and they told me they came from many churches around the area of Bristol, and they were working in shifts to peel the bells of St. Helena's from 14:00 hours till 17:00 hours. Before leaving, I purchased from the Shop a video titled *Lundy - Isle of Puffins 1954-55*, priced at £12.99. So, for all you Lundy fanatics out there (like me), I recommend it to you.

*July 6, 1996:* After many years of trying, I visited the island of Steep Holm. It's about 50 miles from Lundy but farther up the Bristol Channel, lying five miles west off Weston-super-Mare. The island is ½-mile long by ¼-mile wide and is owned by the Kenneth Allsop Memorial Trust, which works to maintain buildings, natural vegetation, and wildlife. Steep Holm's history starts with the military of the Romans and ends with the military of WWII. In between time, people (mainly fishermen, smugglers, and monks) have lived and survived there for years. Apart from military barracks, there is a small farm holding and the remains of a priory. Nearby is the island of Flat Holm, again with an interesting history, but that's another story.

Steep Holm has produced "local" stamps from 1980 to 1983, along with post-cards, books, and a video of the island, which also includes Lundy. All of these can be purchased from the Island Shop or from Mr. Stan Rendell or Mrs. Joan Rendell, "Stonedale," 11 Fairfield Close, Weston-super-Mare, Somerset, England. To get to Steep Holm, you catch a small boat from Weston-super-Mare, which is organized by the Trust, and, unlike the Lundy trip, it is very smooth indeed. Have fun!

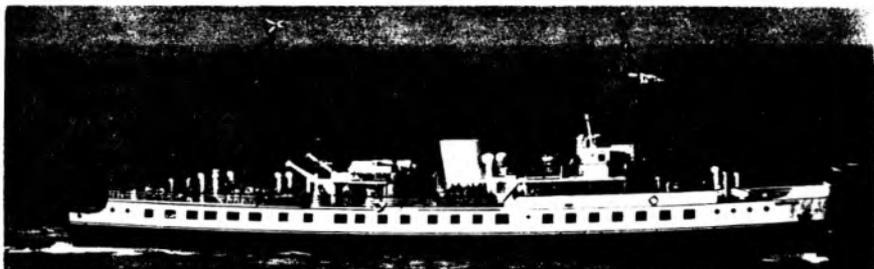
--Raymond Morgan, Lisburn, County Antrim, Northern Ireland  
(July 30, 1996)

*Raymond Morgan enclosed information about the two videocassettes he recommended. Lundy - Isle of Puffins 1954-55, available at the Lundy Store for £12.95, is made by Marisco Productions (telephone 01271-890466) and has 45 minutes of run time. Islands of the Bristol Channel, which includes presentations about Sully, Steep Holm, Flat Holm, and Lundy, is made by Springfield Productions, has 60 minutes of run time, is priced at £9.95, and is available from the Rendells at their Weston-super-Mare address given above. One note of caution: videocassettes produced for use in the U.K. are not compatible with video recorders manufactured for the U.S. market. Raymond also recommends the book titled Steep Holm - The Story of a Small Island by Stan and Joan Rendell, which is available from the Rendells for its £9.95 publisher's list price. It is published by Alan Sutton Publishing and assigned ISBN 0-7509-032306. --RSC*

m.v. Balmoral

*(Pictured atop the following page)* is our diesel motor ship *Balmoral*, the last of the P & A Campbell white funnel fleet, back in her former Campbell colors after many changes in raiment in recent years, particularly the funnel. In the company's last decade, the *Balmoral* was bought from a firm that ran ferry ships between Southampton and the Isle of Wight. Her name is that of Queen Elizabeth II's Royal Estate in Scotland, and, appropriately, being owned by the Scottish firm Waverley Excursions, it flew the blue and white flag of St. Andrew on its main mast. When the company folded in 1980, it was sold to become a ship restaurant and pub

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (Continued)



in Dundee Harbour, Scotland, but the brewer went bankrupt and she lay silting up in mud for a year or two till our Paddle Steamer Preservation Society members got together and bought it back (although not a paddle steamer) and restored her to service in 1986. Her first trip to Ilfracombe that April was on the 13th, the day my brother Gwilym lay dying and he so looked forward to being aboard again. She has been tried out in various colors of hull and funnel, but last winter it was decided to use the distinctive livery of White Funnel days, which was always a smart turnout. I made the suggestion at one of the meetings.

--Gwyneth White, Penarth, Wales, U.K. (August 12, 1996)

### "Embossed Puffin" Covers from the Lundy Philatelic Service

In reference to the "embossed puffin" article (Summer 1996 *LCCPQ*, pages 8-10), I enclose photocopies of a matching pair of official Lundy Philatelic Service covers that I found in a dealer's tray priced at a few pence. The dealer asked me which one I would like, as he had not noticed the embossed puffin on one cover or the significance of the "stamp on top of a stamp" on the other. Notice that both covers are addressed to the late Tony Langham, the Lundy Archivist. [Note: Tony Langham's address was cropped from the illustrations below to save space. --RSC]

*Cover 1. Lundy Philatelic Service cover with G.B. 3d definitive stamp embossed with a puffin: The stamp was overlooked by the G.P.O., and the cover was accepted and postmarked January 16, 1973 at Ilfracombe.*



**LUNDY PHILATELIC SERVICE**



*Cover 2. Lundy Philatelic Service cover with the underneath G.B. 3d definitive stamp embossed with a puffin: This cover was returned to Lundy by the G.P.O. as its stamp was considered "defaced" and no longer valid for postage; a second G.B. 3d definitive stamp was affixed over the embossed stamp (note the dual sets of perforations at the left and at the top from the not quite superimposed stamps), and the reposted cover was accepted and postmarked February 7, 1973 at Ilfracombe.*



**LUNDY PHILATELIC SERVICE**



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (Continued)

Cover 1 has a Lundy c.d.s. of January 16, 1973 and was accepted by the G.P.O. with the embossed-puffin G.B. stamp. Cover 2 was rejected by the G.P.O. and returned; an additional G.B. 3p stamp was subsequently affixed on top of the embossed-puffin stamp, and the cover reposted and accepted by the G.P.O. Both covers were routed through the transit port of Ilfracombe as was usual for this date.

--Jim Mullett, Watlington, Oxford, England (September 11, 1996)

*Barry N. D. Chinken, who worked for the Lundy Philatelic Service in 1975 and was responsible for puffin-embossing some of the then-current British postage stamps for use on L.P.S. mail, mentioned in the Summer 1996 LCCPQ article that he read nothing in the G.P.O. regulations that prohibited embossing British stamps and that he regarded such "defacement" to be less severe than the practice of perforating initials on stamps (i.e., creating "perfins") which was permitted! Barry inquired: I wonder if any of these letters with two layers of stamps are in any stamp collections? Leave it to Jim Mullett to have one! Thanks, Jim, for adding the post-script to this interesting "modern postal history" story! --RSC*

Some Philatelic News and New Lundy Discoveries

The latest news on the stamp front is that we have definitely acquired the publishing rights of all the "Newman Catalogues" (*Stamps of Lundy Island* and *Postal History, Postmarks & Cachets of Lundy Island*), plus *Mailboats to Lundy*, "m.e. OLDENBURG", and *Stamps of Alderney*. I think I will start work on a new Lundy Catalogue during the Winter, probably to publish it next year as the 1993 Edition is already out-of-date price-wise and also we have a lot of new items to include in it, which we think should be there. We now have quite a large quantity of the aforementioned books on hand, so we will probably be doing a special offer when we mail out the next Puffin Stamps Postal Bid Sale Catalogue.

FIGURE 1. M. C. Harman File Copy "SPECIMEN" Overprints (ex Rowcroft).

LUNDY----1929-30 and 1939 SPECIMEN OVERPRINTS.

A small amount of the 1929-30 and 1939 Regular Local Post Issues were kept on file by Mr. Harman so that additional supplies could be ordered from the printers in the same design and color. In addition 10 of each value were overprinted "SPECIMEN" in Red as permanent file copies.

Shown below is one complete set of the Specimen file copies, this was given to me by Martin Coles Harman owner of Lundy on July 8 1952.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (Continued)

I have a few new things to report. First, we recently bought a very nice large Lundy accumulation/collection by rather a roundabout route, and when I started to pull it apart, I found it was the original collection of William Rowcroft Jr. I am sure his name is well known to you—I even remember it from when I was collecting Lundy as a teenager. The collection was all virtually thrown into two huge boxes and went through Christie's in London. There was some very nice material in there, but it was quite a job sorting it out because everything had been put in little plastic pockets and then sealed down with tape, so every stamp had to be dealt with separately. Several very interesting items came out of this lot, as follows, and I would appreciate your comments on them:

FIGURE 2. "SPECIMEN"—Overprinted Definitives from Tighearna Sheet With Documentation Indicating M. C. Harman Origin (ex Rowcroft).

TELEPHONE  
AVENUE 4531

TELEGRAMS  
ROCKABYE AVENUE LONDON

PLEASE NOTE NEW ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE :-  
BROAD STREET AVENUE (GROUND FLOOR),  
LONDON, E.C.2  
TELEPHONE: LONDON WALL 7282 (3 LINES)

13th October 1953.

Mr William Rowcroft Jr.,  
121-10 Linden Boulevard,  
South Ozone Park 20,  
New York.



Dear Mr. Rowcroft:

Thank you for your letter of October 6th.

I am very sorry, but I just have no more Lundy Coronation overprints, and if you want these I would suggest that you will have to go to Jackson Helgate or Banacra for them.

I'm sorry about this and have written to Mr Jade just giving your order for everything that comes out in future, and so I hope there will be no further cause for complaint.

By way of making it up to you I would say that in the course of moving to the ground floor of this office building last week I happened upon something that might be of interest. On 1st February 1942 Lundy issued 20,000 TIGHEARNA Miniatures 5,000 of which were overprinted, to commemorate the 9th anniversary of the Lundy air mail service. I enclose a specimen of each with my compliments.

Yours sincerely,

Enc:

MARTIN COLES HARMAN

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (Continued)

- The original 1929-30 puffin definitive stamps and the 1939 later ones, all diagonally overprinted "SPECIMEN" in red, with an original write-up (*Figure 1, page 4*) stating that Martin Coles Harman had ten of each of these done to keep as permanent file copies and that these stamps were personally given to Rowcroft by Harman in 1952.
- Apparently the same "SPECIMEN" overprint applied horizontally on three of the imperforate stamps cut from a 1942 Tighearna miniature sheet, all actually stuck on a 1953 letter from Harman to Rowcroft (*Figure 2, page 5*), and, therefore, what better pedigree could be obtained! I have never seen anything written about any of these "SPECIMEN" stamps before and wonder what has happened to the other nine sets—perhaps they were never released? You may, of course, already be aware of these via Rowcroft himself in the past, but they are new to me.
- A really nice run of the original proof material for the 1942 Tighearna imperforate miniature sheet (*Figure 3 below*). These are a really striking lot, and as I already had two on hand, I now have a record of eight different types. (*All but the first sheet below are on gummed paper.*)

FIGURE 3. Six 1942 Tighearna Miniature Sheet Trials (ex Rowcroft).

 <p>Tighearna.</p> <p>The Son of the Chief</p> <p><i>Ungummed, Black Print With "The Son of the Chief."</i></p>	 <p>Tighearna.</p> <p>The Son of the Chief</p> <p><i>9-Puffin Maroon Print With "The Son of the Chief."</i></p>	 <p>Tighearna.</p> <p>(The Chief)</p> <p><i>3-Puffin Brown Print With "(The Chief)"</i></p>
 <p>Tighearna.</p> <p>(The Chief)</p> <p><i>Print in Other Than Issued Colors With "(The Chief)"</i></p>	 <p>Tighearna.</p> <p>(The Chief)</p> <p><i>Color Trial (as Left) With Slight Double Printing</i></p>	 <p>Tighearna.</p> <p>(The Chief)</p> <p><i>Brown Print With Major Double Printing</i></p>

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (Continued)



- A beautiful imperforate 1939 puffin proof with no value on a thick white card with gold edging from Bradbury Wilkinson & Co. Ltd. (*Figure 4 at left*). The interesting part is the back of the card (*below left*) (inscribed by pioneer Lundy collector John D. Stanard, which I think is self-explanatory) where is written "The Lundy Museum"! I wonder what Museum? I already had in my collection a photographic bromide of this stamp but not the original proof as here. I think all of these items warrant inclusion in the next *Newman Catalogue*.

Finally, one other item of Lundy news: The new extension to the Ilfracombe Museum to be known as the "Lundy Room" or "Lundy Extension" is now being passed for planning permission, and we are going to start fund-raising in September. My wife Bronnie and I are sponsoring a fund-raising dinner for up to 100 people to be held at a local hotel in September, and we hope they will come along and promise to give us financial support. We need to raise a certain sum of money ourselves before we can go and look for grants. We will also be appealing to all known Lundy stamp collectors in due course, and I wonder if I prepared a leaflet to distribute, perhaps it could be included with the *LCCPQ* in one of the forthcoming issues? Of course, we are also looking for Lundy artifacts as well, but it is a little early for that; we really need the money first.

--Michael H. Bale (Puffin Stamps)  
Ilfracombe, North Devon, England  
(August 21 and September 2, 1996)

For additional details about the Ilfracombe Museum's "Lundy Room" project and monetary appeal now in progress, refer to the "News of Lundy" item on page 9. Of course, we will be pleased to include a leaflet in a future *LCCPQ* to help this worthy cause.

Thanks, Michael, for bringing all of the wonderful items in the Rowcroft Collection to our attention. Many of these were discussed previously by William Rowcroft Jr. in several issues of *The Puffin*, Newsletter of the Lundy Specialists Society, but since this information appeared years ago and most of the items were not illustrated, it now bears repeating. Incidentally, William Rowcroft (he dropped the "Jr." from his

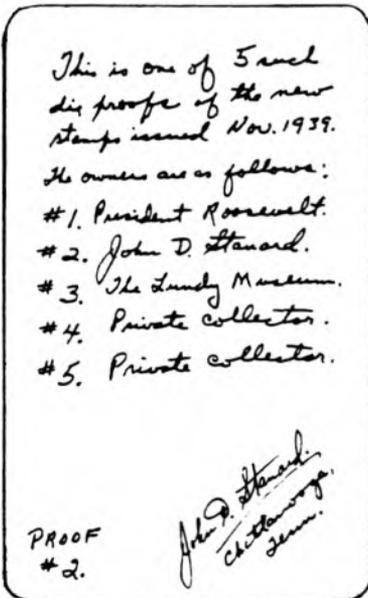


FIGURE 4. 1939 Definitive Design Imperforate Die Proof Mounted on Gilt-Edged Card (ex Stanard, ex Rowcroft)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (Continued)

name by the time he joined the L.C.C. in 1981) died recently, and his obituary appears on page 2 of the Summer 1996 LCCPQ. Bill Fowcroft was granted an Honorary L.C.C. membership in 1982 by the L.C.C. Officers in recognition of his pioneering work on British and other "locals" and for his numerous contributions to Lundy philately while he was a member of the now-defunct Lundy Specialists Society.

The red-overprinted "SPECIMEN" items (Figures 1 and 2 on pages 4 and 5) were reported by Bill Fowcroft (but not illustrated) in The Puffin, Number 5 (July 1958), page 3, under the heading "Additional Varieties" as follows: Ten of each value of the first regular issue and the 1939 regular issue were overprinted SPECIMEN in large letters diagonally in red. The values were: ½p, 1p, 2p, 3p, 4p, 6p, 9p, and 12p. Also, ten of each of the 1942 imperforate miniature sheet of four were overprinted. These stamps were originally kept as file copies by the late Mr. Harman. Additionally, a bogus rubber-stamped "SPECIMEN" overprint [illustrated in The Puffin, Number 16 (January 1967), page 16] that resembles this overprint was struck in black on some of the first-issue definitives, but this bogus version measures approximately 1½ inches (38 mm) across compared to 15/16 (24 mm) across for the "official" Harman version.

Bill Fowcroft reported the following information on six Tighearna sheet trials in The Puffin, Number 15 (May 1966), page 6, but, again, none were illustrated: The first trial printing is similar in color to the issued sheet but has "The Son of the Chief." instead of "The Chief". The colors are clearer and brighter. A trial was made of the 9 puffin in sheet position only, and a similar printing was made with "The Chief". Also, a sheet exists with the 9 puffin in issue color and the rest of the three stamps also printed over in brown color over their issue color. Next is all four values in brown, and lastly "The Son of the Chief." with all four values in black.

I found mention of only one proof card with a "Bradbury Wilkinson & Co. Ltd." inscription in The Puffin (illustrated in Number 16, page 23). It is similar to the one just reported by Michael in that it is the same shape and gilt edged but it comprises three separate imperforate proofs of the 1959 2p, 5p, and 4p stamps in issued colors. Barry H. D. Chénshen, Editor of The Puffin, Number 16, commented: The only imperforate set of the 1939 intermediate values I have come across seems to have been issued by the printers on a gilt-edged card. [It is] obviously nonphilatelic as the stamps are stuck on by their own gum at the top of the stamps.

Additional Bradbury Wilkinson & Co. Ltd. archival proofs, trials, and essays subsequently have come onto the philatelic market through two Christie's auctions (for details, refer to the Winter 1986-1987 LCCPQ, pages 10-11, and Fall 1995 LCCPQ, pages 9-12), and through a series of auctions held in Twyford, England during 1984 through 1986 (for a retrospective discussion, refer to the Fall 1994 LCCPQ, pages 14-15). However, the only gilt-edged card types with printers' inscriptions were some of the lots in the 1986 Christie's sale. Michael should be well familiar with both of the Christie's sales since he provided me with much of the information and illustrations that appeared in my "Lundy at Auction" column write-ups of these sales. As all of these Bradbury proofs are legitimate (albeit unobtainable) items, I welcome their inclusion in the next edition of Stamps of Lundy Island if that catalogue is to be a "complete" Lundy listing and of use to Lundy specialists. These same comments apply to Michael's "newly rediscovered" Tighearna sheets. --RSC

# News of Lundy

## Ilfracombe Museum Launches Appeal for Lundy Annex

Ilfracombe Museum has launched a £60,000 appeal for a new extension to house historic artifacts from Lundy Island. The popular museum, which opened in 1932, now attracts some 41,000 visitors a year and is bulging at the seams. Many interesting exhibits, notably the Lundy Collection, are hidden from public view because there is no free space to display them. But all that is set to change. The Museum has gained planning permission for an extension in the adjoining car parking area and the aim is to create a room that will be primarily devoted to Lundy.

The Ilfracombe Museum trustees launched the Heritage Appeal at a fund-raising dinner held September 20, 1996. Representatives from local businesses and organizations were invited and encouraged to arrange events to support the appeal. "We need to raise the £60,000 for the extension and to enhance existing facilities," said the Museum trustees' chairman David Webber. "Ilfracombe obviously has very strong links with Lundy. Mail boats and passenger boats have sailed between the two places since the 1900s and probably long before that; therefore, this is the ideal place to display the Lundy Collection."

An anonymous donation of £900 has already been pledged to reconstruct the original paneling from the captain's cabin of H.M.S. *Montagu*, the battleship wrecked off Lundy in 1906, in the Lundy Room. Exhibits will include a clock created from *Montagu* timber by Francis Bale, grandfather of Museum trustee deputy chairman Michael H. Bale (L.C.C. #161). There are Lundy coins, the half puffin and one puffin, created on the Island in the 1920s by its owner Martin Coles Harman. A fairly rare copy of a book, *My Life on Lundy*, by Felix Gade, who lived there from 1926-1978, makes fascinating reading.

Anyone wishing to make a donation or hold a fund-raising event should contact Museum Treasurer Sue Pullen, Ilfracombe Museum, Wilder Road, Ilfracombe, Devon, EX34 8AF, England, telephone 01271-864432, or Michael Bale, Puffin Stamps, P.O. Box 1, Ilfracombe, Devon, EX34 9BR, England, telephone 01271-862857, Fax 1271-867161. (Source: "Museum Cash Plea" by Carolyn Madeley, *Ilfracombe News*, September 26, 1996)

*A flyer/donation form is included in this LCCPQ for anyone who wants to make a contribution to the Ilfracombe Museum's Lundy Room Appeal. --RSC*

## Lundy Experiences Severe Autumn Storm

Gwyneth White filed this report on how the storm of Monday, October 28, 1996 affected Lundy: I got through to the Island by phone and was able to speak to Jilly Lo-vel herself, and very nice it was to be able to talk to her after a lapse of over a year. The wind conditions were the worst she ever recalls, including the years when she lived on Lundy with her parents (*John and Joan Dyke*), 1970 through 1975 when John brought out the splendid *Illustrated Lundy News and Landmark Journal*. The flying spume drove horizontally at the windows, which were soon so coated one could see nothing through them. Only the strong could stand upright outside, some walls in fields came down, and slates were lost from roofs. The road to the jetty has been breached again, and as they have not got the mechanical digger at the moment—maybe it was only hired last year—there is little that can be done about filling it in. Jilly confirmed the news about Norman Hunter's stroke and seems to think it unlikely he will be fit to resume duties with the Lundy stamp business.

Source: Gwyneth White, personal correspondence dated November 1, 1996.

# Guest Commentary By Ian M. Paton

## "Puffins" as a Thematic/Topical Subject

### And Personal Reflections About Lundy Philately

*Editor's Preface:* I questioned Ian M. Paton about developing a thematic (topical) exhibit of Puffins and received the following reply, which I thought was of sufficient benefit to pass on to LCCPQ readers, some of whom collect "puffins on stamps" as a thematic/topical interest and may consider putting together a competitive exhibit on puffins. Ian Paton is a renowned thematic exhibitor and author who presently is the Honorary Membership Secretary of the British Thematic Association (B.T.A.) and a regular contributor to *Themescene*, the monthly journal of the B.T.A. Ian also admits to being a dormant Lundy collector and provides some additional words of interest about Lundy philately. Incidentally, the printing and overprinting quantities of Lundy stamps that Ian obtained directly from Martin Coles Harman (referred to in his Commentary) will appear as a feature article in a future issue of the LCCPQ. —RSC

Let me pass on a point of concern if you are thinking about a "Puffin" exhibit and do not know much about the rules. If you are considering forming an exhibit to be shown at any exhibition run under the Federation Internationale de Philatelie (F.I.P., the governing organization for international philatelic exhibitions) Regulations, I believe you need to be very careful about including Lundy Island stamps (or any other "locals"). As you know, these were neither issued nor recognized by the British Post Office, and I think this renders them inadmissible under F.I.P. rules in a thematic/topical exhibit. I would suggest you seek advice from a qualified International Thematic Judge in the U.S.A. (e.g., Mary Ann Owens) about these stamps if you want to include them.

If you want to read the best book available on Thematic Collecting and Exhibiting (it contains the F.I.P. Thematic Regulations), then buy *Handbook of Thematic Philately* by W. E. J. van den Bold, a Dutch international judge and Gold Medal winner. The English edition was published in 1994 by the B.T.A. who had it translated from the original Dutch, and it is available in the U.S.A. (\$44 postpaid) from Phil Bansner, Box 2529, 2320 Highland Street, West Lawn, Pennsylvania 19609. I have been exhibiting in the National/International Thematic Class since the 1980s, and it is the best book I have ever read on the subject. [*Editor's note: Agreed—a review of Handbook of Thematic Philately will appear in a future LCCPQ. This book also can be ordered from James Bendon Ltd., P.O. Box 6484, 3307 Limassol, Cyprus, for £22.50/\$45, postpaid; credit card orders welcome.*] I have no idea about the regulations governing National Philatelic Exhibitions in the U.S.A., but I know that at the International level (e.g., Pacific 97 in San Francisco, California), F.I.P. Regulations apply.

How much do you know about serious Thematic Philately? Do you realize the importance in selecting a Title for the Exhibit? The Plan page then has to set out the details of the exhibit in a logical manner and be consistent with the Title. The pages of the exhibit must link back to the plan, and the material on each page must relate directly to that part of the subject which is being illustrated. Pim van den Bold's book (mentioned above) is strong on all this and gives a far better explanation than I can. It is recognized that the Thematic Class has the most difficult set of F.I.P. Regulations of all the Classes, and these need to be understood in order to comply with them.

A thought about puffins and linking them to an exhibition theme possibly through wildlife preservation: We are keen on it in this country and

GUEST COMMENTARY (Continued)

there is a Royal Society for the Preservation of Birds, which has special "bird areas" around the country. This is outside my area of knowledge, but it is possible that Lundy and/or puffins come into this. You may already know about this, and I am sure there are similar organizations in the U.S.A. We have a special affection for the puffin, which I think has become an endangered species here in Britain.

By coincidence, I too was a collector of Lundy Island and the associated Atlantic Coast Airlines up to 1953. I collected the first "Puffin" issue and its overprints in the traditional manner as though it was a "real country" and have an 18-page display that can only be exhibited if there is a "Cinderella Class"! I included postal history, and it opens with a photograph postcard that has a 1904 Lundy Island postmark on a G.B. stamp. I have a couple more pre-1928 photocards when the sub-Post Office closed. From the messages on the photocards, I would think that two were sent by holiday makers (one is clearly staying on the Island for two weeks) and the third by a permanent resident. After the Puffin stamps came into use on November 1, 1929, I have a few inward and outward covers from 1930 to 1950 showing various postmarks and with the Puffin stamps on front and back. I mention this because you might be able to use a pre-1932 outward mail cover in a thematic exhibit. I don't know how you would work it in, but it would need a G.B. stamp on the front (Instow postmark probably) and alongside it a Lundy Island Puffin stamp tied by a Puffin postmark. As you know, in 1932 the British Post Office (B.P.O.) issued a regulation requiring unrecognized local stamps to be on the back of covers. Of course, inward covers have Puffins on the front, but this is not quite the same thing.

I am no longer an active Lundy Island collector and gave up in 1955 because Lundy seemed to have joined about 20 other British Islands (Canna, Staffa, Soay, etc.) in issuing printed labels for sale to collectors (see *Catalogue of British Locals* by Gerald Rosen published about 1977). I keep my 18 pages (15 pages of Lundy and three pages of Atlantic Coast Air Service) because I have a special interest in the first Puffin issue and the background to it. In the late 1940s and early 1950s there were occasional references in the philatelic press here to the quantities made of the various overprints. I had obtained the numbers supposed to have been printed of the various values, and I discovered that for at least one value apparently more had been overprinted than had been declared as printed! In 1953 I had some correspondence with Mr. Martin Coles Harman who owned Lundy and he was more than helpful in supplying printing/overprinting quantity details.

Mr. Harman bought Lundy from Mr. Christie in 1925 and with the Island came the motor drifter *Lerina* and its mail-carrying contract from the B.P.O. He told me that the mail-carrying contract ended on January 1, 1928 when the sub-Post Office was closed and he was left carrying the mail for free. On November 1, 1929, he issued the first two Puffin stamps and started charging for carrying the mail; it seemed to me that here was a genuine local post providing a service that the B.P.O. had withdrawn because it was uneconomical. The Island's permanent resident population fluctuated between 20 and 70 prior to 1939, and there were holiday makers who stayed for a week or two, plus tourists who just came for the day. Obviously, there was an ever-increasing interest by stamp collectors that must have been boosted by the first overprints in 1939. If you have a copy of *The Postal History of Lundy* by F. W. Gade, you will know about the mainland Lundy Island Philatelic Bureau from 1941-1944. Mr. Harman went bankrupt

GUEST COMMENTARY (Continued)

in 1932 and was not discharged until 1940. In 1931 he was fined £5 for issuing his own Puffin coins!

I did not even know that Lundy stamps existed until about 1944 when I was a schoolboy and bought my first Puffin stamps in a packet at a stationer shop in Barnstaple, North Devon. My 18 pages record all the quantity information that Mr. Harman provided, and I have never bothered to check this with modern catalogues. If there is any difference, my information "came from the horse's mouth" and so must be right. You are probably better informed, but, as far as I know, the first Lundy Catalogue was privately published by Mr. M. Windeatt in 1957; though I now have a copy (#190 or 500), I did not know it existed until the 1970s!

—Ian M. Paton

## **Announcements**

### Canada Post Offers "Birds of Canada" Lithographic Prints

Canada Post is currently offering four striking multi-color lithographic prints based on the original paintings created by Quebec painter Pierre Leduc that were used for the 1995 "Birds of Canada" stamp issue. (See Fall 1996 *LCCPQ*, pages 4 and 5, for details about these stamps.) The prints include the Atlantic puffin, pileated woodpecker, ruby-throated hummingbird, and American kestrel, and are available from Canada Post only by mail order. A set of four 10-inch by 8-inch (25.4-cm by 20.3-cm) prints (item **96858**) costs Can\$14.99 (about US\$11.07/GB£6.82). Each of the prints in a larger 24-inch by 20-inch (61.0-cm by 50.8-cm) format costs Can\$24.99 (about US\$18.45/GB£11.20): item **96859** (puffin), item **96860** (woodpecker), item **96861** (hummingbird), and item **96862** (kestrel).

**Terms:** Payment in Canadian funds, or equivalent U.S. dollars or pounds sterling, by money order, bank draft, or cheque payable to Canada Post Corporation (cheques over Can\$250 must be certified). VISA and MasterCard payments are accepted (include card number, expiry date, and signature). Allow two weeks for processing. Order from: National Philatelic Centre, Canada Post Corporation, Antigonish, Nova Scotia, B2G 2RA, Canada.  
 [Note: You can request mail-order forms for or additional details about these lithographs by telephone from the U.S. or Canada at 1-800-565-4362, or from other countries at 902-863-6550 (or Fax 902-863-6796); however, telephone orders are not being accepted for these items.]

### Jersey Issues Definitive Stamp Depicting Atlantic Puffins

The Jersey Postal Administration introduced its fifth series of definitive stamps on February 12, 1997 with a set of eight stamps, ranging in values from 1p to £2. The theme chosen for this series is "Sea Birds and Waders" with all the birds pictured found around the coastline of Jersey. The 24p stamp in this set depicts three Atlantic puffins (*Fratercula arctica*).

The stamps measure 34.0 mm by 26.0 mm and are printed in sheets of 20 by The House of Questa Ltd., London. The designs for these stamps were commissioned by the Jersey Post Office from Jersey wildlife artist Nick Parlett. Additional stamps of this series are scheduled to be released in 1998 and 1999. In addition to mint and C.T.O. stamps, official first day cover envelopes, presentation packs, sheetlets, sheetlet folders, limited edition prints, stamp postcards, and maxi-cards are available from the Jersey Philatelic Bureau Postal Headquarters, Jersey, JE1 1AB, U.K.  
*(Jersey information continues at the top of the following page.)*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS (Continued)



Shown left are the eight Jersey stamps issued February 12, 1997. Shown below left is the detail of the 24p "Puffin" stamp design.

The following text is from the November 12, 1996 issue of the *Jersey Stamp Bulletin* (page 4):

PUFFIN *Fratercula arctica*

Of all the seabirds which grace the Island's coastline during the summertime, the Puffin leads the way in popularity. The puffin is a deceptively small seabird although its over-large,

colorful bill gives it a somewhat ungainly appearance, a feature which no doubt adds to its charm. The red, blue, and yellow bill only occurs during the bird's breeding season (May and June) and quickly reverts to a dull brown when courtship and breeding have been completed. Their traditional nesting territories in Jersey are along the Island's rugged north coast.



## News of L.C.C. Members

- Richard E. Drews (#199) received a Vermeil Award for his exhibit of "Lundy Island Local Issues" and a Gold Award for his exhibit of "United States Issues of 1861-1863" at MIDAPHIL 96, held October 18-20 in Kansas City, Missouri. Congratulations, Rich, for the fine showings!
- Christer Brunström (#116) is the author of a feature article titled "A New Swedish Local Post Era" in the December 1996 issue of *Luren*, the monthly publication of the Scandinavian Philatelic Library of Southern California. Christer continues to publish *Atalaya*, a semiannual journal of general cinderella philately, and is a regular columnist on Scandinavian philately for *Stamp Collector*, a U.S.-based weekly periodical.
- Ann Westcott (#399) notified us that Westwell Publishing will postpone publication of *Chanter's "Lundy"* until June 1997 when "it will happily coincide with the 100th Anniversary of the Church of St. Helena." Ann indicated the reasons for the delay to the originally announced February 1997 publication date are to enable Westwell to add more illustrations and to avoid upstaging the Lundy Field Society whose own 50th Anniversary publication is coming out for its March 1997 Annual General Meeting. Details on *Chanter's "Lundy"* (£10 publication price + £2 postage/packing) and an order form appear on page 3 of the Summer 1996 *LCCPQ*.

## ?...Questions and Answers...!

### Information About the Paddle Steamer *Britannia*

The Channel Island Stamp Company offered a Tuck black-and-white photograph postcard of the *Britannia* as a Lundy lot in its September 30, 1996 postal bid sale and mentioned in the lot description that this steamer serviced Lundy from Bristol. Since the *Eritannia* is not mentioned in Stanley Newman's *Mailboats to Lundy*, what can you tell us about this ship?

Stanley Newman explained in his Introduction (page 4) why the *Britannia* and other vessels of this sort were excluded from *Mailboats to Lundy*:

No doubt some readers will question why I have not included Chapters on the various Paddle Ships and Pleasure Steamers which regularly visited Lundy every Summer until recently. The answer is twofold - firstly it is extremely doubtful whether any of them actually handled any mail (other than during times of emergency), and secondly the subject of the West Country Steamers has been more than adequately covered in previous publications and magazine articles. The prime purpose of these lovely vessels was to convey the excursionists on day cruises, and although many tourists staying on Lundy arrived and left by the Steamers, the mail was left in the hands of the regular supply boats serving Lundy.

Gwyneth White, an expert on paddle steamers and other vessels that toured the Bristol Channel, provided us with this information about the *Britannia*:

You have come to the right place with regard to your query about the paddle steamer *Britannia* as she was my favorite of all the White Funnel Fleet of P & A Campbells. It broke my heart when in 1956 the company was so ill-advised as to sell her for scrap at the age of 60 when she still had a set of engines that could make



This "Real Photograph" postcard from the 1950s pictures the *Britannia* in her later years, but is mistakenly titled "DISEMBARKING FROM THE P.S. 'CARDIFF QUEEN', LUNDY." The card's producer must have become aware of this error because the postcard with this same scene that was reissued during the 1970s has the amended title "DISEMBARKING AT THE LANDING BEACH LUNDY." The arrow indicates Wayland Smith as a youth.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS (Continued)

rings around their 1946-built *Bristol Queen*, which had superseded her as flagship and proved only to last 20 years! The "*Brit*" (as she was known to countless admirers) should have been preserved in Bristol as a Museum, but after the war scrap metal was fetching good money, Campbells was short of it, and so she went.

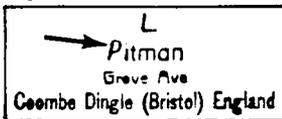
My brother Gwilym and I were on the dockside at Penarth Dock, where she had been laid up at the end of the 1956 season, one dark December morning at the end of the year, to see her towed away to nearby Newport where the ship breakers Cashmores dismembered her. But the day before, I had begged a souvenir from the Mate, a life belt which I have treasured for 40 years until last June when I allowed it to be carried aboard *Waverley* when they marked the centenary of *Britannia's* maiden voyage on June 16, 1886 by a trip on this June 16, starting from Bristol, picking up hire, and bound for Ilfracombe. My very good friend Hilda Jones and I were aboard—a glorious day—because her mother-in-law, Jenny Jones, had been the *Brit's* stewardess and always wore the ship's brooch badge. When Jenny died, Hilda gave it to me, and it is always in my lapel when I am aboard and at most other times as well.

The *Brit* did all the longest and best trips because of her turn of speed and because she got to Lundy quicker than the others, gave us longer ashore, another reason for preferring her above all others! The enclosed postcard (*Page 14*) shows the *Britannia* in her later years in the 1950s. The photographer made a "bloomer" in calling it *Cardiff Queen*! The boy in the water to his waist (*right foreground directly in front of the landing jetty and marked by the arrow*) is young Wayland Smith, Stanley Smith's younger son. It is Wayland's wife who acts as Secretary to Michael Bale! The Smiths were residents on Lundy when this shot was taken in the mid-1950s.

Newman Type PC-1 "Pitman Cachet" Revisited

In a previous "Questions and Answers" feature (Summer 1996 *LCCPQ*, page 8), I mentioned that I had never seen the entire "Pitman cachet" (Newman type PC-1) struck on a cover (only on a stiffener insert), and asked if it actually exists on cover. Three readers consequently sent me photocopies of strikes of this cachet on ACAS "tramticket" covers: July 29, 1935 outward via Braunton (James Thomas), August 7, 1935 outward via Braunton (Tom Baker), and January 28, 1936 inward via Bristol (Michael Bale).

Pitman must have had more than one of the type PC-1 cachet handstamps on hand in 1935 because an excised ("globeless") cachet appeared on cover by August 19, 1935. Tom Baker's August 7, 1935 outward cover has a type PC-1 cachet on the back and a "globeless" cachet on the front! However, the "globeless" cachet on the front of this cover (*inset left*) appears to be another variant as it differs from the excised ("cut-down") version of type PC-1 cachet previously shown (Summer 1996 *LCCPQ*, page 8). It has no globe remnant to the left of the "L. Pitman" and the "P" in its "Pitman" is in a noticeably different typeface (font) than that on both cachets discussed previously.



In a matter not related to the type PC-1 cachet: Michael Bale reported he has several Pitman-prepared Lundy covers in his collection that have strikes of the straight-line "L. Pitman" cachet (mentioned and pictured

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS (Continued)

in the Summer 1996 *LCCPQ*, page 8, but not listed in Stanley Newman's 1996 edition of *Postal History, Postmarks & Cachets of Lundy Island*). —RSC

## Announcements

New Edition of Felix Gade's *My Life on Lundy* Available

Myrtle Ternstrom announced that the highly sought-after book, *My Life on Lundy* by F. W. Gade, will be available in early 1997 as a new edition limited to 500 copies. Price is £19.95 (plus postage/packing if mailed). The new edition has a preface, list of corrections, and some additional photographs in addition to the text, illustrations, and dust jacket of the original book published in 1978. If you want to place an order or be sent further information, write Myrtle Ternstrom, Whistling Down, Sandy Lane Road, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL53 9DE, England. Be sure to include a stamped, addressed envelope with inquiries requiring replies.

L.C.C. United Kingdom Chapter Launches *The New Puffin Journal*

Stanley Newman has undertaken responsibility as Editor of *The New Puffin Journal*. The L.C.C. United Kingdom Chapter decided at its November 30, 1966 meeting in London to resurrect *The Puffin Journal*, which was published in A4 size (about 8½ inches by 11½ inches) from 1957 until 1986. *The New Puffin Journal* will be formatted in a new smaller A5 size (about 6 inches by 9½ inches) and serve as the vehicle for notifying L.C.C. members in the U.K. of future U.K. meetings and other philatelic events in addition to publishing Lundy-related articles, both philatelic and nonphilatelic. Stanley intends for *The New Puffin Journal* to appear regularly three times a year, with each issue preceding the L.C.C. U.K. meetings he has in mind (two in London and one in North Devon). James Thomas (L.C.C. #389), who has a modern computer with desk-top publishing capabilities, will serve as Assistant Editor.

The inaugural issue of *The New Puffin Journal* is scheduled for release in Spring 1997 and contains the following: a comprehensive report of the November 30, 1996 L.C.C. U.K. Chapter meeting, programs for the 1997 meetings, several articles of Lundy interest (philatelic and otherwise), a "Lundy Quiz" (intended to become a regular feature), information on visiting Lundy during 1997, "Memories of the Past" (a feature recalling events on Lundy 25, 50, and 100 years ago), and much more!

Stanley will make *The New Puffin Journal* available to L.C.C. members in the U.S., Canada, and elsewhere outside of Europe by subscription basis. For details, refer to the flyer included with this issue of the *LCCPQ*. Stanley and James welcome from all quarters philatelic and nonphilatelic articles and other bits of Lundy information suitable for publication in *The New Puffin Journal*, and *LCCPQ* readers are urged to contribute to support this worthwhile endeavor. More information about *The New Puffin Journal* can be obtained from or items for publication can be sent to: Stanley Newman, 93 Montpelier Road, Brighton, Sussex, BN1 3BE, England.

C.I.L.A. Lundy Mail Auction Slated for April 1997

L.C.C. member Jean Love (#311), a friend of Stanley Newman, plans to continue the popular Channel Island & Lundy Auctions (C.I.L.A.) Lundy mail sales. The first of these is scheduled for late April 1997. For a copy of the next C.I.L.A. Lundy auction catalogue, write to Iron Horse Express, P.O. Box 3474, Boulder, Colorado 80307, U.S.A.

# Lundy at Auction

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

## Puffin Stamps First Postal Bid Sale (May 9, 1996)

The first Lundy auction conducted by Michael H. Bale (L.C.C. member #161) under the name "Puffin Stamps" (P.O. Box 1, Ilfracombe, Devon, EX34 9BR, England; telephone 01271-862857, Fax 01271-867161), which closed May 9, 1996, offered 861 lots having a total estimate of £15,178.75. Overall, this auction fared comparably to the previous Bale-conducted "Lundy Philatelics" sale (see my Spring 1996 column, pages 13-19, for details) as 346 (40.2 percent) of its 861 lots sold. The 346 lots that sold had a cumulative estimate of £5877.75 and realized £6389.90, for a ratio of realizations to estimates of 108.7 percent. A summary of this auction is given in Table 1 immediately below. (For monetary conversion purposes, £1.00 = \$1.55 at the date of this auction's close.)

TABLE 1. Summary of Puffin Stamps First Lundy Auction (May 9, 1996).

Category	Lots Offered		Lots Sold				
	No.	Estimates	No.	%	Estimates	Realiz'ns	%R:E*
stamps	269	£ 7171.75	142	52.8	£ 3035.25	£ 3263.40	107.5
proofs	58	2546.00	22	37.9	841.50	848.50	100.8
postal history	185	2202.50	82	44.3	1079.00	1250.25	115.9
first day covers	45	410.00	13	28.9	133.00	170.00	127.8
present'n packs	31	212.50	19	61.3	141.50	150.75	106.5
bogus	104	887.50	21	20.2	165.00	196.50	119.1
postcards	27	280.50	8	29.6	167.50	180.25	107.6
ephemera	32	234.00	16	50.0	108.50	122.50	112.9
L.C.C. souvenirs	79	751.50	9	8.2	61.50	64.50	104.9
literature	10	217.00	2	20.0	13.00	13.50	103.8
other (non-Lundy)	21	265.50	12	57.1	132.00	129.75	98.3
Total (all lots)	861	£15178.75	346	40.2	£ 5877.75	£ 6389.90	108.7

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

As was the case of the previous Lundy Philatelics auction, the majority of the "unofficial" items in the L.C.C. souvenir and bogus categories also failed to sell this time. On the other hand, the "conventional" material (that is, items in the categories of stamps, proofs, postal history, first day covers, presentation packs, postcards, ephemera, literature, and non-Lundy items) sold at about what is "average" (the mean) for a Bale-conducted Lundy auction (using the aggregate results from the preceding ten Negev sales and one Lundy Philatelics sale as a benchmark). If the bogus and L.C.C. souvenir lots are subtracted from the auction summary above, then 316 of 678 lots (46.6 percent), which represented 41.7 percent of the total auction estimate, sold at 8.4 percent above their cumulative estimate. For comparison purposes, 47.4 percent of all lots sold in the preceding ten Negev sales and one Lundy Philatelics sale, but they represented only 42.6 percent of the total auction estimates. (These statistics were compiled from Table 3 in my Winter 1995-1996 column, page 9, and Table 1 in my Spring 1996 column, page 14.)

Sales of the stamp lots improved substantially from the previous Bale-conducted (Lundy Philatelics) auction in which the 55.8 percent of the stamp lots that sold represented only 27.7 percent of the category's

LUNDY AT AUCTION (Continued)

cumulative estimate. In the first Puffin Stamps sale, the 52.8 percent of the stamp lots that sold represented 42.3 percent of the category's cumulative estimate. The rest of this paragraph is a breakdown of the stamp lots by estimate ranges for purposes of determining how the more expensive material fared. Only four of the 14 stamp lots with estimates of £100 or greater sold (two above and two below estimates), including the most expensive item in this auction (mint printer's imprint blocks of six of the 1953 Coronation ½p and 1p "wrong colors" overprints, which fetched £430 against an estimate of £450). Half (11 of 22) of the stamp lots with estimates in the range of £50 to £99 sold (five above, four at, and only two below estimates). Of the 42 stamp lots with estimates in the range of £25 to £49, 18 sold (12 above, four at, and only two below estimates). Of the 70 stamp lots estimated in the £10 to £24 range, 32 sold (22 above, four at, and six below estimates). Despite only 45.5 percent (61 of 134) of the stamp lots in the £10 to £100 range selling, several of these lots sold for substantially more than their estimates, indicating there was good competition among bidders for some of the more elusive material.

Some representative better stamp lots, primarily in terms of the ratio of realizations to estimates rather than rarity (with £ estimate/£ realization given in parentheses following brief lot descriptions), included: mint ACAS "tramticket" 3d (#01981 from roll 4) (£20/£30), mint sheet of 12 ACAS "large map" 1d (£100/£120), complete used set of ACAS "large map" stamps with 1936 postmarks (£55/£90), mint LH block of four 1940 "Red Cross" 3p (£77/£80), mint LH set of eight 1942 "V + plane" overprints (£50/£55), mint LH 1943 "Wright Brothers biplane" rare 5p "inverted biplane" variety (£65/£66), mint sheets of the complete 1953 Coronation set (£60/£100!), mint sheets of the complete 1955 Millenary surface set (£30/£50), complete mint set of six 1957 definitives in vertical gutter pairs (£45/£55), eight mint different types of 1961 Europa souvenir sheets on cream paper (£45/£71), mint type "k" 1961 Europa souvenir sheet on cream paper (£7/£15), mint 1969 "APPEAL" surcharge with a strong shift of overprint to the left that leaves both of the stamp's 9p value tablets completely exposed (£190/£195), mint corner-margined examples of the 1979 Lundy Philatelic Service unofficial 9p and 11p essays along with an explanatory L.P.S. docket dated 1979 (£32.50/£35), and 1988 £1.26 (first) booklet (£21/£24).

Proofs did not fare as well as stamps as only 37.9 percent of the proof lots sold at only 0.8 percent above their cumulative estimate of £561. There were four lots with estimates exceeding £100 offered. Only one of these lots sold, but this was the most expensive proof item in the sale—a mint imperforate sheetlet proof of the 1957 6p puffin definitive in issue color, which realized £275 against an optimistic £300 estimate. Only eight of the 27 proof lots estimated in the £25 to £100 range sold (two above, one at, and five below estimates).

Better performers in the proof category (with £ estimate/£ realization given in parentheses following brief lot descriptions) included: 1951 "flying birds" 3p definitive imperforate black proof on thick white paper (£25/£27), mint set of seven 1954 Jubilee surface issue as imperforate single-color proofs (£35/£55), mint set of ten 1955 Millenary airmail issue as imperforate color trials (£25/£45), mint LH 1967 R.S.P.C.A. imperforate se-tenant sheetlet (£45/£63 despite "light creasing and one mark on front"), and two lots of mint 1989 3p provisional stamps with a trial "1929-1989" overprint, one in black and the other in red (each £15/£18).

LUNDY AT AUCTION (Continued)

The cover/postal history items in this auction appeared to me better than usual for a Bale-conducted sale, and the category's performance showed bidders' keen interest in many of these lots. Although only 44.3 percent of the cover lots sold, they represented 49.0 percent of the category's total estimate (which indicated more of the expensive items sold) and realized a whopping 15.9 percent above their cumulative estimate. This performance was not as good as the postal history figures for Bale's previous (Lundy Philatelics) auction in which 49.4 percent (77 of 156 lots representing 61.9 percent of the category's total estimate) sold for 28.9 percent above cumulative estimate. However, this time five more cover lots sold and the category realized £284 pounds more than in the previous sale (£1250.25 versus £966.25), indicating that, on the whole, more expensive covers were offered and sold.

The most expensive cover lot was the only G.P.O. "LUNDY ISLAND" *thimble* item offered, a Twiss multi-view postcard used September 15, 1910 with a September 16 Instow transit marking, which sold for £93 against its £85 estimate. There were nine cover lots that stood out in terms of their realizations over estimates, fetching £206 against a cumulative estimate of £138, or a ratio of realizations to estimates of 149.3 percent. These items (with f estimate/f realization given in parentheses after brief lot descriptions) were: a 1940 inward cover from the U.S. franked with a "Red Cross" "Puffin" variety ½p (£50/£58), 1958 "Lundy Souvenir Cover" with the four lower-value 1957 definitives tied (£12/£20), June 3, 1970 outward cover with late-use type "S" postmark (£10/£18), June 4, 1972 outward cover with a 1972 provisional and L.F.S. postmark (£20/£36), 1972 inward cover to the L.P.S. with a puffin-embossed stamp at the top left (£10/£15), 1973 outward cover with nine different cachets (£10/£15), standard (*Newman* #SPC-10) "15.VI.74 - LUNDY RACE"- and "Rowed by salmon boat"-cacheted cover (£8/£15), Ken Gibson-prepared 1981 helicopter-flown cacheted cover from Hartland Point to Lundy to Berkshire (£13/£20), and a set of three April 15, 1991 postcards and two covers for the last day use of the 21st Anniversary franking meter die and Lundy postmark (£5/£9).

Among the first day covers, the best performers were two G.P.O.-serviced 1954 Jubilee airmail FDCs that realized £20 each against £13 estimates and an uncacheted outward FDC for the 1974 definitives set that realized £12 against an estimate of £5. The most expensive FDC was a Phillips-prepared inward for the July 20, 1937 LACAL violet ½d "air view" that sold for £27 against its £22 estimate. Although most of the postcard lots failed to sell, the most expensive postcard lot did. It consisted of 36 postcards described as "a superb collection of 15 old (some very early and dating to 1920) paddle steamers that have (hopefully) served Lundy, 12 middle-period cards (most 1960s real photograph types), and nine modern cards" and realized £140 against an estimate of £130.

The presentation pack lots that sold generally went for about estimate, but there was one exception among the "official" Island issues—a 1979 50th Anniversary issue pack in brown and yellow with printed text that realized £9 against an estimate of £5.50—and one exception among the "unofficial" souvenir items—an Atlantic Coast Studios red/black folder illustrated by John Dyke with a LACAL 1939 1d "lighthouse" stamp that realized £7 against an estimate of £4. The most expensive ephemera lot to sell was a pair of the 1929 Lundy coins ("in fairly good condition, nice and fresh") that fetched its £20 estimate, and the best-performing ephemera lot was an unused Lundy Radiogram form and blue envelope that realized £9 against an estimate of £5.

LUNDY AT AUCTION (Continued)

With the exception of a lot comprised of Felix Gade's *My Life on Lundy* (no. 425 of 500 numbered copies), which failed to attract a bid against its estimate of £120, the literature section was not particularly strong, and bidders' interest reflected this as only two of the ten lots sold. Lots in the "L.C.C. souvenirs" category failed to generate much excitement as well, as only 9 of 79 lots (11.4 percent), representing only 8.2 percent of this category's cumulative estimate, sold. Only four of the 51 lots (7.8 percent) of U.K.-produced items sold, realizing £41 against a cumulative estimate of £40; however, five of the 28 lots (17.9 percent) of the U.S.-produced items sold.

Material in the "bogus and fantasy" category generally did not fare well as only 20.2 percent of the lots sold. However, some items managed to spark bidders' interest since the lots that sold realized 19.1 percent above estimate. Two items particularly stand out—a forged example of the rare Bureau cancellation tying a bogus 2p "puffin" stamp to piece that sold for £17 against an estimate of £10 and a 1955 Millenary 6p with a silver "HONORING ROTARY INTERNATIONAL" and Rotary emblem overprint that fetched £26 against an estimate of £20. The most expensive lot that sold in the "non-Lundy" category was a collection of Alderney Commodore Shipping Company labels (76 primarily mint stamps and seven souvenir sheets from 1962-1966) that realized £31 against an estimate of £30 and retail value of approximately £69.

Channel Island Stamp Company Monthly Postal Bid Sales

The Channel Island Stamp Company (C.I.S.C., 4 Havilland Street, St. Peter Port, Guernsey, Channel Islands, U.K.; telephone 0481-725560) postal bid sale no. 145, which closed December 31, 1996, offered six Lundy lots at a cumulative estimate of £85.50. These items ranged from a G.P.O.-serviced 1934 cover to Holland franked with a set of five Lundy first definitives (estimated at £17.50) to mint grossly misperforated, margined blocks of four of five stamps from the 1982 definitives (estimated at £30, not bad when you consider this comes out to only £1.50 per stamp).

The Lundy *potpourri* lot offered in the C.I.S.C. sale no. 143 that closed October 31, 1996, which had a Lundy Philatelic Service "Felix Gade" souvenir sheetlet in a presentation folder among its contents, realized £49.50 against a grossly underestimated estimate of £12.50. The buyer of this lot still got a bargain when you consider the *Newman* valuation of £90 just for the Gade sheetlet [*Newman* #188E(a)]. Once again, I proved to be prophetic as I predicted this lot would sell for substantially more than its modest estimate (see my Winter 1996-1997 column, page 16)—it has been my observation that Lundy collectors have sharp eyes and are not likely to let something like this go unnoticed!

Auction Odds and Ends

Eastern Auctions Ltd. (Gary J. Lyon, P.O. Box 250, Bathurst, New Brunswick, Canada, E2A-3Z2; telephone 506-548-8986, Fax 506-546-6627) offered one Lundy lot among the 2896 lots in its mail auction which closed January 15, 1997. This lot consisted of five FDCs for the 1961 Europa, 1964 Snakes-peare, 1965 Churchill, 1969 40th Anniversary, and 1978 Coronation Silver Anniversary issues and was estimated at Can\$35 (approximately US\$25.83 or GB £15.68)—quite steep since these FDCs are common and could be purchased for a sizable discount from the *Newman* valuation of £19.

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