



# COLLECTORS NEWS

**Editor - James Thomas**

**Issue 3 - Summer 2022**

In March the Club held its Spring 2022 meeting as part of a 5-day stay on Lundy where 22 members enjoyed a variety of activities. A full report with colour photos will appear in the Autumn 2022 issue of *The New Puffin Journal*.

The most important announcement made at the meeting was the resignation of Mike Thompson as the Club's Auctioneer. Mike has been unwell for the last few years and is now finding the work involved as Auctioneer too demanding. Mike has been a very professional Auctioneer throughout and I would like to thank him for 25 years of diligent service.

Taking over from Mike will be Jon Aitchison and in line with the members' current requirements, there will be a few changes. Starting from now there will be only one auction per year and a minimum lot reserve of £10.00. The Club will still only charge a seller's fee of 10%. The auction catalogue will be posted each year with the Summer Newsletter starting with the 2023 edition, so, if you have any material for sale will you please send it to Jon at Old Tithe Hall, Start Hill, Nr. Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire, CM22 7TF, UK. All material should be with Jon no later than 31<sup>st</sup> March each year.



*James*

*New Lundy cancel from 14<sup>th</sup> July*

ONE

# *The Future of the Club!*

By James Thomas

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Over the five days of the Club's Spring 2022 meeting many discussions were had about the future of the Club and what direction it should go in.

The problems that the Club is experiencing are:-

- 1) A reducing membership list with the average age of Club members increasing each year
- 2) A lack of interest in carrying-out Club duties
- 3) Small attendances at Club meetings
- 4) Few members are prepared to display material at meetings
- 5) A lack of interest in the four Club competitions
- 6) Very little material being offered for sale in the Club's auctions.

However, despite all of this, no-one wants the Club to fold and everyone wants an auction and a regular magazine.

The Club's ambitious business model was laid out in 1996 and at the time it was agreed to hold three meetings, three auctions and issue three magazines each year. It has been possible to maintain this model for the last 25 years but due to the current decrease in interest and support by the general membership it was agreed to change the model to one that is sustainable and more attractive for the future.

The Club's new business model starting from now is:-

- 1) Issue two Journals each year
- 2) Issue one Newsletter each year
- 3) Hold one auction each summer or to coincide with a five-day stay on Lundy
- 4) Hold a one day meeting each summer in North Devon and link it with an optional day trip to Lundy the previous day
- 5) Hold the four competitions each year at the summer meeting
- 6) Organise periodic five-day stays on Lundy.

I hope you appreciate the situation that the Club is in and I look forward to receiving your support to keep the Club going.

*James*

# *Philatelic News from Lundy*

By James Thomas

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On 15<sup>th</sup> March 2022, Lundy issued three new selection packs. Also, over the week of the Club's Spring trip, Lundy issued a special card and cover to celebrate the Club's visit.

The three selection packs consist of either 10 or 25 stamps or 12 high value stamps and are dated March 2022. All three packs are printed in blue on white.

Prices:

10 stamp pack – £5.00

25 stamps pack – £8.00

12 high value stamp pack – £10.00

2022 LCC Card with stamps and red special cancel – £7.00

2022 LCC Card with stamps and black special cancel – £5.00

2022 LCC Card without stamps and cancel – £1.00

2022 LCC Cover with Lundy stamp, special cancel and blue franking metermark – £1.00

A full report with colour illustrations will appear in the Autumn issue of *The New Puffin Journal*.

To celebrate the 2022 Lundy Marine Festival between 14<sup>th</sup> July and 11<sup>th</sup> September 2022, Lundy has produced a special canceller with a changeable date for use throughout the festival period which is illustrated on page one.

A specially printed cover franked with two 90p LFS Lundy stamps cancelled on 14<sup>th</sup> July which will be the first day of use of the new canceller, plus the blue franking metermark can be bought for £4.50.

Should you wish to purchase these items now, please place your order direct with Lundy either by post to Lundy Postal Service, Bristol Channel, EX39 2LY, UK, or online at [lundypostalservice@lundyisland.co.uk](mailto:lundypostalservice@lundyisland.co.uk)

Please remember to include postage and packing – United Kingdom £2.00, Europe £3.80 and the Rest of the World £4.80.

All orders will be dispatched after 14<sup>th</sup> July.

THREE

# Treasurer's Statement

By James Thomas

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Last summer our new Treasurer, Graham Chadwick, sadly passed away and because I received no offers to take on the job, I have taken it back for a second term.

It took five months for the bank to complete the transfer from Graham to me which meant controlling the account was very difficult for that period, however, it is now complete and I am the Club's new Treasurer.

Because Graham died suddenly, no detailed account was left but after working through the statements, cheque book and paying-in book, the Club had a closing balance on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021 of £456.02.

Starting on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022, the Club's annual subscription, which had remained unchanged for several years, was increased by a small amount. The main increase in expenditure is the cost of postage. This was taken into consideration when forming the Club's new business model and it is hoped that the cost of postage will be kept to the lowest possible rates to avoid another increase in the annual subscription for a few years to come.

Despite this, the Club is still in a very healthy position.

## *A Big Thank you!*

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Despite my comments at the start of this Newsletter, I am not the only person working hard to keep the Club and our hobby going.

I must say a huge thank you to Jon Aitchison (New Auctioneer), Roy Bentley (Web Site Manager), André Coutanche (Proof Reader), Sue Leather (Meeting Organiser), and David Wilshire (Stand-in Secretary for when I need help).

Also, I must not forget the members who contribute articles to the *Journal*, Lars Liwendahl for all of his work advising Lundy and designing the new stamp issues and last but definitely not least, Derek Green for all of his help, support and friendship without which our hobby would die.

*James*