

The New Puffin Journal



SUMMER 2002

Published by the Lundy Collectors Club

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EDITORIAL

As this Editorial is being written, the first few days of Spring weather are upon us, with brilliant sunshine everywhere recently. Let us hope for similar weather for our trip to Lundy on 20th July. We are enclosing full particulars and Booking Forms for both the Club's Annual Trip to Lundy on 20th July, and the Club Meeting in Ilfracombe at the Landmark the following day. Your early response and receipt of your Booking Forms would be appreciated, to avoid the "last minute rush" which in past years has made life quite traumatic for one of your Editors! If you are coming to Ilfracombe for the first time and would like advice about Hotel or Guest House accommodation, this can either be obtained from Stanley Newman (address on 'Contents' page) or a fully illustrated brochure can be obtained from the Ilfracombe Information Bureau, Wilder Road, Ilfracombe, Devon, giving all prices for accommodation.

To date we have not received any communications about the use of British stamps on covers or postcards posted from Lundy (see *TNPJ* issues 15 and 16). No doubt many of us will be posting items from Lundy on our trip on 20th July, and it would be helpful to know before then whether or not Lundy has decided to accept the use of the GB stamps on outgoing mail.

The Club has recently purchased a new digital colour printer as part of its continuing programme of improvement, and this is the first *JOURNAL* to have some of its pages printed in colour. This certainly adds extra 'flavour' to the *JOURNAL*, and James is to be congratulated on the results of his innovation.

During late March and early April James had eye surgery to remove a cataract and would like to say a big THANK YOU for all the well wishes. The surgery was a great success and production of the *JOURNAL* is now back on track.

With best wishes for a fine Summer to all Club Members.

Stanley Newman

James Thomas

May 2002

MEETING REPORT

By Roger Allen

Report of the meeting of the Lundy Collectors Club held on Sunday 17th March 2002 at the British Philatelic Centre, Charterhouse Street, Smithfield, London.

The day started at 10.30 a.m. with coffee, registration and a little socializing and the only two members who had brought along some stock for sale, Roger Allen and Stanley Newman, laid out their wares. Eventually only about fourteen members arrived for the meeting, which is a disappointing number. There were no displays today and precisely at 11.15 the main programme of the day, viewing some Lundy videos, commenced.

The first film was provided by Roger Allen and was an amateur film of the June 1994 VC Week event. This event was to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the death of John Pennington Harman VC whose memorial plaque is in the VC Quarry on the East Side of Lundy. The film showed all the Harman family, friends and islanders who had gathered with veterans from the Burma Star Association and a priest to remember John Harman and his father Martin Coles Harman at a short memorial service. Diana Keast features prominently in the film, of course, as do other members of the Harman clan including Marion Evans (nee Harman Jones) and her family and also Cherry Richardson. John Richardson is not seen because it is he who made the film.

A most moving scene was towards the end of the actual service at the VC Quarry when trumpeters from the East Kent regiment sounded the trumpets twice, ending with the Last Post. Just at this moment some larks flew up singing and the sound of these birds came over clearly just before the final notes. The trumpeters were stationed in a boat just below the quarries and it is amazing how clearly their sound wafted up the cliffs.

Two other shorter travelogues were then shown both produced by West Country TV companies, one dated 1993 which included a short scene in Government House in which Ann Westcott extols in simple terms the beauty of Lundy and why we all love it so. The second, dating from 1994 and entitled *The Golden Mile*, is perhaps most noteworthy for its underwater shots and the incredible variety of fish and creatures that it covers and all of them around the waters of Lundy.

At 12.45 the room emptied and the members all dispersed to different locations for lunch. This was a pity as it would have been a happy occasion to get together for further informal discussion together over a drink.

After lunch, as there were no displays and only two lots of stock for sale, the videos were continued. Stanley Newman had brought along a film produced by Ian Arnold, which was basically a travelogue of day visitors on the island, largely featuring LCC members, including Stanley Newman and Wim Ros amongst others. The whole film was accompanied by just one repeated piece of theme music, which became a standing joke as the film progressed. It was also annoying as the film took long shots of many of the well-known sites and buildings on Lundy but we never quite reached any of them. The other one or two more professional travelogue films, which we then watched, were a fit ending to the day's entertainment.

By this time Mike Thompson and Julie Lester had put out all the auction lots for the members to view and a full report of the auction, written by Stanley Newman, appears elsewhere in this issue.

Before the auction commenced, Stanley read out his secretary's announcements, which included apologies for absence from Jim Thomas who is recovering from an eye operation, and from Diana Keast. Stanley also announced final details of the summer weekend in Ilfracombe on the 20th and 21st July, which will include as usual a day trip to Lundy and he encouraged every member to be there. He also produced a preview of the cover and some of the pages of the '*Journal*', in colour. The addition of colour to future '*Journals*' is a welcome and needed step in the development of our excellent publication.

The meeting broke up after the auction at about 4.30.

STOP PRESS

On 20th May 2002, the Landmark Trust issued a new set of definitive stamps. The set comprises of 10 values, which for the first time includes 1st and 2nd class non-value indicators along with a European NVI. First Day covers and Presentation Packs are also available.

For more information contact Lundy direct. A full article will be published in the next issue of '*The New Puffin Journal*'.

AUCTION REPORT

The Club's fifteenth auction was held at our Spring Meeting at the British Philatelic Centre on Sunday 17th March 2002. With a total realisation of approximately £2,100 this was one of our best auctions held in recent years. As usual Mike Thompson was our Auctioneer, Stanley the "tallyman", and Julie displayed the lots and handed them to successful room bidders. "Highlights" of the Auction were as follows:-

| <u>Stamps</u> | £ |
|---|-------|
| 1937 Small Air stamp – proof in indigo on beige paper. N18e | 16 |
| 1939 Red LACAL small Air. Complete sheet of 48 with all varieties | 42 |
| 1940 Red Cross marginal ½p with 'broken cross' variety. Stamp U/M | 28 |
| 1940 Red Cross 12p (N.36) marginal MM | 56 |
| 1942 'V' + Plane 12p. Missing tail variety fine used (N.44Ba) | 30 |
| 1943 'IX Anniversary' Set of 8 in marginal blocks of 4 including varieties | 250 |
| 1943 Wright Bros. Set of 12 in blocks of 4 inc. variety and imprints | 350 |
| 1953 Coronation 12p pair with "H" for "L" variety on l/h stamp (N93a) | 19 |
| 1965 1p on 3p Blue provisional (N. 153) Marginal block of 4 U/M | 28 |
| <u>Coins</u> | |
| 1929 ½ puffin and 1 puffin coins uncirculated | 21 |
| <u>Postal History</u> | |
| 1937 Cover from Lundy to USA with ½d "Tramticket" Roll 10 No. 05371 | 45 |
| 1937 Cover to Lundy from Devon. LACAL small mauve Air stamp FD cancel | 65 |
| 1938 Cover to N. Devon with overprinted LACAL ½d (N. 18) First day use with scarce LACAL AIR POST (Da) cancel | 95 |
| 1939 Cover to Lundy with FD use of 1939 New definitives (N.26-28) Fa cancel | 45 |
| 1939 Reg cover to Gibraltar with 2d, 3d, 6d and 1/- Large Map plus small ½d and 1d with "AIR SERVICE SUSPENDED..." cancels | 105 |
| 1940 Daily Mail article "If Goebbels Asked Me to Broadcast" with ACAS 2d Large Map and "AIR SERVICE SUSPENDED..." cancel | 56 |
| 1946 Cover to Ipswich with 1929 ½p Front has KGVI stamp with <u>Swansea</u> Slogan transit cancel. Scarce routing | 55 |
| 1953 Ill. Coronation FDC with ½p, 1p, 2p & 4p all with <u>wrong colour</u> opts. | 100 |
| <u>Bogus</u> | |
| "INSEL LUNDY" o'pt on bogus German "FUTSCHES REICH" Hitler-Head | 20 |
| <u>Postcards</u> | |
| "HMS Montagu at Lundy" soon after wrecking, R/P sepia card by Twiss 18 'Bay, Lundy Island'. Rare sepia card by T.S. Lake, Instow. | 18.50 |
| "Salving HMS Montagu", Twiss Bros. No.373 R/P | 16.50 |
| 1949 "Lundy in the Bristol Channel" P/C Drawing by R. Joymond, posted | 18.50 |

LUNDY NEWS

STAFF CHANGES

At the end of January 2002, Lisa Cole the Island Warden for the last 5 years left for a new post in Dorset. Lisa was much loved by the many visitors and her jolly and friendly personality will be greatly missed. Ben Sampson, a Lundyphile, who started work on 8th April, has replaced Lisa.

Ian Reach who was Lisa's assistant for the last 3 years has also left for pastures new.

ISLAND IMPROVEMENTS

Old Light West, once known as the Martin Coles Harman Memorial Laboratory, has been renovated with a new kitchen, bathroom and windows along with many other repairs. This has been made into comfortable staff accommodation.

The Old Rocket Shed opposite the island shop has had the external structure renovated ready to be converted into the new Island Museum. Although not fitted-out yet, it is intended to install the latest state-of-the-art GIS mapping system of island information from archaeology to infrastructure.

THE BLACK RAT

A feasibility study of the Black Rat has recently been carried-out with the conclusion that both black and brown rats can be found at most parts of the island. Experts have stated that it is possible to totally eradicate rats from Lundy. There is evidence that during 2001 rats have had a detrimental effect on bird numbers on the island, so a decision will have to be made soon as to the future policy of both the brown and black rats on Lundy.

OLD PHOTO'S OF LUNDY

By searching the Lundy Field Society web site (www.lundy.org.uk/), one can find a selection of old photographs c1947 with many views of the island and historic pictures of many of its residents.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thank you for the copy of *The New Puffin Journal* for Spring 2002. In *Letters to the Editor* there is a mention of “Tramticket” stamps being attached to pages of *Puffin* No. 17.

I am surprised that anyone would think that these were genuine. It was just the way the *Puffin* was illustrated. The halfpennies were stencil duplicated on gold paper painted with red ink and the threepennies were on old Exercise Book covers of which I had a plentiful supply.

They were not bogus; they were not reprints, just illustrations. They were actual size because that was all that the scanner could do. Photocopying was impossible because of the background colour of the stamps. The stamps were placed on a rotating drum with a colour filter over the photocell to remove the background colour and a spark made holes in the stencil through which the ink was pushed when printing took place. There was no intention to deceive. They were only used to illustrate the *Puffin* and no loose specimens were kept.

Barry Chinchin

Thank you Barry for providing this information which will now close the subject. It is still very difficult to photocopy the “Tramticket” as we can see from the last issue of the “Journal”. However, with the use of our new colour printer, I can produce a better quality copy of the items in question. See page 7.

Ed.

REMINDER

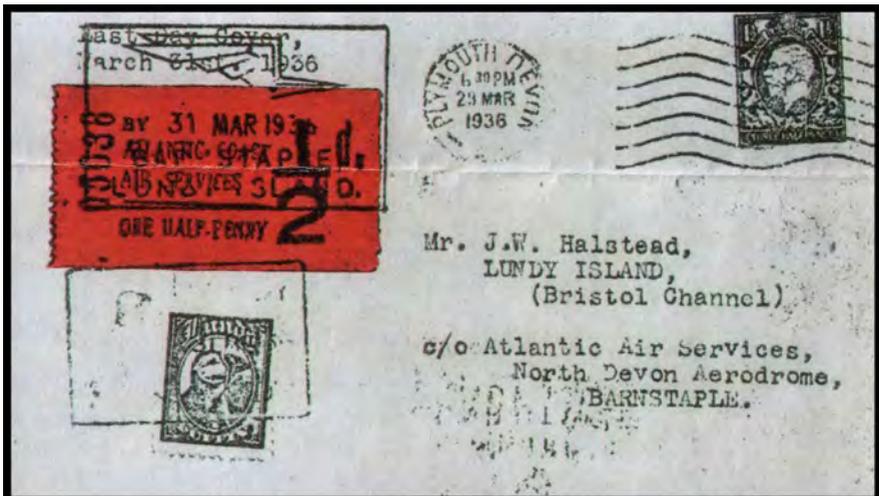
It is hoped to publish in the near future the final results of the “Lundy Appeal” census. In addition to that already published in the Autumn 2001 issue of *The New Puffin Journal*, a mass of new information has come to light and will be incorporated in the final result sheet. However, I am sure that there are some members who have still not replied, so please do so soon.

Thanks *Ed.*

In the last issue of "The New Puffin Journal", I produced copies of the two items found on page 31 of the "Puffin" issue 17. However, because of the restrictions of the clubs photocopier the reproduction was poor. I have therefore printed for a second time the two items but this time produced on the Club's latest printing equipment.



3d 'Tramticket' numbers 01574 and 01575



Cover showing 1/2d red 'Tramticket' number 05038

LUNDY AND ATLANTIC COAST AIRLINES

By Jim Mullett

The manuscript "AIR FEE PAID" endorsement of February 1939.

The first news of a L.A.C.A.L. stamp shortage occurred on 7th March 1939, when Miss Bobby Way, the airline Secretary wrote to Mr. L. Pitman, refusing an order to supply him with 50x½d stamps.

Quote:

"I have been instructed not to sell any more stamps to collectors, as we need them to use on ordinary mail to Lundy."

The ½d stamps referred to, must have been the N18 Black on Violet stamps issued on 1st November 1938 (only 5,328 stamps had been printed).

The next issue, a ½d red stamp (N19) was not due until 31st March 1939 and the lack of stamps situation came to a head on about 19th or 20th February 1939 when Mr. Gade the island agent had no recourse but to endorse the mail manuscript; "AIR FEE PAID".

So far only two pieces of mail are thought to have survived with this very rare endorsement.

Mr. Gade's report on this 'one day' situation is mentioned in a letter to Mr. Goldup dated 12th April 1939.

CLUB COMPETITIONS

Last year only one of the three Club Competitions received enough support to hold it. The organisers were very disappointed and would like to see all club members attending this years Summer Meeting at Ilfracombe on Sunday 21st July bring an entry or two no matter how large or small.

The three categories are Lundy Stamps, Lundy Postal History and Lundy Postcards, Ephemera or Literature.

THE RNLI

PART 4 – THE CLOVELLY LIFEBOAT AND STATION

Nestling at the bottom of one of Devon's most picturesque villages is the harbour of Clovelly where the Lifeboat Station can be found forming part of an intricate matrix of old village buildings.

First established in 1870 following a wreck in the bay and in consideration of the distance separating the then two flanking stations of Bude and Bideford. A new 32ft 10in (9.85m) oared lifeboat, the Alexander and Matilda Boetefeur, approved by Mrs. Boetefeur of London in memory of her late husband who was an active member of the Committee of Management of the RNLI.

During the same year the Lifeboat Station was constructed at a cost of £175, however, the boathouse only lasted 22 years until a new one complete with slip was constructed in 1892 on the site of the present building at a staggering cost of £1,065. This boathouse remained in service until 15th August 1988. At this time a review of the service in the Bristol Channel was held and the Clovelly station was closed. However, the need for a station at Clovelly was much needed and in May 1998 the old boathouse was extended, refurbished and re-opened. The boathouse is unusual in that at high tide it floods, so in an attempt to minimise structural damage, the doors incorporate knockout panels to allow drainage.

From the original boat in 1870 until the “City of Bristol” in 1988, the station housed large offshore boats. But the review identified the need for a quick moving inshore boat and on the re-opening in 1998, an Atlantic 75 class semi-rigid inflatable boat was put on duty complete with its own tracked launch vehicle.

Over the years Lundy has had to call on the Clovelly Lifeboat on several occasions. On 14th March 1937, the Lundy supply ship the m.v. Lerina, ran into trouble and had to be rescued by the “City of Nottingham”, which incidentally is now owned by a LCC member and was featured in the last issue of this *Journal*. Several years later on 20th August 1948, the same lifeboat was called to the rescue of a yacht in distress off Lundy. The 15-ton yacht, “Easdling”, registered at Plymouth, was assisted by the Clovelly lifeboat off Lundy whilst disabled and helpless before a strong N.W. wind and rough seas. The lifeboat took the yacht in tow and after a difficult journey lasting about four hours brought her into Appledore. During its life so far the Clovelly lifeboat has saved well over 500 lives which confirms how extremely important it is to have this boat in what appears to be quiet backwater.



*The Clovelly Lifeboat House
(Photo James Thomas – 2000)*

"A NEW OLD ERROR!"

By Lars Liwendahl

Some time ago I found a Lundy collection in an auction here in Sweden, something that does not happen too often! It was a rather general collection but still, as I could see, collected since the early sixties up until the mid-90's. It consisted of quite a few items which today are getting harder to find as Felix Gade listed, the 3 unissued puffin-head stamps etc. Still the price of the collection turned out to be quite high – Lundy is popular these days!

The very best item in the collection was something I have never seen or heard of before. See the illustration.



The 1962 Europa 2 Puffin stamp without the brown print. We know of this error in the 1 Puffin stamp but not the 2 Puffin. Has anyone else seen this error?

My sample is in perfect condition and unmounted mint. To me it is not a proof but a genuine error. The question is where are the other 99? The sheets of 50 were printed two at a time. Both the sheets for the same 1 Puffin error have been found.

Time to go out hunting!

BOOK REVIEW

By Roger Allen

“TWITCHER”

A Novel By Andrew Osmond

Hardback, published by Minnow Press in 2001 and printed by Anthony Rowe Ltd., Chippenham. Dustwrapper. 290 pages. Price £15.00 ISBN No.0 9539448 0 8.

This is a very strange effort, the first novel by this writer, and it is hard to be specific as to what he is actually trying to achieve.

It is a murder story with a Detective Inspector on the case. The first very short chapters are set in a street somewhere in North London. There are inferences of a crime, a murder of a young oriental woman, of previous murders, but the plot is vague and the details hard to tie together. The young author seems more interested in setting an atmosphere with lots of introspective passages rather than giving any facts. Perhaps he thinks that is how a novel should be written these days. The action is often carried forward by diary notes and later by entries in log books in the cottages on Lundy. The plot is altogether illusive and remains thus to the very end of the book.

There are two other elements to this attempt, the first is a constant outpouring of ornithological facts and observations, quite irrelevant to the action and quite irritating. They may be perfectly accurate and they may be valid as bird watching observations but they do not fit in with a murder story. We know that all great novelists research their background material to avoid mistakes, Agatha Christie did this, so did Conan Doyle and Rider Haggard but all their information on Egyptology, African History and the details in the Sherlock Holmes stories all helped the plot along, they were not simply introduced to show off detailed knowledge of a deliberately introduced kind. That is what one feels has happened in this new book.

The third aspect of this book and the only one that makes it worthy of review in this publication, are the many chapters set on Lundy. The plot thickens there, there is a fatal accident but nothing of great significance to the story takes place. The whole reason for the setting on Lundy is for the writer to expound on the life on the island and to describe the buildings and locations. But in the doing of this, there are no attempts at evocative descriptions or moments of feeling. In fact the mere setting of some action in certain buildings on Lundy is quite as irrelevant as the constant references to ornithology.

Worthy as it is that a man should love Lundy and want to write about it, but the three elements of this book; birds, murder and Lundy just do not meld in together. The author should have either written a bird book, or a book about Lundy or a crime novel. One suspects however, that he does not have sufficient talent or information to write about any one of these adequately and so has tried, unsuccessfully, to put a bit of all three into one book.

As a collector's item this book will sit on my shelves but I doubt if it will ever get opened again by me.

The Minnow Press are offering a 10% discount to readers of *TNPJ* if purchased direct from Minnow Press, 66 Harwoods Road, Watford, Herts. WD18 7RE.

THE REVD. HUGH C.A.S. MULLER, PRIEST IN CHARGE OF LUNDY FROM 1921 TO 1953

By Roger Allen

A Christmas postcard addressed to Rev. H Muller and postmarked December 7th 1906 from Appledore to Portsmouth may appear to have no real connection to Lundy, until we remember that Hugh Muller was very closely connected to Lundy for most of the first fifty years of the twentieth century. The mundane message on the postcard, which is in fact a Christmas Card, with a snowy woodland scene on the front and the words “With Good and Seasonable Wishes” reads “Many thanks for kind wishes on the 5th. Kind regards from all. Olive”.

The aspect of the card however, that would make most collectors look at it twice is the postmark over the ½d George V definitive. The postmark reads APPLIEDORE R.S.O. N. DEVON. 7.15 pm De 7 06. In other words, it was postmarked from the railway sorting office of the Bideford, Appledore and Westward Ho! Railway line that operated from 1901 until 1914, when it fell a victim to the scrap metal needs of the First World War. It is rare indeed to obtain anything whatsoever related to this very short lived railway company but the card was priced just £1.50 when purchased in the early 1990's. A comprehensive analysis of this postmark was featured on page 25 of the last issue of this *Journal* (Spring 2002).

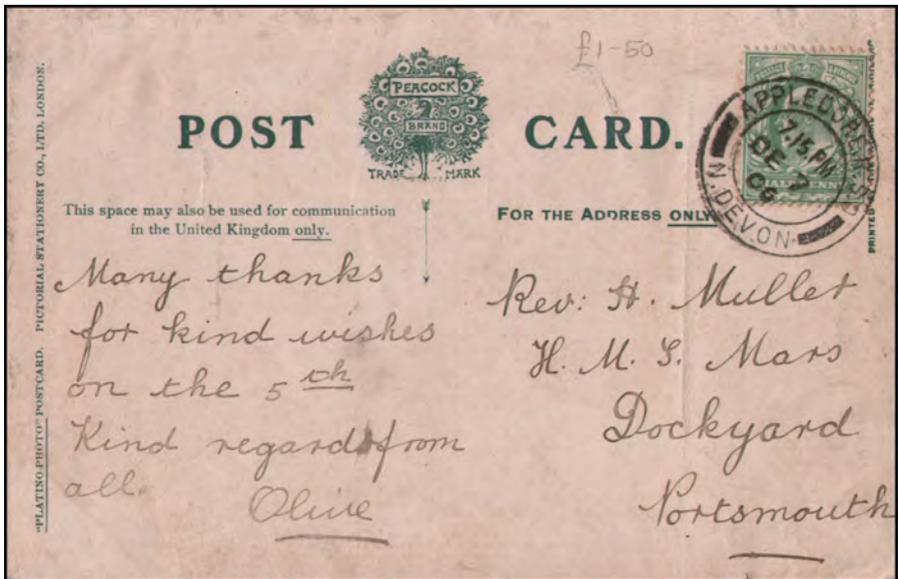
But now to the addressee, Rev. H. Muller, H.M.S. Mars, Dockyard, Portsmouth. The young Revd. Muller, like one of his successors in Appledore, Donald Peyton Jones, was closely associated with the work amongst the seamen of South Devon. Hugh Muller, or to give him his full name, Hugh Christian Andreas Sigwald Muller, became Vicar of Appledore in 1921 and priest in charge of extra parochial Lundy at the same time.

Although he was very conscious in his work on Lundy, always attending there regularly and officiating at weddings and other religious services and setting up a primary school together with the necessary books, when Martin Coles Harman arrived in 1926 he was a hangover from the previous regime and not popular with the new owner. His visits always seemed to coincide with those of MCH and he was told that his Easter offering of £25 would be reduced by one pound for every time their visits coincided in the future!

Gade refers to him with the words ‘the inevitable presence of Revd. Muller’ and was most outspoken to Muller in 1931 on the occasion of the wreck of the Taxiarchis. Muller wrote the event up for the local press and gave all the credit for the rescue efforts to the Lifeboat without mentioning the night long vigils and work of the Lundy men. When the other important wreck of the Maria Kyriakides took place, Muller rushed to the island to be on hand and tried in vain to communicate with the seamen in his Classical Greek.

He officiated at many important events on Lundy, including the funeral of Mrs. Amy Harman in 1931, at the unveiling of the VC Memorial stone for John Pennington Harman VC in 1949 and at the wedding on Lundy of John and “Cherry” Richardson in 1952. Cherry was Jean Crabtree, Mrs. Rene Gade’s niece and John Richardson a frequent visitor to Lundy.

Hugh Muller died in 1953 when the next Vicar of Appledore, Revd. R.C. Dixon took over, not only of Appledore, but also of Lundy.



Rear of postcard showing the Appledore R.S.O. postmark.

FELIX W. GADE'S CORRESPONDENCE TO A LUNDY COLLECTOR

PART 1 — 1961 TO 1966

Excerpts from Letters Written to Caleb (“Andy”) Andersen

Editor’s Preface: The late Felix W. Gade was a prolific letter writer all during his years on Lundy. In addition to his insightful contemporary views and perceptions on matters philatelic and otherwise, Gade’s correspondence with Lundy stamp collectors serves as an account of the status of Lundy stamp stocks on the Island at the time of his writing. Although much of what Gade wrote on these subjects has been told at one time or another, his firsthand information and interpretations constitute original source material that should be shared with readers to aid in the study and research of Lundy postal history as it was unfolding.

Two articles, based on excerpts of Gade’s letters to collectors of Lundy stamps, have already appeared in past issues of the *LCCPQ*. The first (“A Philatelic Friendship — Notes from the Gade Correspondence to a California Collector,” Spring 1980 *LCCPQ*, pages 5-8) spanned the years 1944 to 1957, and the second (“Notes of Interest from Felix W. Gade Letters,” Fall 1987 *LCCPQ*, Pages 11-14) spanned 1969 to 1972. Now comes another series of letters written to L.C.C. member Caleb (“Andy”) Andersen that spans just more than a decade (1961 to 1971). As the text of the first several letters unfolds, Gade advises Andersen on what past stamp issues were and were not available from stock on the Island at the time. Certainly there were some interesting revelations, such as no mention of the availability of the “APPEAL” overprint stamp during 1969. Gade was ever helpful in his dealings with collectors, but he was not a stamp collector himself, and his occasional misuse of some philatelic terms will be apparent as one peruses the text of his letters.

Andy Andersen began collecting Lundy stamps in earnest while he was stationed in West Germany during a stint in the United States Army, and it will become apparent to you that he acquired many of his stamps through direct mail order from Gade on Lundy. The early letters in this series included Gade’s thoughts on how a collector might go about trying to obtain the overprint issues of the WWII years that were no longer in stock on the Island. From the text, readers will surmise that even back then it was no easy task to acquire certain Lundy stamp that were only 20 or so years old. Ah, but now wouldn’t all of us like to have the opportunity to purchase at those 1960’s prices some of the material Andy was able to purchase—for example, imperforate R.S.P.C.A. blocks at 84 cents each!

In excerpting these letters, I have deleted text concerning Andersen's new-issues-account finances, the issuance dates and prices (face value) of the new issues, and references of a personal nature—none of which offers any additional information about the contemporary state of philatelic matters on Lundy. Wherever possible, I minimized the editing of Gade's punctuation, text, and style (for example, his inconsistent use of lower-case and capital letters when describing stamp issues) in order to retain the unique flavor of his writing. Thanks, Andy, for sharing this wealth of correspondence with us! —*RSC*

July 25, 1961: Enclosed are copies of the *Lundy Guide* and *The Postal History of Lundy*, which cost together 53 cents. If you would like postcard views of Lundy, there is a range of about 18 different views on sale at the Island Store, and six studies of seabird life at 7 cents each.

Lundy no longer uses the bronze coinage, consisting of just two coins, Half Puffin and One Puffin. These coins were withdrawn from circulation more than thirty years ago, and are now sold as curios at \$1.00 the pair in mint condition. British currency is now used here exclusively.

October 31, 1964: I enclose a copy of the *Lundy Guide*, price 35 cents, and a price list of the Lundy stamps that can be provided, and would say that I shall be pleased to send you any stamps or other philatelic material you wish to acquire, including view postcards, of which there are between 20 and 30, including some seabird studies. The price of the cards is, with two exceptions, 7 cents each. The two exceptions are 8 cents each.

November 26, 1964: I think the best time to visit Lundy, out of the high season, is late April and all through May; although, if you want to photograph nesting seabirds, June might be better, but late in May all species are nesting. Enclosed are a brochure and the tariff of the Manor Farm Hotel. Except for the Easter week, there is usually room in the hotel throughout April and May. The sailings for 1965 will not be ready until towards the end of February, and I will make a note to send you a list.

As far as I know there has never been a stamp album produced which makes provision for Lundy issues. The firms who print stamp albums are still very “sticky” about “local” issues. Lundy has issued stamps for 35 years, and there are tens of thousands of Lundy collectors, but the stamp-album makers have not yet awakened to the fact.

December 14, 1964: I enclose all the items, except that there are only 24 different postcards in stock at the moment, but may I make up the value by sending you the enclosed print of the arrival, on the Landing Beach at Lundy, of H.M. Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, in 1958? We have no colored maps now. We used to stock them, and I could possibly obtain one from the suppliers. I will try. They used to sell at from 1/- to 2/6d, according to size.

April 26, 1965: I send herewith the stamps of 1930, 1951 surcharge, 1955 airmail ½p, 1p, 2p, and 3p, 1955 ordinary mail a full set, 1957 a full set, and 1953 a full set. I shall be able to send you the 4p, 6p, and 9p airmail stamps in a few days. The stocks of these values have run out, but I believe I can obtain a very limited number from Mr. A. P. Harman, the owner of Lundy.

The price list includes only those stamps that can be supplied. I have some of the stamps on your list, but not all are in clean mint condition. I list them below:

1929 – ½ puffin. Good clean mint condition.

1939 – 2 puffin. Good clean mint condition.

1939 – 1 and ½p. None left.

1950 – “BY AIR” overprints. 1p creased, 2p clean mint, 3p clean mint, 4p clean mint but double overprint, 6p clean mint but perforation slightly damaged, and 9p clean mint.

1954 – 3p, 4p, and 9p postal silver jubilee surface mail.

1951 – ½puffin. I bought a few specimens from a dealer.

1954 – 4p and 9p “By Air”. No stamps were issued in 1954 with the “By Air” overprint, and neither the definitive nor the postal silver jubilee airmail issues of 1954 had 4 and 9 puffin values. The values are ½p, 1p, 2p, 3p, 6p, and 12p. Full sets of both cost \$0.29 each.

Editor’s note: Here Gade refers to the 1954 commemorative airmail issue with the “By Air” inscription printed to the right of “Lundy” as part of the stamp design, and not to be confused with the 1950-1953 “BY AIR”/“By Air” overprints on the first definitives. —RSC

Further note: It would have been interesting if the price list mentioned in the third paragraph could have been published. In listing the 1950 “BY AIR” overprints, did Gade take into account that the 4p value with the double overprint was worth over six times the value of the normal stamp! — SAN.

May 17, 1965: I send you the stamps ordered, and with regard to your inquiries about obsolete issues, mainly of the war years, I regret to say that very few can be provided by me. To take the issues in rotation:

1940 – Red Cross Surcharge. I have none. These are the rarest Lundy items, and your only chance of acquiring them is when a private collector disposes of his collection.

1942 – Victory “V” and Spitfire. I have precisely two of the ½p, two of the 1p, and one each of the 2p and 3p, and I cannot let them go.

1942 – Imperforate miniature “Chieftain” sheet. I have just one in hand, which I must keep.

1943 – IX anniversary of the air service. I have a few more of the ½p and 1p only, and I will enclose specimens of each, the price being 35¢ each. Of the other values, I have single specimens only and must keep them.

1943 – Provisionals, 1½p over 12p and 2½p over 6p. I have enough of these to send you examples, at 35¢ each.

1943 – September 1 (not May), 40th anniversary of the first flight of the Wright Brothers. I can send you ½p over 12p, 35¢, 1p over 6p, 35¢, ½p over 9p, 35¢, 2p over 6p, 35¢, and 3p over 9p, 35¢.

1939 – Tenth anniversary overprints. I can send you a 1p at 35¢, 6p, 9p, and 12p at face value, i.e., 33¢ for the three stamps.

If you feel that any of the stamps are overvalued, you are at liberty to return them, providing they are undamaged. It will be difficult to obtain a complete Lundy collection but not impossible, but you must look out for the private collections offered for sale from time to time.

July 15, 1965: I have been kept very busy with demands for the Lundy Churchill stamps and have had no time for anything else, so I trust you will excuse the delay in replying. I much enjoyed meeting you and your wife and am very pleased to know that next year both of you will be coming to Lundy to stay awhile. Now to deal with your requests:

1950 – “By Air” overprints. With the exception of the ½p and 12p, the examples I have remaining are all either dirty, damaged, or both.

However, I will pick out the best of them and enclose them.

1957 – I enclose all except the 1p value, of which I have none. Price 2/–.

1961 – I enclose a full mint set, price 2/1½d.

I have first day covers of the following:

1961 – 2nd anniversary of the CEPT.

1961 – Imperforate miniature sheet of the 2nd anniversary CEPT.

1962 – World Health Organization’s Malaria Eradication Campaign.

1962 – 3rd anniversary of the CEPT.

1965 – First day postcard of the surcharged 1p over 3p stamp.

1965 – Sir Winston Churchill KG.

1929 – original issue, 1p. Enclosed.

1939 – 2p blue, 3p black, and 4p red. Enclosed.

1951 – (not 1950) airmail, ½p pink, 1½p green, 2½p blue, 3½p red, 5p orange, 7p black, and 7½p brown. Enclosed.

1962 – There is a perforated issue of the Anti-Malaria stamps, ½p, 1p, 2p, 3p, 6p, and 12p.

July 17, 1965: I am enclosing complete mint sheets of the three values of the Sir Winston Churchill issue, the total cost of which is 30/–. Mrs. Gade and I are very well but busy, each in our own way. The weather is not very settled, but fine for the past three days. I hear on the radio, and read in the newspapers, that there has been a lot of rain in Germany, with serious flooding, but I think not in the American sector.

July 27, 1965: The prices for the Red Cross Surcharge stamps and the wartime commemorative and propaganda overprints are pretty stiff, but the opportunities for acquiring these rarities are few, and I think money expended upon them is in the nature of an investment. I will make a guess that the seller of these stamps is the partnership of R. M. & R. W. Willcocks of Shooters Hill Road, Blackheath, London. I know they bought a collection some few years ago. Do not place too much reliance upon Colonel Etherton’s and Mr. Barlow’s book, *Tempestuous Isle*. Old Etherton was a good romancer. The book is very readable, and it is a pity that it is out of print now. There was a 5/– edition, which sold like hot cakes in the Marisco Store.

August 9, 1965: I am sorry I am unable to send you two pairs of the 1929 Lundy coins as there are now none of the One Puffin left. I am, however, enclosing two of the Half Puffin coins. The 1951 definitive airmail stamps were not overprinted "By Air," and if you are ever offered any such, you will know that they are phony.

I regret that I am unable to supply you with complete sheets of all the 1954 surface mail stamps. There are only one-and-a-half sheets of the ½-puffin stamps remaining, and I must keep them. Sheets of the other six values can be supplied. I can supply sheets of all values of the Coronation commemoratives, 120 stamps to the sheet of the ½p, 1p, 6p, 9p, and 12p values, and 60 stamps to the sheet of the 2p and 4p. Panels of 30 stamps each can be provided of all the values. Sheets of 20 stamps of the six values of definitive airmail 1954 can be provided, also of the postal silver jubilee airmail. Sheets of 50 stamps of the Erik Bloodaxe millenary surface mail can be provided, 7 values. Sheets of 50 stamps of the 2nd anniversary CEPT stamps, 7 values, can be provided. These stamps are identical with the Erik Bloodaxe millenary surface mail stamps but are in different colors. It must be remembered that the 3p values of both issues were printed in sheets of 25, not 50. Sheets of the six values of World Health Organization's Malaria Eradication stamps can be provided, 25 stamps per sheet. Sheets of the 3rd anniversary CEPT stamps can be provided, 50 stamps per sheet, four values. Sheets of the 400th anniversary of the birth of Shakespeare can be provided, 3 values, 12 stamps per sheet. Finally, sheets of Churchill stamps can be provided, 12 stamps per sheet. All other issues are incomplete.

March 17, 1966: There have been no Lundy issues since the Sir Winston Churchill issue of 1965, and I have not so far been notified by Mr. Harman of a projected issue for 1966, but that does not mean that there will not be an issue this year.

I am enclosing perforate sheets of the three values of the Shakespeare issue but regret that I cannot send you imperforate sheets as there are none in existence. In fact, I have but two imperforate sets of the Shakespeare stamps remaining in hand. I likewise am unable to send you a first day cover of the Sir Winston Churchill stamps but could send you a souvenir cover mailed to Lundy on the day of issue of the British Sir Winston stamps at 49 cents. A first day postcard with the surcharge 1p over 3p is enclosed. Thank you for your inquiries. We are all well here and have been so throughout the winter, which has been a wet and windy one, but not cold.

LUNDY'S FIRST SELF-ADHESIVE POSTAGE STAMP (NEARLY)

By Jim Mullett

SKETCH — PASTE UP.

2 - MAY 1999

for a proposed provisional 31 puffin stamp
as supplies of the definitive 31 puffin stamp
are now exhausted.

COLOUR — EMERALD GREEN ON WHITE

SELF ADHESIVE LABEL IMPERFORATE ROLL/SHEETS

Subject to the approval
of hats Leonard and
John Dyke.



Inset: Enlargement of paste-up at left.



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Jim Mullett

LUNDY'S FIRST SELF-ADHESIVE POSTAGE STAMP (NEARLY)

During 1999, supplies of the 31 Puffin stamps (the then Lundy first class letter rate) were becoming exhausted, so I suggested that a provisional self-adhesive value could be rushed into service. The proposed stamp would be circular in shape and borrow the letters and puffin design from the 1991 definitives issue, subject to obtaining the permission of the designers, Lars Liwendahl and John Dyke. I sent a rough sketch to The Landmark Trust Headquarters, who referred the matter to the Island Secretary, Diane Cattrall who thought the idea was a “good one” (her words). Unfortunately for collectors, before the proposed provisional stamps could be produced, the Lundy first-class postage rate had been increased to 32 Puffin. As there were plenty of stamps denominated 32 Puffin already in stock, the use of a provisional was not needed! The illustration on page 21 shows the preliminary artwork for this proposed 31 Puffin self adhesive provisional stamp along with an insert blow-up to better depict the stamp detail.

THE END OF THE GENERAL POST OFFICE ON LUNDY!

There has been a lot written about the termination of the contract between Mr Martin Harman and the British General Post Office and even more speculation. This has resulted in many theories of what actually happened and different views and ideas have been put to print giving the impression that their opinion to be the true facts.

As time passes fewer and fewer people will know the truth and eventually it will become totally unknown. However, I have copies of three letters, two from Martin Coles Harman to the GPO in London and one from Felix Gade to the Postmaster at Bideford which I am sure will help to clarify what actually happened in 1927.

As the print on one of Mr Harman’s letters and the letter from Felix Gade has faded, I have reproduced both items for clarity. However, the second and probably the most important letter from Mr Harman is quite clear and this I have scanned to show you the actual signed letter. See pages 23 to 25 inclusive.

Reproduction of a letter sent to the General Post Office by Martin Coles Harman on 9th September 1927.

The Rock Investment Company, Limited

Telephone:
London Wall 7560.

Salisbury House,

Telegrams:
Rockabye, Ave, London.

London, EC2

Codes:
A.B.C. 6th Edition
Western Union.

MCH/KH

9th September 1927

The Secretary,
General Post Office,
E.C.1.

Dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 5th September, and in view of what you say I withdraw my offer for the Lundy Mail Service, although I am prepared to carry it on for such reasonable time – say until the end of November – as will enable you to arrange for the closing of the Signal Station.

Yours faithfully,

(signed by Mr Harman)

THE ROCK INVESTMENT COMPANY, LIMITED.

TELEPHONE:
LONDON WALL 7560.
TELEGRAMS:
ROCKABYE, AVE, LONDON.
CODES:
A.B.C. 6TH EDITION,
WESTERN UNION.

SALISBURY HOUSE,
LONDON, E.C. 2.
12th October 1927

MCH/KH

F. C. G. Twinn, Esq.,
General Post Office,
E. C. 1.

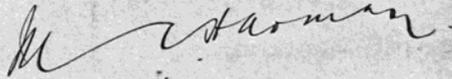
Dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 11th October, and much as I regret being unable to fall in with your wishes, I really have come definitely to the conclusion, after still further consideration, that I wish to be rid of the Contract both with the Post Office, and with the Admiralty. You may be sure that I should not say this unless I knew that without a Contract the inhabitants of Lundy will be just as well taken care of in regard to Mail Service as they are at present.

Although I cannot reopen the matter, I feel you will not mind my placing it on record that in my anxiety to be helpful to H.B.M.'s Departments, I have begged to be allowed to relieve the Lighthouses at one half the present cost to the Exchequer, as certified by the Accountants of either the Board of Trade or Trinity House, I to be bound for a stated period, but the other side to have the right to terminate the contract without notice at any time. The "Lerina" would have been far better able to serve these Lighthouses than the present bigger boat can do, and the Lighthouse men themselves were all wishful to see the arrangement consummated because the speedier service given by the "Lerina", and the willingness and capacity of her Skipper to face any weather with such a boat gave them the certainty of greater amount of time on shore than they now get.

I am, dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,



Letter from Martin Coles Harman to the GPO on 12th October 1927.

Reproduction of a letter sent to the Postmaster at Bideford by Felix Gade on 3rd December 1927.

**Telegrams: HARMAN-LUNDY-ISLAND-SIGNAL-STATION
(ONE WORD)**

ESTATE OFFICE LUNDY

December 3rd 1927

To the Postmaster
Bideford.

Dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your letters of 15th and 25th ult: together with form to be filled up in connection with my appointment as Sub-Postmaster.

I regret to say that I shall, however, be unable to apply for the position, and moreover I do not see my way to permit any of the employees here to apply for or accept the position. In short I see no necessity for a Sub-Postmaster and you had, therefore, better make arrangements to take over stamps, postal orders, cash and all stationery belonging to the Post Office, on or before the 31st December.

I am sorry if I am putting you to any inconvenience, especially as I said I would succeed Mr. Mien, but my ideas have altered since that date.

Yours faithfully,

(signed by F.W. Gade)

As we can now see there is no doubt that Mr Harman "sacked" the GPO, although we now know that he did not succeed with Trinity House. Felix Gade was at first prepared to become Sub-Postmaster but had to fall in line with company policy. Felix Gade, being the Gentleman that he was, expressed his apologies in the last paragraph of his letter. Ed.

LUNDY FIELD SOCIETY AGM REPORT

The fifty-sixth Annual General Meeting of the Lundy Field Society was held on Saturday 2nd March 2002, at the University of Exeter.

The usual slick and professional presentation was this year slightly let down by the loss of the minutes of the last AGM and that the Annual Report for the year 2000 has still to be produced. However, despite this the day was most enjoyable and extremely informative.

Following the usual formality of Annual Reports and election of Officers, Lisa Cole, now ex-Warden presented in the absence of Paul Roberts the Island Manager, a lively and at times humorous report of life on Lundy during the year 2001. Newly elected Chairman, Roger Chapple, thanked Lisa for the report and wished her all success for the future.

Much hard work has been done in wildlife and fauna conservation and control over the last five years and this is now starting to show through by the encouraging numbers of species reported and logged. Seals, Basking Sharks, Bottle-nose Dolphins and breaching Common Dolphins have all be recorded in satisfying numbers. Although Puffin numbers have remained unchanged from the previous year, a detailed study of Manx Shearwaters by the RSPB revealed over 150 breeding pairs. Lundy Cabbage plant numbers were down by 30% to 1388 and this has mainly been caused by the movement restrictions of livestock, which was brought about by the Foot and Mouth epidemic.

To further improve the sea-life and fish stocks around the island, a 'no take zone' has been established along the eastern coast. Local fishermen have supported this move because as soon as the fish numbers increase within the zone, the surplus will migrate and improve stocks generally throughout the Bristol Channel.

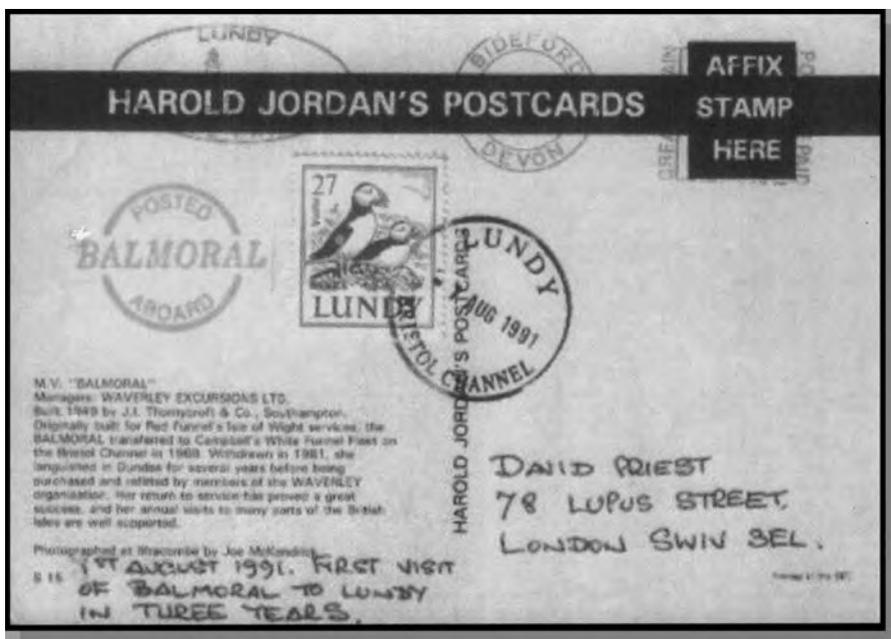
Following afternoon tea, Richard Castle presented the 2001 Lundy Bird Report. The first showing of the new English Nature film, which will shortly be shown on-board the Oldenburg was most interesting, despite a reference to the cannons at the Battery being used to defend the island against pirates!

The meeting was brought to a close by the showing of two black and white films on loan from the Harman archive, with both Mary Gade and Diana Keast helping with the commentary.

M.V. 'BALMORAL' CACHETS

By Stanley Newman

Reading Roger Allen's report of the variation of the P.S. 'Waverley' cachet (S.C-W1) in the Spring 2002 issue of the *JOURNAL* reminded me of a recent discovery of a hitherto unreported cachet of *m.v. BALMORAL* which, I discovered on an Internet auction lot. The cachet is illustrated, and is applied in very light green (hence the poor reproduction) on a postcard sent from Lundy to London on 7th August 1991. Regrettably I was outbid on the Postcard!



For those Club Members (including one of your Editors) recovering from recent cataract operations, the wording in the cachet reads 'POSTED ABOARD BALMORAL'!

BOOK SHELF

By Roger Allen

EDWARD II, THE PLIANT KING. By Harold F. Hutchinson.
Published by Eyre and Spottiswood, London, 1971.

Although this book is only of marginal Lundy interest, it is nevertheless worth a comment. It is I believe the only biography of Edward II and is long out of print, it only ran in fact to the one edition. It is the story of this weak man who came under the influence and control of the unpopular Dispenser family and incurred the hatred of his wife Queen Isabella of France. The tragedy unfolds with the execution of the Dispensers by the Queen and her paramour Roger Mortimer and the capture of the king near Chepstow. He escapes and tries to make for Lundy, which was in the possession of the Dispensers. The weather is against him and he has to return to Wales where he is captured and imprisoned in Berkeley castle. The barbaric and unbelievably cruel method by which he was murdered there is vividly described in this book.

INSTOW, A HISTORY.

Published by Honeytone Promotions, Newstead, Instow, Devon, EX39 4LN, 1999
Telephone 01271 860653. Price £15.

There is an excellent short chapter on the two Captains Dark: William Dark 1847-1927 and his son Frederick Dark 1871-1942. These two gentlemen operated the ships to Lundy up to the early Harman period. There is an interesting comment stating that William Dark used his own cutter the "Chase" on the Lundy run before it was replaced by the first "Gannet".

THE CASTLES OF DEVON AND CORNWALL. By Mike Salter.

Published by Folly Publications, Folly Cottage, 151 West Malvern Road, Malvern, Worcs. WR1 4AY, 1999. Price £14.

This book has a section on the castle on Lundy. The excellent photograph of the castle shows it before restoration by the Landmark Trust. It has a good plan of the whole complex and a very well written chapter on the history of the castle as we know it and on the ancient stronghold that was in Bulls Paradise prior to the present castle.

HUGH PERCY HEARD, ARTIST (1866-1940)

By Roger Allen

During September last year, J. Collins and Son, Art Dealers, High Street, Bideford, put together an exhibition of 32 paintings of the above artist, some for sale and some just for exhibition. To get so many of the works of this well-known and very skilful artist in one place at one time was a considerable achievement. He painted Devon and some Cornish scenes, mainly coastal views, covering many towns and villages along the North Devon coast and it is for his sea scenes that he is best known. He worked in both oils and watercolours. He painted fewer inland scenes of Exmoor and other moorland areas and these command higher prices. He has also painted a few portraits but these have not been on view anywhere within memory.

He lived with his parents in a large house at the East end of the old bridge of Bideford, which is now the Royal Hotel. He visited Paris and on his return in 1911, he moved to "Longworthy" in Northdown Road. He became the head of the Bideford School of Art, he ran the Westward Ho! Art Club and he had a studio in the High Street, Bideford. He became very involved with amateur dramatics in his middle and later years and produced and acted in both plays and musicals.

He was not interested in exhibiting and sent only two paintings to the Royal Academy and they were both immediately accepted. He did however, exhibit a few times in his life, all before 1914, once in Liverpool and three times in London, including the Royal Academy.

He was a man of great independence and originally of spirit and a well known Bideford character. He died during the blackout in the Second World War by misjudging the width of the Quayside in Bideford. He drove his car over the edge into the Torridge at high tide and was drowned.

In the Collins exhibition last September, two of these Percy Heard paintings were of Lundy scenes. The first was a view of the Landing Beach with Rat Island, taken from about the Ugly. This fetched £850.00 in the sale. The second view of Lundy was also of the Bay but from much further up the island, from about the area of the Knight Templar. Rat Island and the South Light are visible in the distance. The view sold for £950.00.

Not in this exhibition but in my ownership, is another Percy Heard painting taken from Hartland Quay and with Lundy on the horizon. This is one of my most treasured possessions.

LUNDY ARCHIVE

As the news breaks that Lisa Cole has left Lundy for pastures new and that Ben Sampson has become the new Warden, I thought it fitting to reproduce the item titled "The Warden" from the Lundy Field Society's First Annual Report of 1947, which detailed the duties of the island's first Warden.

THE WARDEN

Rowland Barker has entirely justified the confidence placed in him at the last meeting of the Society. Despite innumerable difficulties of communication and catering, lack of equipment and of labour, he designed and was responsible for carrying-out the redecoration and equipment of the Old Light. What this has meant can only adequately be appreciated by those who have seen the building before and after his attention to it. He has also been responsible for all the catering and cooking. No one, least of all Barker himself, will maintain that this was perfect. But it was adequate, and on occasion more than adequate, and in view of the inherent difficulties we could not have expected more. Lastly, on his shoulders fell the uneasy task of maintaining that state of ease and friendliness which is essential to the well-being of a small but very diverse community in isolation. The Society owes a great debt to him for his pioneer work, and it is with deep regret that we have to record his departure to Canada.

The report was preceded with.....

.....Mr. S.J. Ball undertook the heavy task of helping the Warden to put the Old Light in order in the spring, and during an invaluable fortnight in March these two transformed the building into a very pleasant home. Miss R.E. Studdy spent several months on the island, during which she assisted the Warden to complete the cleaning and decoration of the Headquarters, helped early visiting parties in the re-erection of the trap, before it was destroyed for the second time by gales, and, in the later months of the season gave invaluable time to the recording of autumn migration, a work in which Mrs. Carter also figured prominently.

PHOTO PAGE



The New Puffin Journal commemorates with great sadness the death of Her Royal Highness Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother. The above photograph records Her Majesty's visit to Lundy in May 1958.

From left to right: The Queen Mother's detective, John Harman, Inez Harman, Ken Keast (slightly bald), Diana Keast, Robert Bendall (almost hidden), Albion Harman, Marion Harman-Jones, The Queen Mother's private secretary, Her Majesty, Peter Harman-Jones, Martin Harman-Jones, Felix W. Gade, Mrs. Rene Gade and John Ogilvie. On the landing stage in addition to the Naval Officer and Rating is Vincent Squire. Motor Trawler "Excellent" and in the distance HMRY "Britannia".



ROGER HUDSON

P.O. BOX 172.

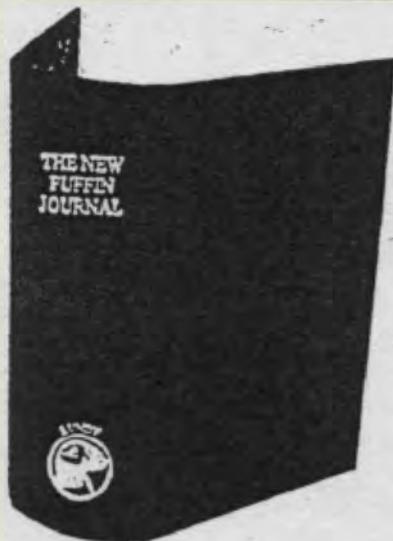
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OUR NEXT MEETING

The Summer 2002, Meeting of the Lundy Collectors Club will take place on Sunday 21st July 2002, at the Pavilion Room, Landmark, Wilder Road, Ilfracombe, North Devon. This will be an all-day meeting and will include an optional lunch. The programme will be as follows:-

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| 10.30a.m. | Bourse opens |
| 11.15a.m. | Club Competition commences |
| 12.45 to 2.15p.m. | Optional Lunch at Landmark |
| 2.00p.m. | Club Auction lots on view |
| 2.45p.m. | Secretary's announcements |
| 3.00p.m. | Club Auction (Auctioneer – Mike Thompson) |
| 4.15p.m. | Members Displays |
| 5.30p.m. | Bourse closes |

It is hoped that as many as possible will join us for the optional lunch at Landmark. The meal will be a buffet, which will include one hot dish and is on offer for the very reasonable price of £10.00 – see booking form for menu.

In order that the Club can make the necessary luncheon and accommodation arrangements, will all those wishing to attend the meeting please complete and return the enclosed Meeting Attendance form.

