

The New Puffin Journal



SUMMER 2003

Published by the Lundy Collectors Club

DO YOU RECEIVE MY REGULAR LUNDY RETAIL LISTS?

Published three times a year
with over 2000 lots each time.

STAMPS; POSTAL HISTORY; F.D.C.s
POSTCARDS; EPHEMERA; BOOKS.

Everything is listed from basic sets
to rare and specialized items.

THIS IS NOT AN AUCTION

You do not have to bid, simply order what you want.

Payment can be accepted by credit card at no extra charge

**SEPARATE LISTS AVAILABLE FOR CHANNEL ISLAND LOCAL ISSUES;
OTHER BRITISH LOCALS; CALF OF MAN & CINDERELLA ITEMS**

I ALSO BUY LUNDY - TOP PRICES PAID

If you have a collection to sell, please let me make you an offer.

JON AITCHISON

Old Tith Hall, Start Hill, Bishop's Stortford, Herts. CM22 7TF U.K.

**TELEPHONE: 01279 870 488
FOR YOUR FREE LISTS TODAY**

CONTENTS

The New Puffin Journal

Hon. President
Mrs. Diana Keast

Editor of *The New
Puffin Journal*:

James Thomas
5 Manor Drive
Kingskerswell
Devon TQ12 5HB
e-mail
thenewpuffinjournal@tiscali.co.uk
Tel. 01803 872330

Hon. Secretary
and Treasurer:

Stanley Newman
93 Montpelier Road
Brighton
East Sussex
BN1 3BE
Tel. 01273 328624
e-mail
stanewman@yahoo.com

Hon. Auctioneer &
Meeting Chairman:
Michael Thompson

Cover Picture
Drawing by
Sharon Read

ISSUE NO. 20
SUMMER 2003

REGULARS

- 1 Editorial.
- 2 Meeting Report.
- 3 Auction Report.
- 4 Lundy News.
- 5 Letters to the Editor.
- 6 Book Review.
- 27 Book Shelf.
- 30 Lundy Archive.
- 31 Photo Page.

FEATURES

- 7 Lundy Field Society AGM.
- 8 An Account of the War Service of
Felix Gade, M.C.
- 15 The 1930 Six-Puffin Blue: A
Philatelic Enigma.
- 18 1977 Royal Visit Issue Trial
Overprint.
- 19 Puffin Mania.
- 20 "Mailomat"
- 22 Inside the Mystery Black Bag.
- 23 Lundy Delayed by Storm Markings.

EDITORIAL

Welcome to our Summer 2003 Edition of your "*Journal*". Let us hope that the glorious Summer weather we have enjoyed this Spring (at least on the South Coast and in the Westcountry!) remains with us, and that we will enjoy sunny days during our forthcoming Summer Meeting in Ilfracombe and Lundy. In this respect we would like to welcome more of our Westcountry members than hitherto, and if any Westcountry member has difficulty in respect of transport to Ilfracombe, please contact the Secretary, who might be able to arrange for another member living locally, to help out. An example of this is the fact that 10 members live in Bideford, and transport can be easily arranged for those members requiring same either by car, or possibly by hiring a minibus for the day.

As you will see from the Meeting Report, the venue for our Autumn and Spring Meetings in Eastleigh has proved very popular with many of our members. With a bright and spacious room capable of accommodating about 40 people with facilities for making coffee and tea, and with lunch or sandwiches available at a nearby pub, Eastleigh will remain the venue for our future Autumn and Spring Meetings.

Many Lundy collectors also have an interest in collecting material of the Smaller Channel Islands, and our member Jon Aitchison, has now compiled a catalogue combining all these Islands into one publication, replacing the necessity of buying no less than four different catalogues. A Review of the new catalogue appears on page 6.

We look forward to meeting many of our members at the Summer Meeting particularly our three American friends George Fabian, Jim Czul and Duane Larson who are staying on Lundy the previous week. The usual arrangements have been made for the trip to Lundy and Lunch at the Landmark Theatre, and a Booking Form for reservation is enclosed. Please see that this form is returned to James Thomas in good time, to avoid disappointment. A fine illustrated brochure is available from the Ilfracombe Tourist Board, giving details of Hotels and Guest Houses.

Please don't forget to bring an entry for the Club Competitions or even a display and we both look forward to seeing you on 26th/27th July

Stanley

James

MEETING REPORT

The Spring 2003 meeting of the Lundy Collectors Club was held at The Crestwood Community Centre, Shakespeare Road, Eastleigh, Hampshire on Sunday 23rd March 2003. Just over 20 members attended which with the display boards, bourse and coffee area filled the room and made for a pleasant atmosphere.

In usual tradition the club meeting started at 10.30am with the bourse and a cup of coffee. Michael Bale travelled up from Devon and had a table laden down with his usual high quality and interesting material, also Stanley and Roger Allen were at times doing some quite brisk business.

At 11.20am we saw the start of the displays with the first presentation by Bob Harper. Bob presented a discussion on the 6p blue. The material and notes were of such a good standard that I have, with Bob's approval, published the whole display in this *Journal* on pages 15 – 17. The second display was by Mike Thompson who exhibited 30 mixed sheets ranging from a good selection of Devon Air Travel Ltd to Devonair Ltd registered mail envelopes, many Gade items and a 2d blue Red Cross double overprint on cover. Brian Drew followed Mike with a study of John Dyke souvenir folders. His collection started with the 1951 folder produced by Gazette Printing right through to the later folders as produced by Ray Shapland and Market Coins. The final display by Stanley was non-philatelic and was a 1:50 scale model he had constructed of the tugboat the "St. Canute" which worked in North Devon waters (including Lundy) during the 1930's. See photo on page 12.

After Lunch the meeting started off with Secretary's announcements. Stanley explained that the majority of the club's active members live in the South and this is why we didn't eventually go to the Midlands for the Spring Meeting. It was also suggested that the Club might make some soundings about organising a weekend meeting on Lundy in the next year or two.

At 3.00pm prompt, Mike Thompson started the Auction and as usual was ably assisted by Julie Lester and Stanley.

The afternoon finished off with our Club President, Diana Keast making tea and coffee for us all.

AUCTION REPORT

The second of our Club Auctions not to take place in London or North Devon, was held at the Club's Spring 2003 Meeting at the Crestwood Community Centre in Eastleigh, Hants. The usual crew (Mike, Julie and Stan) was in attendance. The Auction commenced at 3.00pm and the resulting 'highlights' of the sale were as follows:-

<u>Stamps</u>	£
1935 "Tramticket" ½d. value, Roll 9 – N8. LMM	18.50
1935 "Tramticket" 1d. value Roll 2 – N9. U/M	22.50
1940 Red Cross ½p with o/p on both vertical and horizontal margins N29 LMM	17.50
1940 Red Cross 1p with o/p in bottom margin N30 LMM	18
1957 New Definitive set of 6. N126-131 U/M	21
1969 Provisional Issue. 1p Red on 9p. N161A U/M	32
1975 E.A.H.Y. Error Sheetlet N194/197(a) U/M	15
1979 Essays for the 9p & 11p defs. Marginal N228E2 & E3 U/M	34
1988 First Stamp Booklet £1.26 NB246	24
1989 R.S.P.B. Sheetlet of 24 + label. 1 st Printing, Perfs through bottom margin U/M	50

Postal History

1908 Lundy Island "Thimble" cancel 30.7.08 on P/C. Fine strike	95
1935 ½d. "Tramticket" Roll 7, on cover to Barnstaple	45
1937 L.A.C.A.L. ½d. violet stamp (N17) FDC cancelled 20.6.1937	30
1939 L.A.C.A.L. ½d. red stamp (N19) FDC cancelled 31.3.1939	28
1940 Airmail cover from Canada, censored with "OPENED BY EXAMINER 5636" tape.	46
1950 Cover to Lundy with "Resumption Of Air Transport..." cachet (N Type J)	30
1951 FDC with full set of 1951 defs. with 'Lundy Air Post' cancels for 9 th June 1951	70

Postcards

"HMS Montagu stranded at Lundy, June 1 st 1906" published by Western Mail	16
"HMS Montagu in a storm". Published by Twiss Bros. NoT107A	27

Bogus

1940's German Hindenburg Head 10pf. overprinted with bogus "Insel Lundy" inverted	42
---	----

Books

1938 "Lundy Island and Lundy Locals" by John D. Stannard No. 403 of Limited Edition	33
---	----

LUNDY NEWS

THE RAT CULL

To the great surprise of most people, the eradication of all rats on Lundy has turned into an extremely “hot potato”. At first the cull seemed to be the best solution to help the Puffin population on the island to recover, however, friends of the rat have spoken out in its defence. A vociferous debate was held at the recent Lundy Field Society AGM with Mrs. Branton strongly defending the rat. Several articles attacking the actions of the Landmark Trust have appeared in local newspapers and on local television. The ‘rat defence’ is not a small disorganised group of idealists but large well known animal rights organisations such as Animal Aid and The North Devon Animal Defence.

The cull is now complete and monitoring will continue for several years to ensure that none escaped the cull and that none had been introduced to Lundy since the cull.

RUBBISH!

Island rubbish has for some years posed a bit of a problem with most of it being incinerated on the island. During 2003, island management will be formulating a Waste Management Programme with the intention of introducing a compactor, starting composting and re-cycling which in turn will reduce the amount of rubbish being incinerated.

ISLAND FAUNA

Last year was a mixed year for the island’s fauna with the Lundy Cabbage doing poorly because of over grazing. However, the heath land is in good condition with bracken controls working well. The cutting back of the rhododendrons has opened up footpaths and allowed some of the unwanted boggy areas to dry out.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

"A TOUCH OF THE ETHNICS!"

On page 20 of the last issue of the "Journal" the new Catalogue on "The Alternative Lundy Collection" by Gerald King was reviewed. Since then a most interesting correspondence has ensued between Gerald and your reviewer, which is so bizarre that (with Gerry's consent!) it merits publication:-

G.K. to Reviewer. Just received a copy of TNPJ and your article on my junk – very nicely put together with kind comments; however, you chide me for not knowing VAT is not applicable to books and catalogues. I do indeed know this; in this case VAT does NOT stand for Value Added Tax, but VEAR AND TEAR! I thought you would have realised that this is a Jewish catalogue!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! They're coming to take me away today, they're coming to take, coming, coming, coming to take me awaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaay.....

Reviewer to G.K. Sorry about the V.A.T.! I would have realised the implication had you priced the catalogue in Shekels!!

G.K. to Reviewer. Now why didn't I think of that? This calls for a reprint already!

LUNDY CHRISTMAS STAMPS, OR THE LACK OF THEM!

Still wearing my 'L' plates where Lundy stamps are concerned, I have a couple of questions that you have probably heard and dealt with many times. Why has there been only one issue of Christmas stamps (1976) and why just one issue of stamps in the last five years? Surely the authorities are losing money hands over fist or are there other reasons for such paucity?

Apart from the mid-50's Lundy has always produced stamps only when the existing supplies run short. Unlike the mainland and other PUC Countries, Lundy's stamp demand is very small and an issue can last several years before stocks run-out. 13 years ago the franking machine was introduced on Lundy which reduced considerably the number of actual postage stamps used on envelopes and as Lundy has to show a profit like all other business', I am sure that this policy will continue for many years to come. Christmas issues are appropriate for the Festive Season only, whereas Lundy stamps have to last at least a year if not two or three. Ed.

BOOK REVIEW

By 'Stanicus'

CHANNEL ISLAND LOCALS

By Jon Aitchison

For many years collectors of Lundy stamps and Postal History have also collected material from the other British Offshore Islands. It is a fact that today, there are practically as many collectors of Herm Island as there are of Lundy. Hitherto, those interested in the many smaller Channel Islands have had to refer to at least three different catalogues, the Backman/Forrester catalogue dealing with Herm, Jethou, Lihou and Brecqhou, the Newport/Newman catalogue on Sark and the Newell catalogue on Alderney.

This has now all changed! Jon Aitchison, who has specialised for many years in stamps of the Smaller Channel Islands and the French Channel Islands (as well as Lundy!) has now published a combined 128-page catalogue of the stamps of all the Channel Islands Locals. These include a few of the currently uninhabited Islands such as Brehon, Ortac, Les Ecrehous and Les Minquiers (although this is occasionally inhabited). Stamps and covers for these minute islands were produced either by the late Ken Gibson in the 1980's, or more recently by Jon himself on their various excursions by boat to visit these islands, and judging by various Auction catalogues are still quite collectable.

Following on from the Smaller Channel Islands, Jon devotes a Chapter of the catalogue to the stamps issued for the French Channel Islands off the Northwest Brittany coast. The foremost of these are Chausey and Mont St. Michel. The author states that he has deliberately confined the content of the catalogue to stamp issues, and for the more - wider collected Postal History of these islands, the Reviewer would refer collectors to the excellent catalogue on the '*FRENCH ISLANDS*' by the late Bill Newport and Tim Whitney, published in 1981.

Other subjects covered by the author are 'Shipping Companies and Maritime Mail', Guernsey and Jersey Railway Companies also UK Railways serving the C.I., Airline stamps, including all the B.E.A. and Cambrian Airways labels, British and French Postal Strike issues, and finally various tourism labels, Souvenir sheets and trading stamps issued by island retailers. Some of these stamps or labels have never been previously catalogued. To end the catalogue the author has broken his "stamp-only" policy, by listing the various postal Metermarks of Herm, Jersey and Guernsey, some of the prices for which will shock you!!

All in all, Jon is to be congratulated on a very fine and worthwhile effort – long overdue. Collectors can obtain the catalogue from the Author priced at £15.00 plus £1.00 postage and packing for UK, £2.00 for Europe and £3.00 for the rest of World – payment by UK cheque or International Money Order. See inside front cover for Jon's address.

LUNDY FIELD SOCIETY AGM.

Report by Roger Allen.

The Annual General Meeting of the Lundy Field Society was held in the Peter Chalk Centre of Exeter University on Saturday 1st March 2003. About 45 members attended including several members of the Lundy Collectors Club who hold memberships of both societies. The standard agenda of all AGMs proceeded without event, as did the reports on the birds, underwater archaeology and other Lundy matters.

It was not until an officer of the Seabird Recovery Programme, which is financed by Nature Conservancy and other groups, had finished his report on the elimination by poisoning of the Black Rat colony on Lundy that the meeting hotted up. Representatives of an opposing "Save the Black Rats" group proceeded to harangue the speaker and virtually hijacked the meeting.

This developed into a heated exchange of serious controversy between the 'Save the Black Rats' group and the 'Poison the Black Rats' gentleman. We had learned that there is apparently no shortage of black rats throughout the world but they are rare in the UK and Lundy has one of the only three thriving colonies, or rather, it did have. English Nature has covered the island with little square hard blocks of poisoned grain that apparently only the rats will eat, thus leaving the rare pygmy shrews unharmed. The save-the-ratters continued to raise the temperature of the meeting until they were, in their turn, put down by Roger Chapple, the Chairman.

Although not available at the meeting, Roger Chapple announced that the 51st Annual Report, covering the two years 2000 and 2001 had been sent out that week to members, and that the 52nd Report for 2002 would be ready by October this year. These reports are of course full of articles of a scholarly scientific nature but seldom contain anything that would excite a collector.

Shortly before the meeting finished, Roger Allen stood up to give a short comment on the activities of the Lundy Collectors Club and explained that our journals covered many more aspects of Lundy than just stamp collecting. He suggested that the two sister Societies overlapped somewhat in their activities and he recommended that real Lundy enthusiasts should join both.

The Lundy Collectors Club in fact had a table in the foyer of the Centre with copies of The New Puffin Journal on display, together with membership forms and other material. Sharon Read also had a small collection of her paintings on view and Roger Allen had brought along a couple of albums of historic letters and other Lundy ephemera.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE WAR SERVICE OF FELIX W. GADE, M.C.

By Ian Arnold



Military Cross, War and Victory medals, Captain F.W. GADE

During the First World War Felix William Gade enlisted for what was officially headed as 'Short Service' but the Attestation Document was qualified by the rider; 'Or the Duration of the War'. It was 7th December 1915. The war had been raging for well over a year by then, and the thoughts of it being over by Christmas was no longer a factor in any decisions made by those deciding to enlist. Conscription was yet to be introduced. Felix was half way to his 26th birthday, he was beyond the age of the impetuous action of youth and had probably made a long and balanced decision to 'do his bit'. His Trade or Calling at the time of attestation was 'Manager'. He was in fact an Assistant Sales Manager working at the Ford Motor Company, in Manchester. He was a married man and he and his wife Mabel had a daughter not much over two years old. He was unusually tall for his time, being 6ft 2 ½ inches and he boasted a not immodest chest measurement that expanded to 40 inches. Indeed he was fit in all respects and weighed a healthy 13 ½ stone. And so it was that Felix W. Gade, with an education gained at Heath Brow School, Boxmoor, and Kings College School, Wimbledon, was joined as Private 8865 in the Inns of Court Officer Training Corps. Not long after this, on the 21st January 1916, Felix signed his 'Imperial Service Obligation', agreeing to serve overseas as and when it was required.

In early August 1916 Lance Corporal 4/8865 Felix W. Gade, as he then was, was recommended for a commission in the Special Reserve of Officers of the 5th Battalion of the Royal Fusiliers. His appointment as Second Lieutenant in that Regiment was confirmed on the 4th November 1916, eleven months after his enlistment. Before Christmas of this same year Felix was to leave his wife and young child for service in France.

By now the real conditions endured by our soldiers at the front was beginning to reach the general population of our Island. Certainly the horrendous number of casualties could no longer be hidden or shrouded in patriotic fervour. The awful battles of the Somme had now been raging for over four months. The slaughter was becoming evident. It was the time that few families did not have, or know, of friends or relatives that were killed or injured. Discharged crippled soldiers were now a common sight. Emergency and convalescent hospitals were springing up everywhere. Inflation raged. A worrying and difficult time for those left at home as well as for those such as Temporary Second Lieutenant F. W. Gade, off to command for the first time in a foreign country in the worst war the world had ever known.

Although it was his first period of service in the field, 2nd Lieutenant Gade was not long in joining the action. He was now serving with the 8th Battalion, the Royal Fusiliers, and it was with them that he displayed the gallantry in the face of the enemy that was to win him the Military Cross. The Supplement to the Edinburgh Gazette of 19th September 1917, reads as follows;

2nd Lt. Felix William Gade, R. Fus., Spec. Res.

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in charge of an attack. He successfully captured the objective, which was counter-attacked by the enemy during the night, a few of them succeeding in entering the trench. At a critical moment he met some of the enemy rushing down the trench towards him, whereupon he promptly fired his "Very" light pistol into the face of the foremost one, so startling him that he turned and was killed by (his) own men. His conduct and coolness throughout the night, under very heavy and continuous fire, were splendid examples to all ranks.

Illustration of a "Very" Flare Pistol gun as used by 2nd Lieut. Felix Gade against the enemy in the trenches.

Not bad going for a former Under Manager of a Motor Company! Felix gained his promotion to Temporary Lieutenant (London Gazette 4/8/17) and was granted leave probably as the result of this brave action. His last period of leave was from the 12th to 23rd October 1917, and although they did not know it at the time, his wife Mabel and young daughter Roslinde were to not see him again for over a year.



Within seven weeks of his return to duty Felix was once more in the thick of it. It was the Cambrai front. This was the famous battle that saw the first use of the tank by the British Army. After the initial gains the battle raged to and fro and in this particular counter attack Felix was very lucky not to have been killed. No fewer than forty of the forty-six men of his company became casualties; either killed or wounded. Felix and the few survivors of his Company were taken prisoner of war.

The account of the action is best related by Felix himself. The following was completed in his own hand after his repatriation to England on Christmas Day, 1918. The contents of Army Form W7716/HP4609 is here transcribed in full. The purpose of the form was to assist in the routine investigation of a captured officer by Court Marshall.

QUALITY CONTROL

From tyme to time the quality of the prouf reeding has been browt to the attension of your Editors. Dispite using the automatic spell check and too prouf readins mistakes still get into print. However, in our defence, I challenge you to a small test. How many F's can you find in the following text?

FINISHED FILES ARE THE
RESULT OF YEARS OF SCIENTIFIC
STUDY COMBINED WITH THE
EXPERIENCE OF YEARS

Please turn to page 11 for the results.

Book 15 Folio 6 **CONFIDENTIAL.**
2.A.

Reference (A.G.3.) Dated, *March 17th 1919*
Name in full. *Felix William Gade.*
Rank at time of Capture *Lieutenant*
Date of Capture *30/11/17*
Place of Capture. *Bauteux Ridge. (near) Bauteux.*
If wounded or otherwise. *No*
*Company etc *"A" Coy. Unit 8th Royal Fusiliers 36th Brigade*
12th Division
Whether Escaped or Repatriated. *Repatriated*
Date of Escape or Repatriation *13/12/18*
Date of arrival in England. *25-12-18*
Present Address *19 Westmead Road, Sutton, Surrey*
**(Note:- refers to Unit etc in which serving at time of capture).*

PROOF READING – TEST RESULTS!

Wrong there are six and can be found in the following words:-
FINISHED, FILES, SCIENTIFIC and OF which appears 3 times and gives a total
of SIX.

Thanks for your patience – Ed.

STATEMENT regarding circumstances which led to capture:-

On the morning of Nov. 30th 1917, the Germans attacked in force all along the salient driven in to their line on Nov 20th 1917. The barrage started at 7 am. I was in command of "A" Coy. having half the Coy. in the front line, Pelican Trench, & half in a strong point 200 yds in rear, & on top of a spur of the Bauteux Ridge. I was in the strong point. Total strength of the Coy was 46. The barrage destroyed both the Lewis Guns in the strong point, & also inflicted many casualties. Further casualties were caused by enemy aircraft, which came over, flying very low, and firing into the trenches, at 7.50 a.m. At 8.5 a.m. I observed Germans in the valley on left flank and directed the remainder of the garrison to keep a sharp lookout, as the strong point was on the reverse slope of the spur, & therefore gave only 15 yds field of fire. At 8.15 a.m. the Germans appeared in large numbers in my immediate front and we engaged them until 8.30 a.m. inflicting several casualties. At this point a wounded man directed my attention to a large party of Germans advancing up the slope in our rear. As my force only amounted to 6 unwounded men I deemed it impossible to continue resisting. The enemy was right on top of us, & hand to hand fighting was in progress.

F.W.Gade. Lieutenant.

To The Secretary, War Office, Whitehall, London, S.W.1.



Model of the "St. Canute" as produced by Stanley Newman

An account of hand-to-hand fighting in the trenches that could have come from a boys' adventure book of the time. Clearly the Germans were making a determined effort to regain their position. They used bombardment, infantry assault in force, and even air support. It is little wonder that the casualties were so high and the position lost. Felix spent the next year in an Officer Prisoner of War Camp at Karlsruhe, in Germany. Upon his release, the Council of Enquiry set up to investigate the circumstances of his capture attached no blame to Lieutenant Gade. Indeed he was promoted to 'Captain' retrospectively to the date of his capture. 'Captain' is the rank that appears on the War and Victory medals that he was awarded after the war. His Military Cross is un-named as is usual for this medal.

After his discharge from the Army in April of 1919, Captain F. W. Gade, M.C., returned to the motor trade and to the job he had held before the war. It was in 1925, however, as we all know very well, that he gave up this job and assumed the position of Resident Agent for Lundy.

And the rest, as they say, is History!

Footnote.

I never had the honour of meeting Mr Gade, 'Gi' or the 'Giant' as he was known. And one can only speculate as to the part that his war experiences played in the formation of his character. There is no doubt however that he was a very special man. The last word must be left to *Myrtle Ternstrom* in her forward to the 1997 edition of 'My Life on Lundy', by Felix Gade;

My Life on Lundy is in itself a memorial to a man of remarkable qualities, who devoted himself to a beloved island through his prodigious workload and his wide range of capacities and interests. He was loyal, upright, conscientious, not afraid to be stern when necessary, yet possessed of a sense of humour and a gift for telling a story that made his company a pleasure and an inextricable part of the Lundy experience for so many years.

Any further communication on this subject should be addressed to—

The Secretary,
War Office,
London, S.W.1.

and the above number quoted.

WAR OFFICE,
LONDON, S.W.1.

145802/6 A.B.3(P...)

145802/6 A.B.3(P...)

The Secretary of the War Office presents his compliments
to Lieutenant F. W. Gade, D.S.O.

The Royal Fusiliers.

and begs to state that he is commanded by the Army Council to inform him that his statement regarding the circumstances of his capture by the enemy having been investigated, the Council considers that no blame attaches to him in the matter.

The investigation was carried out by a Standing Committee of Enquiry composed as follows:—

Major-General L. A. E. PRICE-DAVIES, V.C., C.M.G., D.S.O.

Brigadier-General C. R. J. GRIFFITH, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.

Brevet-Lieut.-Col. E. L. CHALLENGER, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.

The report of the Army
Council Committee of
Enquiry

Felix and Rene Gade
on Lundy sometime
between the Wars.
(From 'My Life on
Lundy', by permission)



THE 1930 SIX-PUFFIN BLUE: A PHILATELIC ENIGMA

By Bob Harper

The 1930 Six-Puffin stamp was only printed in Mauve – right? Read on and draw your own conclusions.

John Stannard, the first great Lundy specialist collector and author of the definitive book “Lundy Island and The Lundy Locals” recorded in his book that his research assistant had established beyond a doubt that the 6 Puffin value was originally printed in Blue but altered to Mauve without notice. This information was sent to Stannard in a letter dated 11th February 1937 following the researcher’s investigations on Lundy Island and at the Ilfracombe Museum. Stannard made enquiries of the stamps printers, Bradbury Wilkinson and Co., who wrote to Stannard in May 1938 as follows: “The file copy of the 6 Puffin label is Blue.... There are no secret marks on the stamps and as to who the artist was who drew the design we have no information.”

Stannard made further enquiries of the printers and Bradbury Wilkinson wrote again stating: “In regard to your question concerning the two colours Blue and Mauve in the 6 Puffin label, possibly the best description of the colour of the 6 Puffin label is Blue-Mauve. There was only one printing and the colour was never changed in the course of printing.”

Stannard acquired a Blue 6 Puffin on piece, uncancelled, in 1938. He stated that he had submitted it to colour experts for examination and they declared that it was a true colour and had not been produced by chemical change. He also stated that in America at that time (1938) apart from his own piece there existed a complete sheet of 6 Puffin Blue stamps and also, although not seen by him, a used pair on cover.

In his booklet “The Postal History of Lundy” Mr. Felix Gade, Lundy’s Postmaster stated that no sheets of 6 Puffin Blue had been sent to Lundy and that he had never seen any except a few which had been exposed to strong sunlight and had faded. Yet after his death when the old office desk was cleared out, a mint pristine 6 Puffin Blue was found tucked at the back of one of the drawers.

F.R. Downing M.P.S. wrote a book in 1956 entitled “The Lundy Locals”. He stated that it was written at the request of many fellow collectors and used his many notes made over the previous 20 years. In it he states “In the 6 Puffin value, the very first printing (which is rarely seen) was made in Blue but this was quickly changed to Mauve to avoid confusion with the 1 Puffin”.



Block of the Six Puffin Blue showing the 6 transfer types

Issue 11 (January 1964) of "The Puffin, Newsletter of The Lundy Specialists' Society" an item by Barry Chinchin appears in which he describes the various experiments which he carried out to produce a "blue". Having succeeded, by leaving a specimen in the sun for several weeks, he had a faded, dull grey-blue specimen. Barry Chinchin then compared this stamp to one owned by Fred Bloedow, a fellow LSS member, which was overprinted for the Wright Brothers issue and found it "to be of a turquoise blue, quite unlike my faded specimen".

Mr Chinchin did succeed by means of dipping a corner of the stamp in detergent – no effect, but then he steamed the stamp and "the gum under the corner, which had been coated with detergent, went pink, and when the paper had dried the ink above this was turquoise blue".

On page 16 we have a block of the Six Puffin Blue showing all six-transfer types. The gum is undisturbed and shows the normal diagonal streakiness of the 1930 issues. There is no evidence of any lingering red or mauve pigment, even under magnification. No conclusion can be drawn from this however as it may equally be a block originally printed in mauve and then later changed in some way which did not affect the gum. The block certainly shows no sign of interference.

An early catalogue published by Mr Windeatt, lists, and prices, the 6 Puffin Blue as number 6a and also as number 53h with the 'V+Plane' overprint. There is no listing of my IX Anniversary stamp.

I have a letter written by the eminent American collector, Roger Chicorz in which he describes leaving mauve stamps in the Colorado sun at 5,200 feet elevation. He states that they turned blue. He then made the statement that not all turned fully blue, some showing evidence of the red pigment so perhaps, he says, there were two ink types used, one of which had a more stable red pigment. I have also heard this unlikely theory expressed elsewhere but I cannot now find the source.

There you have it – all the evidence I could find – you make your own mind up.

Editor's note:- Readers interested in the 6-Puffin blue are referred to the two-page article on this stamp, in the Summer 1997 issue of The New Puffin Journal.

1977 ROYAL VISIT ISSUE TRIAL OVERPRINT

By Jim Mullett

In 1977 when Her Royal Highness Queen Elizabeth planned to visit Lundy on 2nd August, Lundy decided to mark the occasion with a special overprinted version of the 1977 Royal Silver Wedding Souvenir Sheet. However, island officials were sworn to secrecy about the visit and could not even tell the stamp printers. Advance arrangements had to be made, so the proofs were printed with the decoy wording of "Naval Visit 2 August 1977" and only the final printing had the actual wording of "Royal Visit 2 August 1977". Below is a copy of the proof sheet as produced by Walsall Security Printers Ltd., and an enlargement of one of its stamps.



PUFFIN MANIA

The Lundy Collectors Club claims to be a club covering **all** collecting interest relating to Lundy and not just another stamp club. Mr K. Munro is a fine example because not only does he collect Lundy Stamps and Postal History but also has a pretty fine collection of Puffin related ephemera.

Below is a picture, supplied by Mr Munro, of part of his Puffin collection. The most worrying thing about this picture is that I am sure there is someone out there who is hell bent on bettering it! Thank you Mr Munro and good luck with your Lundy Collection.



CORRECT POSTAGE

It is always good to receive mail from Lundy collectors especially when the mail contains articles for the *Journal*. However, recently not all mail has had the correct postage applied to it. This cost me time of having to go into town to the General Post Office and the Club money in car parking and the Post Office's "To Pay" fee. Please keep sending in the articles but please ensure it is carrying the correct postage rate. Thank you. Don't forget that Postage Rates were increased by 1p in May.

"MAILOMAT"

Card supplied by Diana Keast

The post card shown below was sent to Martin Coles Harman from a war time friend and has a note relating to the idea of Lundy adopting such a machine – perhaps Mr. Harman’s discretion was for the good of Lundy and of course would it accept and dispense Lundy stamps?



The "MAILOMAT"

... is a coin operated U. S. mailbox for people who have letters to mail, and no stamps. It is a "self-service postoffice" that mails your letters without need of adhesive stamps.

To mail a letter you (1) drop money in coin slot (2) dial correct postage denomination (3) insert letter in letter slot. The machine does the rest: automatically takes your letter, prints postage and postmark on it, and holds it for collection ... provides postage from 1c to 36c, including Air Mail, Special Delivery, etc., with no premium for postage. Metered mail needs less postoffice handling, often catches earlier trains and planes, starts on its way sooner.

The "Mailomat" is a pre-war invention of Pitney-Bowes Postage Meter Co., Stamford, Conn., now converted to war production; was developed in cooperation with the U. S. Post Office Dept. to facilitate public use of the mails in post office lobbies, railway terminals, etc. Manufacturing will begin when the war is won. Try this new "stampless" postal service now. Use this card to say "hello" to that boy in Service. And when using the mails these days, at home or office, remember to mail early and often ... to help clear the track for war mail ... and to help the Post Office help you!

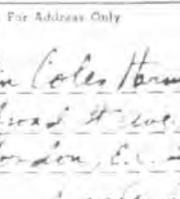


POST CARD

Please do not write directly below:



Instructional post card, compliments of Pitney-Bowes Postage Meter Co.

This Space For Your Greeting	This Space For Address Only
<p>Greetings and come on you may have these at the day, for friend. John C. Harman 500 500 Lathrop, Oregon</p>	<p>   PASSED 9:10 PM Martin Coles Harman 65 Broad St. New London, Conn. 06103 England </p>



Hand embossing press used by Barry Chinchin in 1973

INSIDE THE MYSTERY BLACK BAG

By Roger Allen.

In the Spring 2003 issue of *The New Puffin Journal* there is a picture of Stanley Newman, Mike Thompson and a mysterious black plastic rubbish bag. The unopened bag apparently contained the contents of Barry Chinchin's waste paper basket for several decades and Stanley took the risk of bidding for it in the auction and winning it.

It contained a treasure trove indeed and we have probably all obtained by now one or two interesting items from it. I certainly did so at the Eastleigh meeting on Sunday 23rd March this year. One of the items, which I purchased from Stanley, turned out to be more than interesting.

We all remember the embossed puffin which Barry designed and impressed on some 3p value Machin postage stamps and Air Mail labels in 1973. He was most adamant that he would only emboss that particular 3p value and no other. The GPO somehow noticed these items and he had to curtail the practice. Used on cover from that period, this item is now not easy to obtain.

To return to the black plastic bag. Looking through the items that Stanley had on offer at the meeting, I noticed a piece of paper completely covered on one side with the black circular LUNDY PHILATELIC SERVICE cachets. On the reverse, there were only three of these cachets and they cancelled two Machin postage stamps, one a half penny value the other a penny value. I purchased it amongst other oddities and only later noticed that both these Machins had been embossed twice over with Barry's puffin. I showed it to Barry Chinchin who was at the meeting, and he said that it had been an experiment to see if two of the embossed puffins would fit onto one stamp, which they do. He also confirmed that the item was quite unique because, apart from this piece, all the stamps he had embossed were 3p values. (Gnashing of teeth by Stanley who didn't notice it!!)

Rather appropriate to the above comments, I should add that Barry had brought along to the meeting the very same little embossing press that he had used in 1973 and he embossed, on the spot, pieces of paper with the puffin for any members that wanted them. (See illustration on page21)

LUNDY DELAYED BY STORM MARKINGS

By John Holman

My main interest in Lundy lies in the postal markings since circa 1950 and I have a particular liking for the Delayed By Storm markings. I recorded known dates of these in articles in *LCCPQ* Fall 1986, Summer 1990 and Summer 1991 and *The New Puffin Journal* issue 1 Spring 1997. This note records further seen, or reported, dates of use of these interesting markings.

Type 1 Oval cachet, 38x25mm (Newman Type P)

<i>Lundy date stamp</i>	<i>Colour</i>	<i>British Postmark</i>	<i>Notes</i>
9 February 62	Black	9 February 62	LUNDY/EUROPA cancel
6 March 62	Black	unknown	
9 April 62	Black	10 April 62	LUNDY/EUROPA cancel
26 September 62	Black	27 Sept' 62	
10 December 64	Green	11 December 64	
24 January 65	Green	25 January 65	
4 February 65	Green	4 February 65	Said to be inward cover
30 July 65	Green	unknown	
12 September 65	?Green	13 September 65	
?February 68	Green	unknown	
28 November 69	Green	unknown	
?January 70	Green	28 January 70	
?February 70	Green	?	Swansea, Glam. Postmark
19 June 71	?	21 June 71	

Type 2 Oval cachet, 45x27mm (Newman Type T)

<i>Lundy date stamp</i>	<i>Colour</i>	<i>British postmark</i>
?	Green	17 July 70
?	Green	13 January 71
5 February 72	Green	unknown
20 October 72	Green	unknown

Type 3 Oval cachet, 50x31mm (Newman Type DS-1)

<i>Lundy date stamp</i>	<i>British postmark</i>	<i>Notes</i>
4 August 1973	8 August 1973	Date of British postmark not previously recorded

23 January 1974 26 January 1974

This is the scarcest of the three pre-1974 cachets, with just 10 dates so far recorded, ranging from 14 November 1972 to 23 January 1974. Reports of other dates would be particularly welcome.

Type 4 Oval cachet, 36x20mm (Newman DS-2)

There seems to be some confusion between this oval cachet and the similarly inscribed plate in the Lundy meter mark. I believe the cachet itself was used only from April to June 1974, and that most or all of the later dates (October 1974 to December 1979) noted in descriptions in auction catalogues probably refer to the oval Delayed plate in the meter mark. However, I am ready to be proved wrong and would welcome photocopies of any of the actual use of the oval cachet after June 1974. The latest date recorded so far is 23 June 1974.

Type 5 Circular cachet, 22.5mm diameter (Newman DS-3)

<i>Meter date</i>	<i>Lundy date stamp</i>	<i>Notes</i>
20 December 1974	-	
2 March 1975	-	Type 4 may also have been applied

Type 6 Circular cachet, 22.5mm diameter (Newman DS-4)

<i>Meter date</i>	<i>Lundy hand stamp</i>	<i>Notes</i>
13 December 1982	11 December 1982	
22 November 1983	22 November 1983	
30 November 1983	29 November 1983	
5 March 1984	?	
19 May 1984	?	
-	25 April 1985	Incoming cover
?	23 October 1986	
?	? November 1986	
30 March 1987	30 March 1987	
16 December 1987	16 December 1987	
8 April 1988	7 April 1988	
?	27 November 1992	Unaddressed cover
?	4 December 1992	Unaddressed cover
1 November 1993	31 October 1993	
18 December 1993	17 December 1993	
?	5 April 1994	
?	24 June 1994	
21 November 1994	19 November 1994	
19 May 1995	18 May 1995	

Type 7 Oval cachet, 30x17mm, showing view of island (Newman DS-5)

<i>Meter date</i>	<i>Lundy date stamp</i>	<i>Notes</i>
11 September 1995	5 September 1995	
27 May 1997	26 May 1997	
-	5 January 1998	British stamps not cancelled
9 March 1998	7 March 1998	
22 December 1998	21 December 1998	
6 August 1998	4 August 1998	
6 August 1999	-	Delayed cachet used to cancel Lundy stamp
5 November 1999	1 November 1999	
21 November 1999	19 November 1999	
24 July 2002	23 July 2002	
24 July 2002	-	Postcard, Lundy stamp cancelled by meter

1974-83 Use of Delayed by Storm plate in meter

A Delayed by Storm hand stamp (Type 4) and meter plate were introduced in 1974 and Lundy stamps on the top left-hand corner of postcards were cancelled by this plate. Delayed by Storm hand stamps were not generally used between 1975 and 1983. The Lundy stamps were cancelled with LUNDY/BRISTOL CHANNEL date stamps (Newman Ya and Yb) and the delay indicated by the Delayed by Storm plate in the meter (Newman Vb).

<i>Meter date</i>	<i>Lundy date stamp</i>
13 August 1974	Postcard – no date stamp
1 February 1978	31 January 1978
6 July 1978	6 July 1978
8 January 1979	? January 1979
19 February 1979	unknown
29 January 1982	29 January 1982

I am obliged to Lars Liwendahl for supplying a list of Delayed markings in his collection; the dates have been incorporated in this article. I should be obliged for reports (preferably with photocopies) from other LCC members of any dates not recorded by me in articles in the *LCC Philatelic Quarterly* of Fall 1986, Summer 1990 and Summer 1991 and *The New Puffin Journal* Spring 1997 and this article. Please send reports to: John Holman, 111 Warren Road, Dartford, Kent, DA1 1PP.



Number 1 (Type 'P')



Number 2 (Type 'T')



Number 3 (Type 'DS-1')



Number 4 (Type 'DS-2')



Number 5 (Type 'DS-3')



Number 6 (Type 'DS-4')



Number 7 (Type 'DS-5')



Delayed by Storm meter cancel

BOOK SHELF

Roger Allen comments on the different versions of this handbook

LUNDY ISLAND AND THE LUNDY LOCALS. By John D. Stanard of Chattanooga, Tennessee.

This well-known booklet of 36 pages, produced in October 1938 is described on the outer cover as a 'Philatelic handbook' and it certainly was the first attempt to discuss every aspect of Lundy up to the time of printing. Martin Coles Harman is quoted on the cover, where he states that the book is "The standard work on the subject" and indeed at the time that was certainly true.

The handbook commences with general sections on the history of Lundy from the Middle Ages to date and then gives the history of postal services to the island. He has a section that he calls the 'Birth of the Puffin Stamps' in which he recounts the gradual decision-making processes with regard to the first stamp issues and the coins. The section entitled 'Method of Handling Lundy Mails' is quite interesting, as it describes exactly how Mr. Gade collected, handled and sent off the mail. He also lists the puffinage rates prevailing at the time. All this detailed information covering those early days would be lost if Stanard and others like him had not recorded it all accurately in publications such as this.

The handbook is lavishly illustrated with stamps, covers and other subjects, which include a photograph of Martin Coles Harman himself, Captain Dark of the 'Gannet', the castle, the tavern and a mail plane. The illustrations of the stamps, covers and philatelic ephemera are all very clear and an interesting aspect of the 'tram ticket' illustrations is that many of them are tied by MCH's 'puffin on a rock' cancellation, rather than the Atlantic Coast Air Services own canceller.

Under Stanard's name on the title page, all the five philatelic societies of which he was a member are listed. It also gives credit to a Mr. Charles Thornley of Greystone, Ilfracombe, described as Research Assistant. Apparently he made several trips to Lundy to obtain information for Stanard and he became the 'heart' of the study. To my knowledge Mr. Thornley appears nowhere else in Lundy literature.

On page 16 appears that well-known and quite weird map of Lundy. It would appear that the artist of this map, a certain Mr. Ernest Dudley Chase, of Winchester, Massachusetts, either did not know the real shape of the island or he just ignored it. He makes Lundy fat and short, although all the tiny pictures on the map of the church, castle, lighthouse etc. are perfectly drawn miniatures.

On page 32 of the handbook, a letter from Martin Coles Harman to Ralph A. Kimble, editor of the American Philatelist, praises to the heavens this work by Stanard who, he says, is entitled to be recognized as the world's authority on Lundy postal issues. 'Lundy Island and the Lundy Locals' says MCH, can be accepted as the standard work on the subject. The final page of the book has a very unusual Special Acknowledgement. It is addressed to the printer, J. W. Stowell of Federalsburg, Maryland and acknowledges the personal interest of the printer and his unusual craftsmanship in the production of philatelic books.

I have this handbook in two different versions. It was first printed in October 1938 and bound in buff imitation leather card. There were 50 copies of this version and it is stated that they were for the Press. Page 2 of this version contains only the text 'Copyright, 1938. By John D. Stanard, Chattanooga, Tenn.' My copy has the additional manuscript dedication as follows:- 'For my friend, Reverend Thos. Brewster, as a philatelic reminder of his visit to Chattanooga. Sincerely, John D. Stanard. May 22, 1940.' On page 12 of my copy, Stanard has stuck down a gutter block of four of the first ½ puffin stamps and he has inscribed with his name and 'Chattanooga, Tenn. May 22 1940'.

Also in October 1938, the handbook was printed with dark maroon covers in thicker card than the other version. There were 450 of this printing and on page 2 there is additional printed text reading 'This Edition Consists of 50 Unnumbered Press Copies and 450 Serially Numbered Library Copies, of Which This Is No.....' My copy is numbered 403.

Lundy Island and the Lundy Locals had in fact previously been serialised in the American Philatelist in five separate issues from May to September 1938. The first page of each of the five serialisations contained the aerial photograph of Lundy that was later used on the first page of the October 1938 handbook. There are many textual revisions between the later handbook and this serialised version.

In the form serialized in the American Philatelist, for example, there is a sentence immediately after the rates which reads: 'Fourteen pounds is the weight limit which will be accepted for parcel post mailing by the British Postoffice Department and any parcels that weigh more become ordinary freight.' In the handbook this sentence has been omitted.

Stanard seems to have believed implicitly in the Blue 6 puffin and he covers this in great detail in the handbook, including the story that the printers file copy was blue. In the final page of the last American Philatelist serialisation of September 1938, there is an 'Important Correction', which states that the rarest Lundy item is the Blue 6 puffin stamp.

The photographs and illustrations in the American Philatelist serialized version are in a completely different order to the later handbook and there are far too many other textual differences to detail here. One very interesting difference, which it is worth mentioning, is the addition in the American Handbook of a section called 'Comments by Lundy's Owner' dated Lundy, 13th July 1938. In this letter, MCH thanks Stanard for describing all the details of the Lundy stamps, saying that these details could have been lost if they had not been recorded in this way. MCH goes on to give Lundy a piece of advertising by praising and describing the animal and plant life of Lundy, including the Lundy Cabbage and its beetles and the trap door spider. He also praises the ancient monuments of the island going back to 4000 BC. Interestingly, he hopes that readers of the American Philatelist will come to Lundy when they attend the 1940 International Stamp Exhibition in London to celebrate 100 years of the postage stamp. Of course, this Exhibition did not take place because of the war.

NEXT ISSUE.....

The 1969 Appeal Census Results

The final results of the 1969 Appeal Census which was started two years ago.

1996 Lundy Field Society 50th Anniversary Issue

This quite modern issue will be described in detail with some very rare material not seen before.

.....AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!

LUNDY ARCHIVE

The Archive item this time is an interesting extract from a letter sent by Martin Coles Harman, the then owner of Lundy, to the Lundy Field Society in 1950 and has touched on several topical subjects without any modern day political correctness.

.....My last year's suggestion for the re-opening of the Island siding path through the rhododendrons was carried out to the general advantage. I hope that this year new members may be reminded of their responsibility to give half a day to keeping this path clear and of continuing it in a northward direction.

The uninitiated often refer to Lundy as 'Lundy Island', forgetting that 'Lunde' means puffin and 'y' or 'ey' means Island. I hope members will help me to combat this practice. As the British Post Office insist on perpetuating the error we shall never quite succeed, but we can at least do our best.

M.V. *Lerina* will not be in commission in 1951. The *Margaret Rose*, owner Mr Stribling, Master Archibald Hooper, will serve the Island from Bideford Quay.

There will be an air service from Chivenor owing to the initiative and enterprise of Mr J.E.L. Drabble, telephone number Braunton 435 and 421.

The Boundaries Commission has recommended that the inhabitants of Lundy should be given a parliamentary vote and that Lundy should be incorporated for that purpose in the Torrington Division.

From the point of view of the Islanders and of the Society I scent trouble, for if these people force the vote down the Islanders' necks they may thereafter claim to be able to interfere in Island policy.....

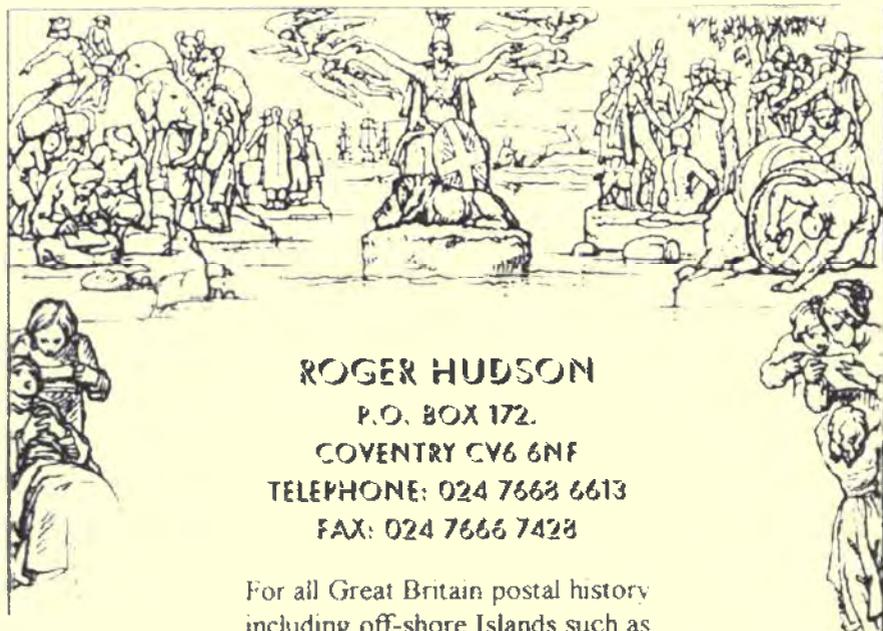
.....I carefully questioned everyone on the Island without in any way pressing my own views, and this without seeking to discover what the particular person's political views were (which I hold would be wrong for an employer to do). I found remarkable unanimity. They just don't want the vote. They want to be left alone to grapple with the daily problems.....

.....England suffers already from too many cooks. The addition of a further dozen or so more cooks from Lundy is unlikely to improve the broth.

PHOTO PAGE



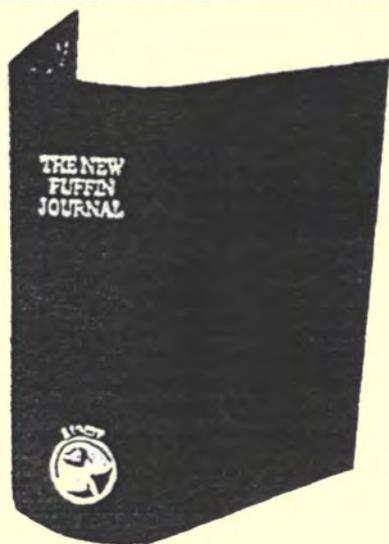
Diana Keast, Club President and former co-owner of Lundy



ROGER HUDSON
P.O. BOX 172.
COVENTRY CV6 6NF
TELEPHONE: 024 7668 6613
FAX: 024 7666 7428

For all Great Britain postal history
including off-shore Islands such as
Lundy, Sark, Herm, Alderney,
Guernsey and Jersey contact

ROGER HUDSON



BINDERS FOR YOUR JOURNALS

Holds 12 '*JOURNALS*'
Bound in maroon leatherette with
gold lettering and logo
£5.00 + p&p (£1.00 UK,
£1.75 Europe)
from the Editorial Office

OUR NEXT MEETING

The Summer 2003, Meeting of the Lundy Collectors Club will take place on Sunday 27th July 2003, 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
12.30 to 2.15p.m.	Optional Lunch at Landmark
2.15p.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.	Boures 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 on hot dish and is on offer for the very reasonable price of £11.50 - 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.

LUNDY COLLECTORS CLUB MEETING

