

The New Puffin Journal



1924 - 2004

SPRING 2004

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*,
Hon. Secretary
and Treasurer:

James Thomas
5 Manor Drive
Kingskerswell
Devon TQ12 5HB
e-mail
[thenewpuffinjournal
@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:thenewpuffinjournal@tiscali.co.uk)
Tel. 01803 872330

Hon. Auctioneer &
Meeting Chairman:
Michael Thompson

Cover Picture:
The Late
Stanley Newman

REGULARS

- 1 Editorial
- 8 Meeting Report
- 9 Lundy News
- 10 Letters to the Editor
- 11 Book Review
- 26 Diary 2004
- 29 Book Shelf
- 30 Lundy Archive
- 31 Photo Page

FEATURES

- 2 Obituary – Stanley Newman
- 3 Obituary – John Dyke
- 4 A Tribute to John Dyke
- 12 1977 Royal Visit Issue – Continued
- 13 1969 ‘40th Anniversary’ Issue
- 16 1988 Rat Island Rocket Mail
- 19 ‘Velindra’
- 22 ‘Lundy – An Illustrated Catalogue
of Souvenir Folders of Lundy
Stamps’
- 23 Lundy Stamp Meet Revisited
- 24 LFS Newsletter Number 33
- 27 Sold at Auction
- 28 Auction Report

ISSUE NO. 22
SPRING 2004

EDITORIAL

This year is the 75th Anniversary of Lundy Postage Stamps and should be a most joyous time, however, I can only compare it with Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth's Golden Jubilee year which had a most tragic start with the loss of two close family members. Our Anniversary year has also started in a similar way with the sad loss of John Dyke who designed many of Lundy's stamp issues, and my dear friend Stanley Newman who was the driving force behind the Lundy Collectors Club over the last seven years.

Stanley promoted the Club and Lundy philately with passion and was always looking at ideas of making it even more interesting. Do you remember the 'Great Bottle Launch' of two years ago and the Lundy quizzes in the early issues of the *Journal*? His swan-song was the 'INDEX' which I consider to be a fitting tribute to all the hard work that he did over the last seven years.

I will miss Stanley and I am sure many of you will feel the same way, however, the Club must continue as, pardon the cliché, I am sure that is what Stanley would have wanted.

We have a packed programme of events planned for this year, which will culminate with the Autumn meeting on Lundy to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of Lundy stamps. Keith Hand is the weekend organiser and has already made the accommodation bookings and is now planning a programme of events and speakers. As Keith has made such a good job of organising this meeting, he has accepted an invitation to fill the gap left by Stanley and take on the role of meeting organiser. For details of this years events, please refer to the 'Diary 2004' item.

I am planning several souvenirs, which will be produced throughout the year to celebrate the 75th Anniversary. The first of these is a souvenir envelope, which is now on sale and will raise funds for the Club. For those who have not yet ordered their copy of the 'INDEX' can still do so and Brian Drew has produced a new publication which is reviewed in this *Journal*.

So despite the very sad loss of Stanley, his legacy has left the Club in a very strong position to carry it forward into the next seven years

James

Stanley Newman
1924 - 2004

On Friday 30th January 2004, Stanley Newman was suddenly taken ill and sadly passed away at the age of 79 years.

Stanley who spent most of his life in London and more recently in Brighton trained as an Architect at the University of Central London. On qualifying he spent a short time working for Local Government as a Planning Officer before setting up his own architectural practice.

However, to Lundyphiles, Stanley will be remembered for his immense contribution to Lundy philately and literature. He published his first 'Stamps of Lundy Island' priced stamp catalogue in 1984 and up-dated it in 1993. In 1991 he published a much needed 'Postal History, Postmarks and Cachets of Lundy Island' catalogue which again was followed up in 1996 with an up-dated second edition. Stanley's literary talents did not stop with philatelic publications because in 1993 he published 'Mailboats to Lundy' and then in 1994 'm.s. Oldenburg – Lundy's supply and mailboat'

Stanley was the driving force behind the Lundy Collectors Club (UK Chapter). In 1996 he invited all the UK and European members to an inaugural meeting in London and formed the UK Chapter, which upon the demise of the American club became the Lundy Collectors Club that we all know today.

His devotion to duty was immense and at times he worked from his hospital bed gathering information for a good story for the *Journal*, much against the advice of his Doctor. His loss will leave a huge hole in the club for some time to come.

The Club sends its deepest sympathy to his widow Glen, Son Danny and his Daughters, Karen and Jenny.

Obituary of John C A Dyke

By Tom Baker

It is with great sadness I have to inform you that John Dyke has died after a spell of illness in Barnstaple Hospital on 30th November 2003, John was 80 years old.

John was born on 16th May 1923 at Rossett in Denbighshire. He gained a scholarship to Chester School of Art (1938-41) where he studied line design, book illustration, calligraphy, painting, etching and wood carving and was awarded the Randolph Calcott prize for book illustration and the Westminster Gold Medal.

During the war he served as a tactical sketcher with the Second Army based at Ashley Gardens, Victoria Street and St. Paul's School London, producing maps for the invasion of Normandy. After the war he freelanced, principally for the Hulton Press, following which he and his wife Joan and their children Peter and Jilly moved to North Devon. John spent 10 years at a cob and thatch cottage at Alwinton near Bideford followed by another 10 years at Barnstaple.

In 1970 John and his family moved to Lundy at the request of the Landmark Trust to set-up a magazine "The Illustrated Lundy News" which ran between 1970 and 1975. John also designed several Lundy stamp issues from 1951 to 2002.

On returning to the mainland John was first established at Boscastle, followed by Saltram House, Bohetherick St. Domonick on the Trusts Cotehele Estate, then back to Chanters Road, Bideford and finally to a Rest Home at Kenworth, Abbotsham.

Countless people will have enjoyed numerous examples of John's distinctive style of pen and ink drawings, which have embellished so many pieces of Trust literature printed over the years. Artwork for touring guides, newspaper advertisements, getting around leaflets and shop goods were just a sample of John's output. On John's retirement he produced many watercolours, which are a delight, and give much pleasure to their owners.

John was a gentle man, witty and very kind, he loved children and gave all of us who met him some lovely memories.

The Lundy Collectors Club sends our deepest sympathy to his family.

A TRIBUTE TO JOHN DYKE

To Members of the Lundy Collectors Club, John Dyke is mainly associated with the design of Lundy stamps since 1951. However, as several articles published in *The New Puffin Journal* over the years have shown, John's artwork can be found in all kinds of printed material.

Before John became known for his work in connection with Lundy and the National Trust, he had many other irons in the fire including a series of Nature strips in the very earliest issues of the famous Eagle Comic. Back in the Summer of 1997, Roger Allen had a five page article published in *TNPJ* about John's work with the Eagle Comic. I have no intention of reprinting the whole article, but have selected one illustration, which is shown on page 6. John worked with the National Trust as their Principle Artist for the South West and lived in several National Trust properties in Devon and Cornwall. During his time with the National Trust he designed a series of booklets, which again has been covered in detail by Roger Allen in the Autumn 2003 issue of *TNPJ*.

However, for Lundy Collector Club Members, John will always be remembered for numerous stamp issues that he designed. He covered many aspects of Lundy scenes and life. The beautifully detailed Royal National Lifeboat Institute se-tenant sheet, the one and only Christmas issue of 1976 showing Wintry scenes of St. Helena's church and the marvellous drawing of Felix Gade carrying the Post sack in the 1979 50th Anniversary of Lundy Post issue, are just some of the numerous stamps that he designed. In 1991 a souvenir card was produced to commemorate John's 40th anniversary as Lundy stamp designer. It was listed by Stanley Newman in his 'Stamps of Lundy Island' catalogue although it was not an officially issued card which only demonstrates how important John has been to Lundy Stamp design.

John's artwork was not restricted to just Lundy stamps, he was responsible for the design of many officially issued First Day Covers and one of his most recent designs is illustrated on page 7.



A card of bird sketches by John Dyke



One of John's more recently designed stamp issues and First Day Cover – signed by John as stamp designer and Reg Lo-Vel as Lundy Postmaster.

MEETING REPORT

The Autumn 2003 Meeting of the Lundy Collectors Club was held on Sunday 19th October 2003, at the Crestwood Community Centre, Eastleigh, Hampshire

The attendance was down on previous meetings held at this venue with several regular members sending their apologies, however, despite this the meeting followed the usual format with some very interesting material on display.

The bourse was supported by two members who between them had a good variety of material for sale. At 11.15am Mike Thompson presented the first half of the display. To be very topical, he showed a 6p blue changeling and examples of the stamp in various stages of the changing process. This was followed by a 'pot purri' of Lundy philatelic material. A letter signed in 1954 by F.W. Gade, "Lundy Postmaster" to Mr J.M.Y. Trotter, an Admiralty chart of Lundy and 16 sheets of various wartime issues. Amongst the wartime issues included a 1942 Tighearna sheet used on cover, a complete set of 5 obliteration trials of the IX Anniversary 6p mauve and printers waste including a block of 6 with spilt green printers ink.

The second half of his display consisted of 24 sheets of many rare and/or unusual Lundy stamp items. Included was a picture of puffins on Lundy by John Ogilvy, 1957 1 puffin red definitive in a sheet of 60, black and white proof of the 1969 40th Anniversary issue and a 'V+plane' stamp with an inverted plane. Also on display was the 1942 'V+plane' 1 puffin with violet overprint, in the very rare mint condition.

The afternoon session started with the viewing of the Auction lots and this was followed by Secretary's announcements. Stanley raised only two items, the first item was a vote on whether we should hold the Summer 2004 meeting at Ilfracombe. The unanimous opinion was that the Summer meeting at Ilfracombe has been so successful that it should be continued. The final item was to announce that the 'Index' would be published during January 2004.

The Auction followed with brisk bidding at times after which and with no other business the meeting closed at 4.30pm.

LUNDY NEWS

ISLAND SEEKS VOLUNTEER HELP

The following item was printed in the Western Morning News on 18th September 2003.

“Volunteers are being sought to go to the get-away-from-it-all island of Lundy for a working conservation holiday.

It won't necessarily be a rest, but there will certainly be peace and quiet for those who help the Northern Devon Coast and Countryside Service on the week-long project running from October 18 to 25.

The tasks this year are likely to include rhododendron clearance, dry stone walling, path improvements and feral stock counts on the island, which is 12 miles off the North Devon coast.

Because demand for places on the holidays is high, the service is seeking people with countryside skills.

Anybody wishing to take part should write to the service explaining their skills and why they would like to take part. The cost of the holiday is £60, which includes return ferry crossing, accommodation and food.

Written applications must be submitted to Andrew Moulton, at the Countryside Service office at Bideford Station, Bideford, EX39 4BB.”

LUNDY FIELD SOCIETY 60TH BASH

The Lundy Field Society is currently considering plans to celebrate its 60th Anniversary in 2006. When details are known they will be published in a future issue of this *Journal*.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I enjoyed my second visit to Lundy with the Collectors' Club and thought that I would drop you a line enclosing a photograph of some of the group on the boat. I thought it was very jolly and maybe you could use it in the *Journal*.

Hazel Davies

Hazel, thank you for the photograph and I agree that everyone appears to be having a good time and because of this I will use it in a future issue of the Journal.

Many thanks for reporting on the 2003 AGM of the Lundy Field Society, although yourself and members of the Lundy Collectors Club may be assured I have not assumed the draconian powers suggested by Roger Allen.

There were strong opinions expressed both for the 'Seabird Recovery Programme' and by those who preferred to address the issue as 'Rat Extermination'. After considerable time devoted to the subject, I brought the item to a conclusion and proceeded through the Agenda.

I would also query Roger's comment on the contents of our Annual Report to "seldom contain anything that would excite a collector", for you have taken verbatim sections of the 1950 Annual Report for your Lundy Archive item on page 30!

Roger Chapple, Chairman, Lundy Field Society.

Roger, I thank you for your letter and apologise on behalf of the Club for the wording in Roger Allen's report that offended you. I am sure that Roger Allen had no intention of questioning your control of the meeting as Chairman of the Society. I was at the meeting and agree that you gave the parties representing both sides of the argument a fair chance to express their views. I also agree with Roger Allen that the rat supporter did become very vociferous and you had to step in to give other members present a chance to speak.

Over the last couple of years the Lundy Field Society and the Lundy Collectors Club have recognised that at times there is common ground and because of this have become closer and boundaries that once existed have started to disappear. The two of us working together and conferring over common issues has brought about this good and perhaps unique relationship. JAMES.

BOOK REVIEW

By Roger Allen

BARNSTAPLE HERITAGE BOOKLET NO.5 – THOMAS BENSON. MP. for Barnstaple (in 1749) “Merchant, Fraudster and Fugitive”

This 20 page booklet published by Barnstaple Town Council in 2001 was researched and written by M.C. Taylor and edited by J.C. Andrews. Produced in blue card covers and being sold in local shops and at municipal offices at £1.00.

This booklet is well produced and a snippet at one pound. The information is all pretty accurate and while it tells us nothing new, that has not already been published more than once, it will reach a readership wider than just Lundy enthusiasts. The contents cover Benson’s personal history leading up to the Nightingale insurance scandal, then the trial and execution of Captain Lancey and Benson’s final flight to Portugal. It ends with the account of how he eventually prospered in that country, dying a rich man.

Although there is little new in this booklet, it does however have two photograph illustrations of the ‘Benson Bowl’ still in the possession of Barnstaple Council and in the Athenaeum museum. This bowl was presented to Barnstaple in 1749 when Benson was campaigning to be one of two MP’s for that town. The front cover shows the complete bowl and the rear cover shows an enlarged detail of the Benson crest engraved into the side of the bowl. The coat of arms consists of a left-hand section containing three goat heads and a chevron containing three shells. The right hand section has a background of ermine, divided by a chevron plain.

The only book mention in the bibliography of this booklet is Stanley Thomas’s “The Nightingale Scandal”.

2004 SUBSCRIPTIONS

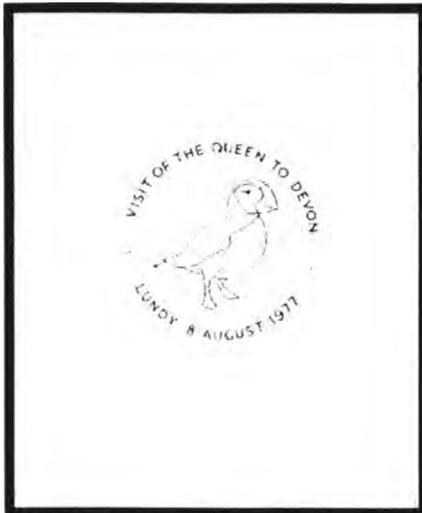
I hope you enjoy reading this issue of *The New Puffin Journal*, however, there are still some members who haven’t renewed their subscriptions for 2004. If you haven’t yet renewed your subscription, please do so now to avoid missing any future issues.

1977 ROYAL VISIT ISSUE - CONTINUED

In the Summer 2003 issue of *The New Puffin Journal*, Jim Mullett explained the secrecy behind the preparation of the 1977 Royal Visit set of stamps. Jim showed a proof of the Royal Silver Wedding Souvenir sheet with the proof overprinting of 'NAVAL VISIT 2 AUGUST 1977' instead of the final overprinting of 'ROYAL VISIT 7-8-77'. At the Club's Autumn 2003 meeting, Barry Chinchon submitted further evidence of the secrecy behind this issue.

An appropriate postmark had to be prepared to cancel the new set of stamps but just like the stamp issue, the full truth could not be told for fear of 'letting the cat out of the bag'. The precise date of the visit was not known, only an estimated date was given, so a proof canceller was produced which read 'VISIT OF THE QUEEN TO DEVON * LUNDY 8 AUGUST 1977'. The manufacturer of the metal plate provided just two proof strikes on thick glossy paper and this would have been used if the date of the visit of the Royal Family had not been changed. As now we all know, the Royal Family visited Lundy on 7th August 1977 and the final canceller was changed to that date.

Below is a copy of one of the two proof strikes showing the date as 8 AUGUST 1977.



THE 1969 '40TH ANNIVERSARY' ISSUE

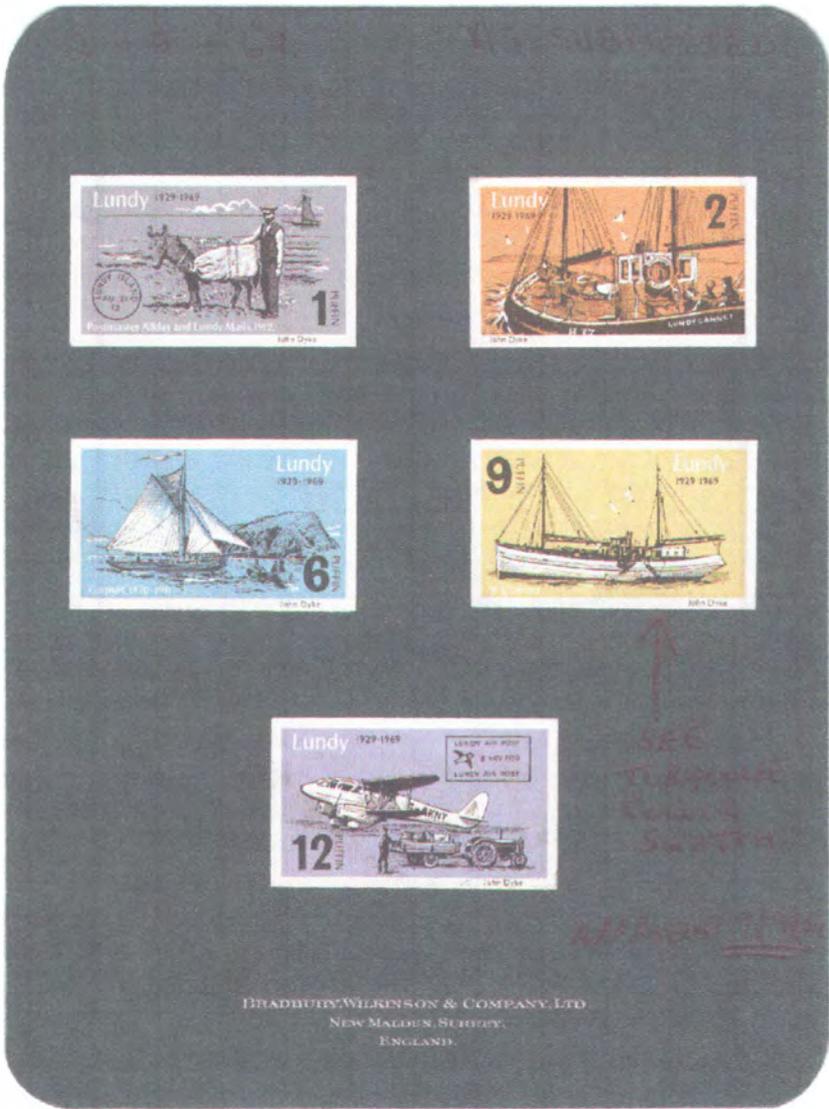
From time to time very rare material that we all know exists but have never seen pops-up in competitions or displays. On these occasions only a few lucky members get to see at first hand these magnificent items. Recently this occurred at the Autumn 2003 meeting and as attendance was down on previous meetings, I thought it only proper to borrow the items in question and show them to all of our members through the *Journal*.

On display were two items from the Bradbury, Wilkinson and Company Ltd., archives relating to the 1969 '40th Anniversary of the Lundy Post' issue. A black proof card showing all 5 values and a pen notation for a change of colour of the 9 Puffin value. The wording, which was printed in red, has not reproduced too well but states "2-9-69 as submitted", "see turquoise colour swatch" and then was followed-up with "Approved 9/9/69". The second item is the 'Order Desk' entry with a stamp size colour swatch of the suggested revised colour for the 9 Puffin value attached to it.

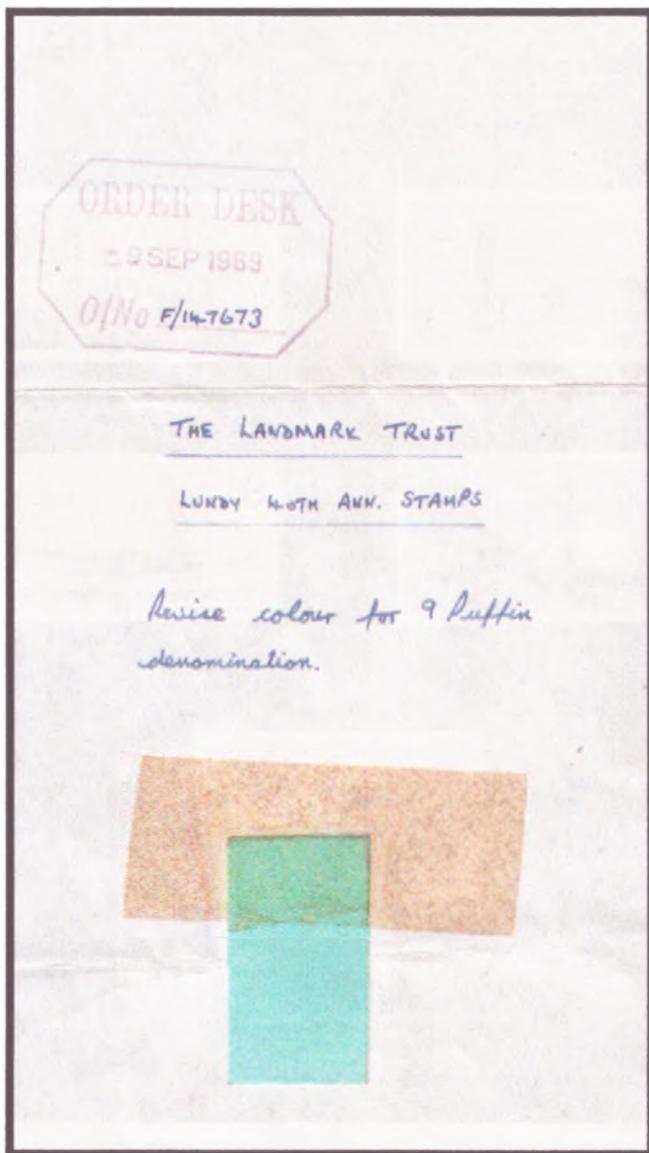
Michael Bale states in the fourth edition of "Stamps of Lundy Island" by Puffin Stamps, that only 3 sets of Trial Proofs exist, they are mounted on cards and the 9p is yellow-ochre and black. Value – Very Rare.



The final issued set.



Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co. Ltd., archive material showing the 9 Puffin value in yellow-ochre and black.



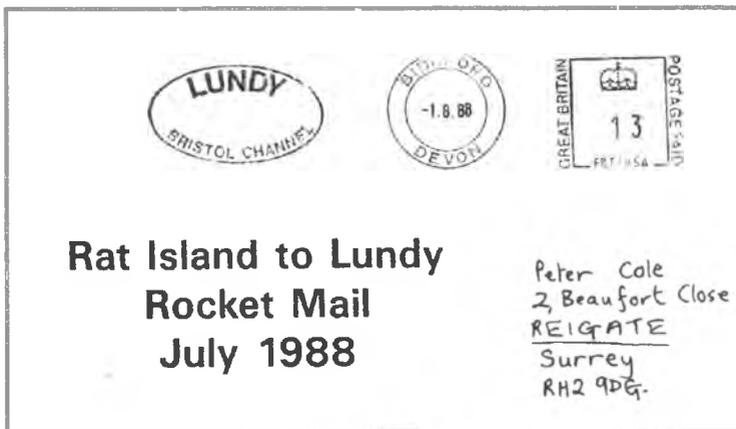
Order Desk entry showing the revised colour – turquoise for the 9 Puffin value

THE 1988 RAT ISLAND ROCKET MAIL

By Roger Allen

On Friday 29th July 1988, Roger Allen and some friends sent some rockets with pay loads of flimsy covers from Rat Island across to the main island of Lundy. Sheets of stamps had been ordered from the Landmark Trust and duly overprinted with the text RAT ISLAND ROCKET MAIL. The rockets were taken up to the summit of Rat Island and fired off. Three of them were recovered together with all their payloads. The overprinted stamps were sheets of the 1974 2 Puffin and 4 Puffin (Newman 183 and 184). Only one sheet of each value was overprinted, there being 72 stamps per sheet. The printing department of Lloyds Merchant Bank carried out the overprinting.

The whole operation was undertaken with the written permission of the Landmark Trust who stipulated that the overprinted stamps were not to be sold unused to collectors. I chanced upon their letter of authority just recently and illustrate it alongside these notes. The implication of this letter is that this overprint was official and should perhaps have catalogue status. It is possibly quite as official as some of the overprints issued by the bureau.



Full details of the whole day's happening were covered in the British Private Post Study Group Newsletter, Number 44 dated October 1988. That article also illustrated the covers, overprinted stamps, cachets used on the day and the overprint itself. The same text as that article had been printed on A5 sheets and distributed with the covers. One of the pay load containers, unopened, is on display in the Lundy Room of the Ilfracombe Museum.

The Lundy Company Ltd
Shottesbrooke, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 3SW

Telephone: Littlewick Green (0625-82) 5925

V.A.T. No. 143 9235 68

R E Allen Esq.,
35 Crown Street,
Harrow,
Middlesex.
HA2 OHX.

17.07.88

Invoice no. 1009

72 2 Puffin stamps	1.44
72 4 " "	2.88
Postage and packing	68
	<u>£5.00</u>

These stamps are for use for "Rocket Mail" only and must not be sold unused to other collectors when overprinted.

Change enclosed.

*With the Compliments of
The Director*

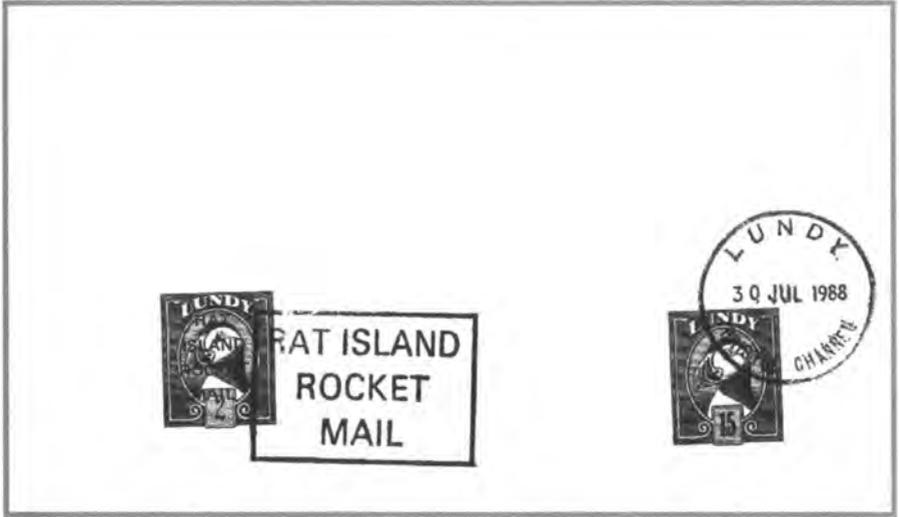
Littlewick Green
(062 882) 5925

The Landmark Trust
Shottesbrooke,
Nr Maidenhead
Berkshire SL6 3SW

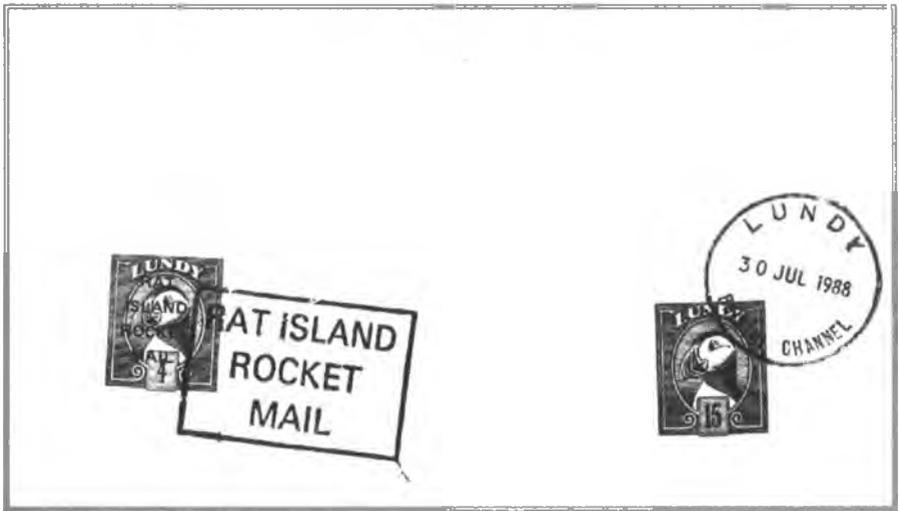


Landmark Trust

The official invoice for the overprinted stamps



The 2 Puffin overprinted stamp cancelled with the 'Rat Island Rocket mail' canceller (PC-10)



The 4 Puffin overprinted stamp cancelled with the 'Rat Island Rocket mail' canceller (PC-10)

'VELINDRA'

By Shipping Correspondent Tom Baker

The Velindra was an iron two paddle steamer built by C.J. Mare for the Cardiff Steam Navigation Company at Blackwall in 1860. The gross weight was 199 tons, length 158.4ft, breadth 19.1ft and a depth of 9.1ft and she had a passenger certificate for 199 persons in home trade, 216 on excursion work and 567 for river work.

The Velindra ran from Swansea to Ilfracombe and Swansea to Bristol and in the Summer months she ran down to Clovelly and across to Lundy as well as going to Padstow and Tenby.

On 6th December 1877, she played a gallant part in the rescue on the Sharweather sands where the Norwegian brig 'Johann' had stranded in the WSW winds. As the Velindra approached she found five pilots had put off in small boats from Porthcawl. At great risk they prepared to do what they could to help but it would have been impossible for them to take the whole crew of nine ashore so it was fortunate that the Velindra was at hand to pick them up.

Captain Pockett died in October 1890 and his wife Emma Pockett auctioned the three vessels, selling them to Henry S Finn and George J Wakefield of Bristol together with rights of all established services. In 1891 these two gentlemen formed the Pocketts Bristol Channel Steam Packet Co. Ltd. and continued the passenger and cargo services. However, during 1890's the Velindra was their only passenger vessel.

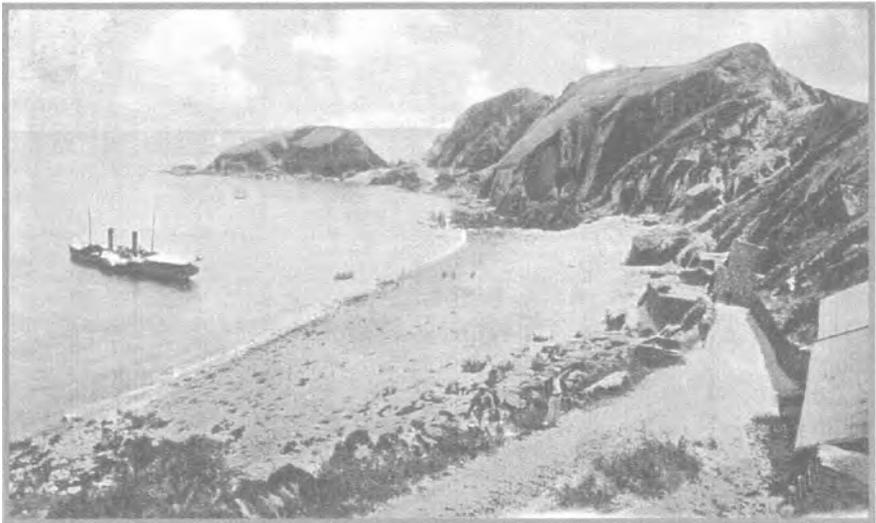
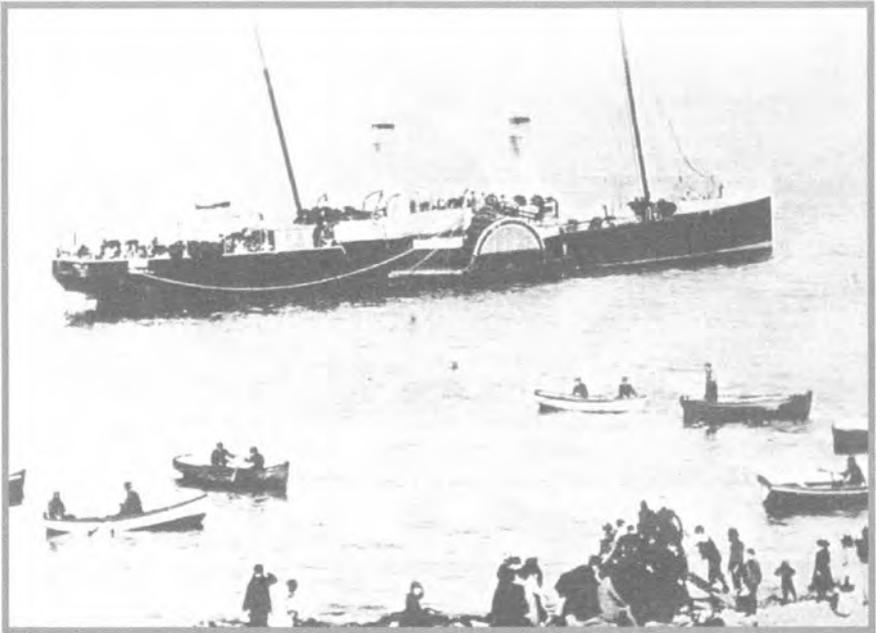
There are a few Lundy postcards during the 1890's showing the Velindra in the bay, but the first photograph on the next page shows the Velindra in the bay before the South Lighthouse was built. Many visits were made to the Rev. H Heaven's Lundy who charged a small fee to all visitors. Strict rules were employed to control the increasing seasonal invasion. Late in 1897/8, Hurley at Bristol scrapped the Velindra and her final resting-place was Clevedon Pill.



The Harbour and Rat Island – The 'Velindra' at anchor



The Velindra at sea



The 'Velindra' at anchor off Lundy

'LUNDY - AN ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE OF SOUVENIR FOLDERS OF LUNDY STAMPS' BY BRIAN DREW

Reviewed By James Thomas

For the very first time a catalogue has been produced detailing the Lundy Souvenir Folders. Until now all the big names in Lundy catalogues such as Windeatt, Chinchin, Newman and Bale, to name a few, have avoided producing a catalogue on this subject. However, after several Lundy Collector Club displays Brian Drew became interested and 'got hooked'. He built-up a formidable collection and did an immense amount of research which resulted in the production of this catalogue.

The catalogue consists of 40 A4 pages fully illustrated printed in black and white and spiral bound. Each identified folder has for the first time been given a type reference number. Not just folders produced by the Atlantic Coast Studios but also those produced by individuals are also listed.

The introduction presents a brief history of the Atlantic Coast Studios and how John Dyke and Eddie Spiegelhalter got the business off the ground and what their aims were. The catalogue then proceeds into the detail of the folders with each known folder listed, given an identity number and illustration. Each illustration is fully detailed with information such as size, number of folds, date, etc., along with any other information that Brian thought to be relevant to that folder. Then on the rear cover is a brief history of the Gazette Offices in Bideford, which is accompanied by a photograph of the shop as it stands today. The only subject relating to the folders that Brian has not covered in much detail are the colours that they are available in. He considers that at present his research into the colours is incomplete but will print a free addendum sheet in the future for inclusion in the catalogue.

This catalogue is well presented and printed and a must for the bookshelves of any serious Lundy Collector. It cost £5-00 plus postage and packing and can be obtained direct from Brian Drew, 88 Cannonbury Avenue, Pinner, Middlesex, HA5 1TT, England. Telephone 0208 868 5693.

LUNDY STAMP MEET REVISITED

By Roger Allen

In November this year the Lundy Collectors Club as part of the 75th Anniversary celebrations will be holding a stamp weekend on Lundy. Some of us will remember the first Lundy Stamp Meet held from 31st October to 3rd November 1992 and although that occasion was fully described in publications at the time, it may be worthwhile at this time to remember again the events of that weekend.

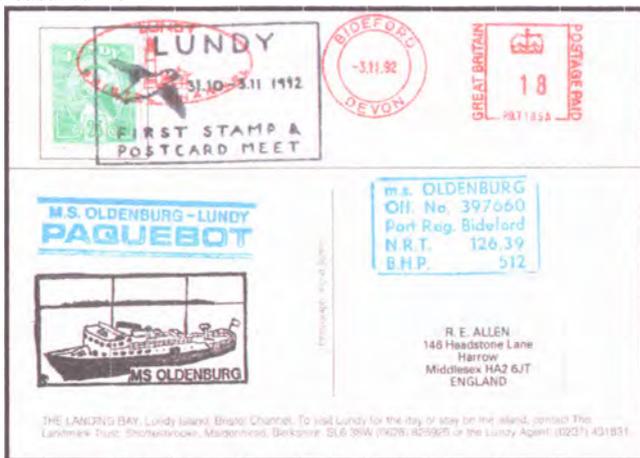
A really full description of that weekend, almost minute by minute, is to be found in the Lundy Collectors Club Philatelic Quarterly, Winter 1992/1993 Volume 14, No. 4 (Whole number 56). Many of those who are recorded as attending in 1992 will be coming again in 2004, this includes Roger Allen, Tom Baker, Jim Mullett and many others.

Perhaps some of the most memorable moments of that 1992 weekend were when we were listening to John Dyke as he reminisced, rambled and anecdoted his way through an hour or two in the Quarters. I can barely remember exactly what he spoke about, though it is fully covered in the LCC Philatelic Quarterly mentioned above, but I can recall that we could have gone on listening to him for even longer. Sadly, we will not have John Dyke with us in person this year, but inevitably at a Lundy event, there will be a considerable amount of material to remind us of him.

There is sure to be some give-aways at the 2004 event as there were in the 1992 weekend. John Dyke gave us all a hand painted, signed copy of a drawing of a group of naval personnel and painters on the beach in 1924 with Fred Allday and boxes of stores which was also signed by Wendy Puddy, Postmistress. There were other souvenirs and ephemera that we still treasure from that 1992 weekend, including special meal tickets printed for the weekend that we were allowed, after cancellation, to keep. There was also a special canceller made especially for the Stamp Meet and used on all mail that was posted during the weekend. Jon Aitchison also produced two unofficial handstamps for the weekend. The meal ticket, the canceller and the two handstamps are all illustrated in the LCC Philatelic Quarterly mentioned above.

Jon Aitchison was very busy during that weekend placing several Dartmoor style letterboxes around the island. He produced covers for the first day use of all these Dartmoor letterboxes and they also tied with the special Stamp Meet handstamp. Wendy Puddy's reaction to these letterboxes at the time was somewhat equivocal but the full set of these covers is now not easily obtained.

Any file of documentation relating to the memorable weekend in 1992 will include the printed Lundy Stamp Meet Programme, which takes us through the whole crowded weekend, hour by hour. This was produced by Wendy but sent out by Mrs. Jameson of the Shottesbrooke booking office ahead of the event. The total cost of the weekend incidentally, was £118 and extremely good value it turned out to be. Upon arrival on the island all the delegates received a little pack from Wendy, including the meal tickets, another copy of the programme and a delightful letter of welcome dated 30th October 1992 signed by 'Wendy'. This letter is a particularly treasured item.



Together with all the above papers, can be found two items relating to the proposed second Stamp Meet, which was to be held from 16th to 18th October 1993. Only two nights this time, and the cost was to have been £99 per person. There was a form sent out in early 1993 to all likely delegates, asking for a deposit of £30. Subsequently a letter dated 25th June 1993 was sent out to all, in which we were sadly advised by Wendy that the 1993 Stamp Meet had been cancelled, owing to a surprising lack of response. A full refund of the deposit was offered or simply the possibility of coming to the island on those dates for the same price, but without any special philatelic weekend events.

LUNDY FIELD SOCIETY NEWSLETTER NUMBER 33. AUTUMN 2003

Report by Roger Allen

These annual newsletters, produced and edited by Ann Westcott, are often full of letters, accounts of recent visits to Lundy and other snippets of current Lundy news, which would not usually be appropriate for reporting in this journal. In this issue however, there are two items, which are worth drawing to the attention of collectors.

The first of these two interesting articles is the second instalment of 'Marisco: a Tale of Lundy' by William Crossing, which first appeared in Doidge's Western Counties Illustrated Annual of 1909. The first half of this short story appeared in the Lundy Field Society Newsletter 32 of 2002. The story takes place in the 12th Century and mostly on Lundy. It is a story of treachery, betrayed love and the eventual capture of the castle and the flight of the current Marisco incumbent. The description of the castle with its vast round keep and walled courtyard bears little similarity to the construction of the actual castle and whether Marisco had a beautiful daughter named Madge may never be known. However, it all sounds like a reasonably good tale and worth obtaining this newsletter and the newsletter of last year, for this story alone.

There is however, a second article in this newsletter that is worth reading. It is by Phillip H. Gosse, famous for his book "Sea and Land" which covers the natural history, flora and fauna of Lundy in the mid 1800's. This article in Ann Westcott's Newsletter is actually taken from 'The Home Friend' 1853, published by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge. Although the article in that publication was 'Anonymous', it is certainly by Gosse. It covers much of the same material as Gosse's book, but also gives details of the hospitality, which he received, from William Hudson Heaven and of the life of the population of the island at the time, including the inhabitants of the castle. He also goes into great detail in his description of the huge numbers of puffins on Puffin Slope in the North of the island and their breeding and burrowing habits. Ann Westcott states that when she first went to Lundy in 1958, the Slope was as full of puffins and was as dangerous to climb as Gosse describes. On the other hand in 1972 or 1973, when Roger Allen first went there, the Slope showed no significant signs of puffin habitation. Other seabirds are also described by Gosse in detail and his description of the great variety of tiny wild flowers, which he finds all over the island and on the bracken covered slopes are highly evocative. His description of the presence of both species of rats in large quantities is quite topical to these times.

The two or three paragraphs, which he writes on the Burnet hawk moth; the cocoons, caterpillars and the metamorphosis into the small, green gold winged moth that he found in such abundance, can only be described as beautiful.

Copies of this newsletter may be obtained from Ann Westcott or from the printers, Lazarus Press, 7 Caddesdown Business Park, Bideford, EX39 3DX.

DIARY 2004

Saturday 6 th March 2004	Lundy Field Society Annual Meeting at the Peter Chalk Centre, Exeter University.
Sunday 28 th March 2004	Lundy Collectors Club all day meeting at the Crestwood Centre, Eastleigh, Hampshire.
Saturday 1 st May 2004	Lundy Walking Festival – Contact Roger Chapple on 07774 887951.
Saturday 24 th July 2004	Lundy Collectors Club day trip to Lundy on board the m.s. Oldenburg.
Sunday 25 th July 2004	Lundy Collectors Club all day meeting at ‘The Landmark’, Wilder Road, Ilfracombe, Devon.
Friday 5 th November to Monday 8 th November 2004	Lundy Collectors Club weekend meeting on Lundy.

Lundy Stamps * 75th Anniversary * 1929 – 2004

Throughout this year the Lundy Collectors Club will be celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the Lundy Private Mail Service which was started by the late Martin Coles Harman on 1st November 1929.

A LCC logo has been designed and this will be used throughout the year on the *Journal* and many of the souvenirs that are planned by the Club. In fact it can be seen on the inside back cover of this issue.

The first of the planned souvenirs is a DL sized (110x220mm) white envelope which is printed with the Anniversary logo in the bottom right-hand corner and a space for a Lundy stamp in the bottom left-hand corner, should you wish to post your letter from Lundy.

The envelope is now on sale in packs of 10 at £1.75 UK, £2.00 Europe or \$5 for the rest of the world – all prices include postage. Please apply to the Editor at 5 Manor Drive, Kingskerswell, Devon, TQ12 5HB, UK. They will also be on sale at all Club Meetings this year at just £1.50 per pack.

SOLD AT AUCTION

By David Donald

The following piece was sold at the Grosvenor Auctions in May 2003 for £6,000. The catalogue description is as follows:-

1649 Civil War naval letter from William Robinson 'from aboard the Triumph neare the Isle of Lundee, June 6th 1649' to his wife in Westminster. In 'England's Postal History' R.M. Willcocks refers to this correspondence and this letter in particular – 'Two days later he follows this [referring to an earlier letter] with another which is one of the most important, and certainly the greatest enigma, 'I sent thee a pacquett of letters yesterday dated from Milford Haven, but this going by the Post I hope may come as soone to thee as that: if it doe, prithee send away those enclosed with speed' but this is written 'from aboard the Triumph neare the Isle of Lundee, June 6th 1649'. Later he says 'A letr now would be dearely wellcome to mee from thee, for meethinkes it is an age since I receiv'd one'. The remainder is a charming example of a love letter showing the pious trust in God of the puritans, and emphasises Robinson's position of friendship with Col. Fleetwood (who became Commander-in-Chief of the Parliamentary forces and married Cromwell's daughter) and Mr Speaker, and that his cousin Luke Robinson was a member of the Council of State. He speaks as if this letter was a 'first day cover' of the new post, which he expected would arrive before his letter of 4th June, yet he wrote it when out at sea. If the post ran from Milford, had they a supply ship just going in there? The address leaf has no charge, endorsement, or other clue. 'The address leaf is soiled and crumpled but a most important and historic item, probably a first day cover in a very restricted post, the first since 1642 (not until 1653 was there a normal post), and certainly the earliest known letter from Lundy. Estimate £5,000 to £6,000.

Is this by any chance the earliest piece of Lundy Postal History known, or can anyone out there provide evidence of an earlier piece?

THE 'INDEX'

The 'INDEX' was published at the start of this year and is now on general sale and can be obtained from James Thomas, 5 Manor Drive, Kingskerswell, Devon, TQ12 5HB, UK. Please send your remittance with your order - UK £4.00, Europe £5.00, USA \$9.00 (banknotes)

AUCTION REPORT

The 20th of our Club Auctions took place at our Autumn Meeting at Eastleigh on Sunday 19th October 2003. The usual Auction crew (Mike, Stan and Julie) were in attendance and the Auction commenced at 3.00 p.m. The main interest this time was on stamps, and the resulting 'highlights' of the sale were as follows:-

<u>Stamps</u>	£
1935 "Tramticket" ½d value, Roll 10 – N8. MM	17
1936 ACAS Large Map issue – Set of 6 values MM N11-16	51
1936 ACAS Large Map 3d value with "Flagstaff on Town Hall" variety UM	13.50
1939 LACAL 1d black. Block of 4 with missing vertical perforations N20c UM	10
1939 1929-39 1p and 9p in imprint blocks of 4 N22/24 UM	25
1940 Red Cross ½p UM marginal block of 4 including "broken Cross variety"	30
1940 Red Cross 1p N30 UM	15.50
1940 Red Cross 2p N31 UM	17.50
1940 Red Cross 3p N32 UM	21
1940 Red Cross 4p N33 UM	36
1940 Red Cross 6p N34 UM	61
1940 Red Cross 9p N35 UM	54
1940 Red Cross 12p N36 UM	61
1942 V+Plane set of 8 N37-44 MM	46
1942 Tighearna Miniature Sheet UM N45	17
1943 IX Anniversary 9p with double overprint N53 var. MM	24
1943 Wright Bros. 8p with narrow o/p N66be fine used	22
1953 8p on 12p By Air o/p lower case letters N78A UM	16.50
1953 Coronation 12p in UM block of 6. Contains "H" for "L" variety N92a	24
<u>Postal History</u>	
1939 FDC of small LACAL ½d red stamp, with type Dd cancel	18.50
1939 FDC of small LACAL 1d black stamp with type Dd cancel	22
1953 Illustrated FDC of Coronation issue with wrong colour ½p, 1p, 2p & 4p o/p	70
<u>Postcards</u>	
"The Church of St. Helena, Lundy Island" Sweetman No. 4761	12.50
1955 Maxi-cards of Mrs Graham, balloonist with 1954 ½p Silver Jubilee	14.50
<u>Books</u>	
Priced catalogue of Lundy Island locals by M Windeatt 1957	12
"LUNDY" by A & M Langham Proof 1970	16.50
Chinchen's Catalogue of Lundy Stamps – 1981 Edition, produced by Roger Cichorz.	11.50

BOOK SHELF

By James Thomas

The COASTS OF DEVON AND LUNDY ISLAND

By John Lloyd Warden Page. Published 1895.

This hardbound book consisting of 437 pages, a map and engraved plates of Devon and Lundy scenes was written when cars were in their infancy and non-existent in Devon. It records a journey made by the author on horse back along the two coasts of Devon and a stay on Lundy. The book is divided into three sections, Part One – North Devon, Part Two – Lundy and Part Three South Devon. Part Two covers such subjects as Geology, Climate, Ship Wrecks, Inhabitants, Mr. Heaven, Wild Life, Buildings and the island's History.

This is a most interesting read and records day-to-day life as it was at the end of the nineteenth century. Much of Part Two has been documented by others in numerous publications but John Page has presented this book from a slightly different perspective than most others which makes it such a compelling read.

Extracts from Part Two are currently being published under the Lundy Archive section of this *Journal*.

TRIAL OF ERROR (THE COURT MARTIAL arising from the loss of H.M.S. MONTAGU – LUNDY 1906)

By G.M. & R.C. Davies. Published 1983.

A soft back booklet containing 39 pages and two black and white illustrations. The booklet is part of the commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the sinking of H.M.S. Montagu in 1906. It reprints accounts from 'The Times' and 'The Illustrated London News' of the Court-Martial proceedings of Captain Adair and Lieutenant Dathen for the sinking of H.M.S. Montagu on Lundy on 30th May 1906. The Court-Martial was held aboard the Victory at Portsmouth later the same year. Although this booklet requires full concentration, it contains many interesting facts and is a very good reference work.

LUNDY ARCHIVE

This is the second Archive item extracted from the 1895 publication titled 'The Coasts of Devon and Lundy Island' by John Lloyd Warden Page.

MR. HEAVEN

"So far as I saw, the Lundy man believes in God, Mr. Heaven and himself , and of other thoughts, ideas, and associations reck little.

Mr. Heaven is, in fact – or might be if he chose – almost as much as autocrat as the Czar. The island is his absolute property and he owes fealty to none. The polity of Lundy is indeed unique. Some, indeed, argue that it forms no part of the realm at all, and though Mr. Heaven told me that he considers it subject to the laws, both common and statute, it is altogether outside the Customs, so that no duty is payable on any contraband, and it is exempt from all taxes, both imperial and parochial. In fact, it is in no parish, or even county, and, since the Reformation, has been extra-diocesan as well. The proprietor is not only king, but bishop, though, it is hardly necessary to add, he does not arrogate to himself any episcopal functions.

History repeats itself. Three hundred years ago Ralph Holinshed wrote in his "Chronicles" of the island "hyght Lundy" that "of thys islande the Parson is not onelye the Captaine, but hath thereto weife distresse and all other commodities belonging to the same." It is curious that the present proprietor is also a "parson", and, if the divine of the days of Elizabeth, who was merely priest of the now ruined church of St. Helen, was dubbed "Captaine," surely the man who owns the whole island has still more right to the title. There was, and I believe still is, among some people, a wild idea that the owner of Lundy has the power of conferring knighthood, but this is altogether a myth, originating perhaps in the fact of the insular kingship."

OUR NEXT ISSUE.....

Early Lundy Definitives

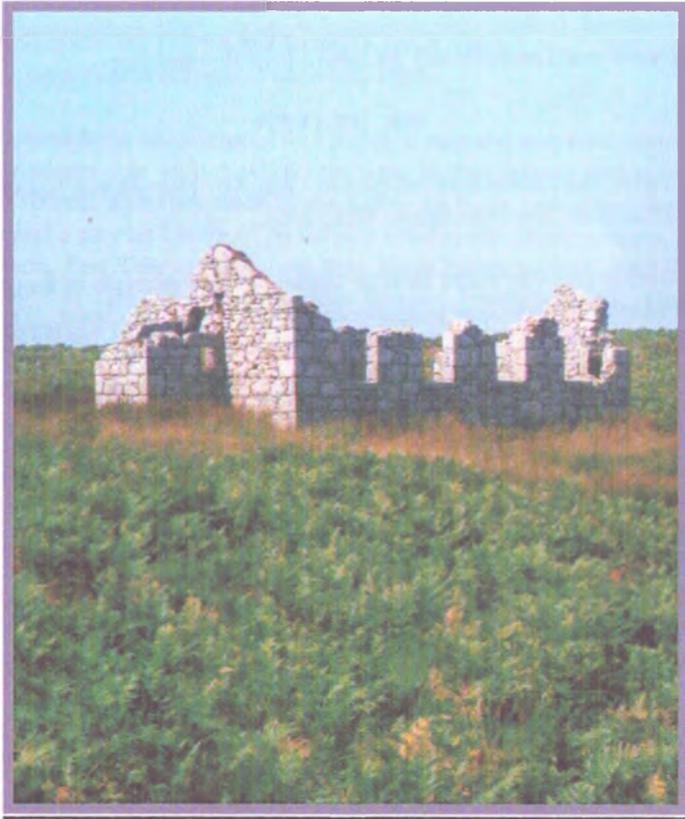
Another look at the print runs

The Appledore and Instow mail 1849-1939

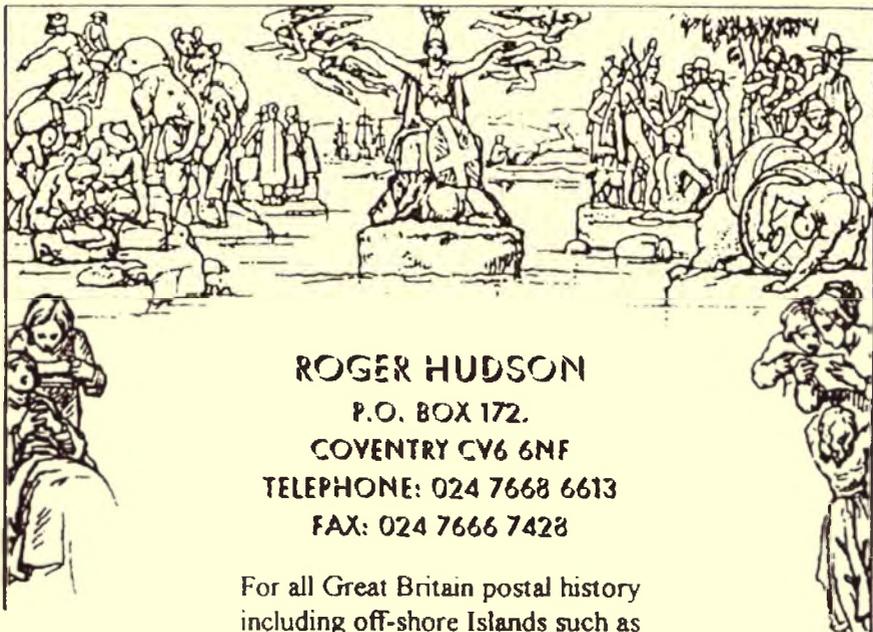
Detailed review of the mail in this area over a 90 year period

....AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!

PHOTO PAGE



*The remains of the Old Hospital
(Photo – James Thomas 1999)*



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

Lundy Collectors Club
Lundy Stamps
75th Anniversary
1929 - 2004

Lundy Collectors Club
75th Anniversary Logo
See it throughout 2004
on many Club publications
and souvenirs

OUR NEXT MEETING

The Spring 2004 Meeting of the Lundy Collectors Club will be held on Sunday 28th March 2004 at the Crestwood Community Centre, Shakespeare Road, Eastleigh, Hampshire - commencing at 10.30am. The Programme will be as follows:-

10.30 am	Registration and Reception Bourse Opens
11.15 to 12.30 pm	Members Displays
12.30 to 2.15 pm	Lunch (not provided)
2.15 to 2.45 pm	Auction Viewing
2.45 to 3.00 pm	Secretary's Announcements
3.00 to 4.00 pm	Club Auction (Auctioneer - Mike Thompson)
4.30 pm	Bourse Closes

The Bourse features dealers with stocks of Lundy material and Members with surplus material for sale.

The Crestwood Community Centre can be approached by leaving the M3 Motorway at junction 13. Travel along the A335 (Leigh Road) and take the 1st left into Woodside Avenue, after the roundabout take the 1st right into Shakespeare Road.

