

The New Puffin Journal



SUMMER 2006

Published by the Lundy Collectors Club

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ISSUE NO. 29
SUMMER 2006

EDITORIAL

The Disabled Discrimination Act came into force in Britain last year and covers many aspects of helping to improve the lives of those with disabilities. Most people think of a disabled person as being a wheelchair user but being disabled can range from being totally paralysed to partially sighted. The more observant of you will have noticed that I have made a small change to the style of the *Journal*. I have changed the font style from the classical Times New Roman to Arial. I haven't done it just for the sake of change but as a genuine improvement. Most of our readers will not benefit from the change, but for those with dyslexia and other reading problems, Arial has been proven to be the font style that is the easiest to read. If you do suffer from a visual impairment or a reading problem, I genuinely hope that this change is of help to you and makes reading the *Journal* an even more pleasurable experience.

Derek Green, Lundy's General Manager is continuing to support our hobby of Lundy stamp collecting with the issue of a new set of stamps and a special postcard to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the grounding of H.M.S. Montagu on Lundy. Please support Derek and his staff by sending your orders direct to Lundy as soon as possible. A full feature report is included in this issue.

The Spring 2007 meeting on Lundy is now fully booked. If you haven't already booked but would like to attend, Keith Hand has opened a reserve list should anyone between now and next Spring be forced to cancel. If you want to be included on the list please write to Keith either direct or through the Editorial Office. However, it must be noted that we cannot guarantee any further places unless we receive cancellations. To those who have already booked, thank you for supporting the Club again and I hope to make it another Lundy Island Meeting to remember. As I write this Editorial, Keith is on Lundy finalising some of the arrangements with the island's Management.

As in previous years, the day before the Summer Meeting in Ilfracombe, we are organising a Day Trip to Lundy on the Oldenburg. The booking form is enclosed so please return it as soon as possible to Keith Hand with the necessary payment.

I look forward to seeing you all on Lundy and at the Ilfracombe meeting.

James

LUNDY NEWS

GREEN GETS GREENER!

Further to the news item in the Spring 2006 issue of *TNPJ*, Derek Green recently announced that all of the properties on Lundy are now using energy efficient light bulbs. For those who like to have the facts and figures, a total of 365 low energy bulbs have been installed.

LUNDY'S NEW LANDROVER

Lundy has just received a new 9 seater long, wheel-base Landrover to assist with transporting infirm passengers from the beach to the top of the island, and to act as a fast response vehicle for the Coastguard team in case of emergency. It was hoisted aboard the Oldenburg and delivered along with other island supplies. It replaces one of the older Landrovers and takes its place in the fleet of two Landrovers and three tractors on Lundy.

PUFFINS

The first Puffin sighted this year on Lundy was on 7th April and others have been seen regularly since. The Puffin picture on the front cover sadly was not taken on Lundy, but was taken by your editor during early May 2006, in the Atlantic Ocean just off the Scilly Isles.

THE BRITISH PHILATELIC BULLETIN

In the British Philatelic Bulletin for June 2006, the new Lundy 'Montagu' stamps are illustrated and described in reasonable detail. Club member and Bulletin editor John Holman, also gives a brief history of the ship and its grounding on Lundy in 1906 together with information about the designs and designers.

MEETING REPORT

By James Thomas

The Spring 2006 meeting of the Lundy Collectors Club was held at the Crestwood Community Centre, Eastleigh, Hampshire on 9th April 2006.

With 15 members present, the meeting opened with coffee served by Diana Keast and Julie Lester.

Mike Thompson as Chairman welcomed all those present and invited John Wright to present the first display. John submitted three items, one of which was a John Lavington cachet which was given to John Wright by John Dyke in exchange for a haircut. Julie Lester then showed 2 older Lundy related postcards and she was followed by Bob Harper who explained why the postal rates on franked postage is different to that of stamped postage. (See page 16 for the full article). James Thomas presented a selection of nine type Ab and Ac Lundy Thimbles with various transit postmarks. The morning was rounded off with two displays from Mike Thompson who presented 16 sheets of 'Social Philately' titled "History of Lundy Island – North Devon" and 28 sheets of various items of Lundy postal history with some very attractive early period and Second World War items.

After lunch Mike Thompson started the afternoon with a few announcements. He stated that Michael Bale's 'Stamps of Lundy Island' catalogue is now sold out and then went on to confirm that the Landmark Trust will be issuing a new set of stamps to commemorate the grounding of HMS Montagu in 1906.

Before the start of the Auction, James Thomas was taken by surprise by all those present with the presentation of a signed birthday card and a Champagne toast to celebrate his 50th birthday which was the weekend before.

Mike Thompson then conducted the club's 27th auction ably assisted by Julie Lester and Bob Harper.

With no further business, the meeting closed with afternoon tea at approximately 4.00 pm.

J.D. STANARD AND LACAL

Information supplied by Mike Thompson

During the early years of Lundy stamps Martin Coles Harman had an agreement with John D. Stanard in America that if Mr. Stanard promoted the Lundy stamp issues in his country, he would receive all new issues in complete sheets along with various items of artwork, etc. free of charge. This was all very well for Mr. Stanard until the airmail service started in the 1930's because Mr. Boyd had no intention of 'playing ball' with Mr. Stanard. This battle will be detailed in full in the lecture that will be presented at the Spring 2007 club meeting on Lundy. However, in the mean time printed below is a letter from Mr. Boyd to Mr. Stanard with a sample of the new airmail stamp.



LUNDY & ATLANTIC COASTS AIR LINES LTD.

BARNSTAPLE AERODROME, N. DEVON.

Director: R. T. Bord.

Secretary: W. J. Bond.

F. W. Gade.

Telephone: Braunton 121.

Registered Office: Bridge Buildings, Barnstaple, N. Devon.
Telephone: 191.

J. D. Stanard, Esq.,
Chattanooga Bank Buildings,
CHATTANOOGA,
U. S. A.

7. 3. 39.

*Answered March 18, 1939.
gof.*



Dear Mr. Stanard,

This is to in-form you that we are issuing a new 1st 2d stamp, as per attached sample, on March 31st, 1939, to be used for carriage for the first time on April 1st, 1939.

2,000 sheets of 48 stamps have been printed, and we shall be pleased to fly first day covers if you require them.

LUNDY FIELD SOCIETY 60TH ANNIVERSARY.

LUNDY WEEK - 25TH MARCH TO 1ST APRIL 2006.

By Roger Allen

The weather and the sea were not kind to the LFS but in true form this made no difference to the extent and the enthusiasm of the activities. Force 7 and 8 winds made the West Side rather untenable but the lower East Side was delightful. The organised events and activities were many and varied. More than 30 LFS members and families were on the island under the fulsome leadership of Roger Chapple, whose presence was always visible and whose capable command made the week a great success.

There was a service on Sunday in St. Helena's, given by a visiting Methodist minister, who was also professor of Animal Behaviour at Exeter University. He was shepherding a group of students in the Barn. He had a colleague with him who was a very charming and interesting Hindu gentleman whose PhD had consisted of the study on Lundy of Oyster Catchers. Unfortunately the group saw no Oyster Catchers this week.

St. Helena's also featured in an event later in the week when Brian and Leta Woodcock and two other ringers gave a demonstration of bell ringing in the tower. We were also allowed up into the actual bell chamber to see the bells themselves and to note the two extra bells that were hung only a couple of years ago, making up the peal of ten. Those that wished also climbed up onto the top of the tower, where the sharp eye would notice several graffiti carved into the lead roofing dating back many decades.

Diana Keast had carried at great effort, an amazing set of blown up maps of the island which her father had ordered in 1928. Each huge piece of about one square yard covered a very short section of coast or area of land and every building and ruin was shown in detail. This is an immensely important record of the island as it was just at the time that Martin Coles Harman purchased the island. This collection occupied the whole of the back restaurant behind the old Tavern. The display included some very detailed black and white photographs of the island taken from the air, which had been used in some way to produce the maps. Also a collection of letters between MCH and the Company that produced the maps was on display.

Derek Cheesebrough had laid out a six hole course on the old golf course on Ackland's Moor and Roger Chapple supplied the clubs, all of which were irons with some a little too light for the course, which consisted of almost 100% 'rough'. Nevertheless the results were quite satisfactory, the joint winners got round in 26 and the second lowest score (the writer of these notes in fact) of 27. Unlike the round played in 2000, in dense fog, (which the writer of these notes won) the weather on this occasion was quite clear.

Myrtle Ternstrom had devised a quiz which was held in the Tavern on the last evening of the week and all the questions were on general Lundy knowledge and for the second time running, the writer of these notes won. He felt very guilty at this but he had expected the quiz to contain some typically LFS questions on birds, insects, plants, etc. about which he knows nothing and thus some other contestant would have won.

John Morgan invited everyone during the week to a Gorse Wine Party at Old House South. What was in that home made brew will ever remain a mystery but at least six imbibers suffered the most dreadful nightmares that night as a result.

There was also a competition to establish who could obtain impressions of the most Dartmoor style letter boxes on the island. We were told that there are now 29 of these spread all round Lundy and one intrepid soul managed to get round to all of them, including the illusive 'Lundy Bunny'. Many of these are new and have not been illustrated on these pages, a project perhaps for the future.

There were no official souvenirs of a philatelic nature, except what members sent to themselves cancelled with the relevant dates, but Alan Rowland produced an eight page pamphlet, given free to all those there. It contained a potted history of the LFS, various anecdotes of the past, excerpts from old newspapers, an extract from the obituary of Martin Coles Harman, prices of letting cottages in 1968 and many other snippets. There was also a most ingenious list of important Lundy dates, all ending in 6, starting with 1326, when Edward II tried unsuccessfully to reach Lundy, and ending with 1996, the 50th anniversary of the LFS.

The week had been most successful and enjoyed to the full by all those who were there.

THE 1940 RED CROSS ISSUE – JOHN DYKE'S OPINION

Material supplied by Diana Keast

Here is a copy of a letter from John Dyke to Martin Coles Harman regarding the Lundy 1940 Red Cross issue and MCH's reply. It would have been interesting to have seen John's drawing.

“
Grosvenor Club,
Chester.

November 3rd 1940.

Dear Mr. Harman,

The issuing of Red Cross stamps by Lundy has come to my notice through the columns of a well known philatelic journal, I am, however disappointed to learn that they are merely the old issue bearing an overprint.

I enclose for your consideration my design for a new set of Red Cross stamps. As you may well know the British public has upon many occasions requested charity stamps, here then is an excellent opportunity to show the P.M.G. (Post Master General – ed.) that Lundy can lead the way.

I consider that design would be very popular both here and in America and would be extremely beneficial to the Red Cross Society. I offer it to you free of charge, on condition that the original drawing is returned together with 25 first day covers that is providing they are brought into use.

Trusting you will give the matter every consideration.

Yours sincerely,

John C.A. Dyke.”

The postal service was quite efficient back then as Martin Coles Harman's reply is dated 5th November. His reply is shown on the next page.

“

5th November 1940

John C. A. Dyke, Esq.
Grosvenor Club,
Chester.

Dear Mr. Dyke,

Thank you for yours of 3rd November with the excellent design which I return.

Lundy's part in the Red Cross stamps is limited to falling in (after some demur) with the wishes of the Philatelic Assistance for the Red Cross Organisation. We did not and would not take the initiative and there is no chance of our making a Red Cross issue, ad hoc. If we had, it would I think be said that we were trying to cash in, and in any case the time has gone by when I could consider it, for we have burned our boats.

Yours sincerely.

MCH”

John waited another eight years before offering Martin Coles Harman another stamp design proposal and again was turned down.

On the next few pages are copies of correspondence between the two gentlemen regarding an idea that John had for a proposed Field Society issue.

CLUB COMPETITIONS

**DO NOT FORGET TO BRING YOUR COMPETITION ENTRIES TO THE
SUMMER MEETING AT ILFRACOMBE
LUNDY STAMPS
LUNDY POSTAL HISTORY
LUNDY POSTCARDS, LITERATURE AND EPHEMERA**

THE LUNDY FIELD SOCIETY AND LUNDY PHILATELY

Material supplied by Diana Keast

John Dyke had been showing interest in Lundy stamp designs since 1940 when he first introduced himself to Martin Coles Harman, and then in 1948 he presented a set of colour essays for a possible Field Society issue.

On 8th February 1948 John Dyke sent the following letter and essays to Martin Coles Harman:

“

*23 Sunny Bower,
Tottington,
Nr. Bury,
Lancashire.*

Telephone Tottington 176

February 8th 1948

Dear Mr. Harman,

I am again taking the liberty of writing to you, and as a number of years have lapsed since I last communicated with you it will be necessary for me to re-introduce myself, although doubtless the appearance of the enclosed drawings will go some way towards disclosing my identity. You may remember me for when I was an art student, living in Cheshire I used to frequently besiege you with questions and suggestions appertaining to Lundy, mostly with reference to the Island's philatelic contributions. I recall submitting several designs for new postage issues, without much hope of any being accepted for future use, but still I got a good deal of enjoyment out of producing the essays.

It may at first seem that with the introduction of these latest designs I am mostly covering old ground once more, but this time there is a little more purpose behind the suggestions. The first and foremost idea is to assist the funds of the Lundy Field Society.

The proposed stamps are based on the principle of the charity issues which frequently appear abroad, Switzerland and New Zealand have in particular done this. Each denomination bears a surcharge, amounting to doubling the face value, half the revenue derived passing onto the Field Society. The popularity of the Lundy stamps especially in America is well known, and I think that collectors of local stamps would welcome this new issue and make it assured that such a project would be a financial success.

With regard to production costs, it is probable that the stamps could be prepared less expensively than previous issues, as it would be possible to dispense with the services of the engraver or lithographer. I could produce the finished drawings in such a manner that it would only be necessary to have zinc blocks made of each design before the final stage – that of printing.

Although I am only submitting three of the essays for your consideration, I would be glad to send the remaining designs, should my proposal meet with your approval. The enclosed drawings must be regarded as rough suggestions only, and I have not taken a great deal of trouble in their preparation, they are of course twice the actual size.

I'm still interested in Lundy, and this summer hope to realise that long awaited opportunity of visiting the Island. Much has happened since the cancellation of the intended holiday in 1940, I had five years in service in the Army and since my demobilisation have been operating as a free lance artist with a certain amount of success, although present day conditions present a severe handicap to business, but still many others are similarly placed and we must all hope for brighter days.

I hope that the weather will be kind enough to permit me to do some sketching whilst on Lundy. I know that I shall find plenty of excellent subjects for pictures. Now that I have been admitted to the membership of the Field Society I expect that I shall be accommodated at the Old Light. Unfortunately I can only spend a week's holiday on the Island.

With Kind Regards

Yours sincerely

John Dyke"

Martin Coles Harman replied to John Dyke by return of post and sent a copy to Donald T. Heaysman who was the Lundy Agent at the time. MCH's letter read as follows:-

“Dear Mr. Dyke,

I well remember you and your hand-writing and particularly your work. The designs you submit are very beautiful and very true to life, but I am afraid I cannot use them, at any rate at present.

I don't want to overdo the philatelic side. It is true that whilst it started off purely and simply with the idea of using these for postage and postage only, the popularity of the stamps in America has contributed something to the Revenue which was very welcome in the bad times, and there have been such.

I feel on the one hand that I do not want to get away from the Puffin motive and on the other hand it is clearly understood between me and the Field Society that the Field Society must not intrude in connection with such things as postage and the “foreign relations generally”. In fact, following along this line I do not want the Field Society to have anything to do with the receipts from postage stamps, for if once we get the functions mixed, then I feel that difficulties will soon occur, which we all want to avoid.

I am so glad to hear that you are hoping to visit Lundy this year. I have sent your letter and designs on to my Agent, so he will know you when you turn up, and I am sure he will be pleased to have a talk with you.

Yours sincerely,

MARTIN COLES HARMAN”

A hand written note by MCH on Mr. Heaysman's copy asked for the designs “to be returned to me”.

On 13th February 1948, John Dyke completed the communication with the following reply:-

“Dear Mr. Harman,

Thank you for your letter received on Wednesday acknowledging the arrival of the essays. I am glad to know that these drawings have interested you and, of course, fully appreciate your explanation regarding future Lundy issues. As far as the designs are concerned, I feel I should make it clear that I was the originator of the idea, the Lundy Field Society being unaware of the proposition.

As a collector of Lundy Locals, I note with satisfaction it is the intention that future issues shall not appear indiscriminately.

I shall be happy to make the acquaintance of your Agent when visiting Lundy, and thank you for effecting an introduction by sending on my drawings to him.

Yours sincerely

John Dyke”

Subjects for the proposed (1948)
Lundy Field Society issue

*½+½ Puffin - Old Light
1+1 Puffin - Puffin
2+2 Puffin - Guillemot
3+3 Puffin - Kittiwake
5+5 Puffin - Shag
6+6 Puffin - Razorbill
9+9 Puffin - Cormorant (or Oystercatcher)
12+12 Puffin - Gannet (or Great Gull)*

On the following pages are three examples of the essays.

A SAMPLE OF JOHN
Actual size of each



The 1/2 Puffin + 1/2 Puffin red showing
the Old Light House



The 1 Puffin + 1 Puffin blue showing
a single puffin

N DYKE'S ESSAYS
h essay 44x51mm



fin blue showing



The 6 Puffin + 6 Puffin indigo showing
a single razorbill

THE USAGE OF THE LUNDY POSTMARK

By Derek Green, Lundy General Manager

From time to time we get cards/covers with Lundy stamps on which people want to cancel and send from the island. We are more than happy to help with this within reasonable quantities and time. All cards/covers are subject to the postal regulation on Lundy:

- Lundy stamps on postcards to be placed in the upper left corner and on covers in the lower left corner.
- Only Lundy stamps from 1982 and later are valid for postage.
- The stamps on the piece of mail must have a total face-value at least equal to the current Lundy rates.
- All mail will have the red franking meter mark showing the UK postage unless the mail already has a UK stamp. In this case a Lundy stamp is still required with a minimum value of 6 Puffin. The Lundy postmark is used solely for the cancellation of Lundy stamps if they have not already been cancelled by the oval emblem of the meter mark.

In order to maintain the high reputation of Lundy stamps and postal service, it is essential that we adhere to the above regulations. We must also point out that we do not cancel older Lundy stamps, homemade 'stamps' or labels or Lundy stamps that have been cut into bisects.

The Lundy stamps, first issued in 1929, make up the oldest private postal service in the world and are one of the unique things about Lundy which generates much interest globally. We have undertaken to continue with the stamps with using a moderate issuing policy and producing stamps in good quality which in turn promotes the Island. However, please be aware that orders and enquiries can take some time to process on the Island and your understanding and patience is very much appreciated.

Ed. In the past members have been known to ask Island staff to cancel all sorts of homemade nonsense and at times various Lundy agents have obliged. However, we must support Derek and the Landmark Trust if we want to maintain the credibility that Lundy stamps have earned over the years.

THE FRANKING MACHINE DISCOUNT

By Bob Harper

On 7th April 2005, the Royal Mail increased the first class and some overseas postal rates. First class mail went from 28p to 30p and the second and third weight steps went up to 46p and 64p respectively. At the same time the Royal Mail introduced a discount to some rates where a Franking Machine was used. The chart below gives a comparison of some of the lower duties.

Weight	Franking Machine	Stamps
60 gram	£0.29	£0.30
100 gram	£0.45	£0.46
150 gram	£0.62	£0.64
200 gram	£0.77	£0.79
250 gram	£0.91	£0.94
300 gram	£1.04	£1.07

Lundy Puffinage is based on 20 percent of the UK rate, currently 6 Puffin on letters and cards and thus the present series of definitives have price gaps. There is no 35 Puffin or 36 Puffin duty and no stamp above 43 Puffin in the current series. There has never been a 1p or 2p in this series. The island postal department has stocks of NVI's (2nd, 1st and E) but these stamps were not on sale on Lundy during my visit in July 2005.



THE 2006 MONTAGU STAMP ISSUE

By James Thomas with information supplied by the Landmark Trust, Tom Baker, Keith Hand and James Thomas

Introduction

H.M.S. Montagu, a Duncan Class battleship of 14,000 tons with a crew of 750 and pride of the British Navy, ran aground on the south west coast of Lundy early on the foggy morning of 30th May 1906. Despite numerous attempts to re-float her, Montagu was eventually sold for scrap.

Although the stranding of H.M.S. Montagu was a naval disaster, it did put Lundy on the map. Steamers started to go out to Lundy with day visitors, and being 'the golden age of the postcard', everyone wanted to send postcards from Lundy. This can be borne out by the number of Montagu postcards with the stamps cancelled by the Lundy 'Thimble' postmarks. This has remained popular ever since, so in one way we can say that the stranding of this battleship is the original background for the sending of postcards from Lundy, which in turn supported the need to start the Lundy private postal service.

In memory of the 100th anniversary of this important day in British naval and Lundy history, a new set of full colour Lundy stamps were issued on 30th May 2006.

The Stamps

The designs of the 36 Puffin, 37 Puffin and 50 Puffin stamps are based on a set of three different trial proofs which were designed by John Dyke. Along with ideas of Lars Liwendahl the set was finally finished by Jan-Erik Wellefors.

The 150 Puffin stamp has set a new Lundy philatelic record as being the highest ever value to appear on a Lundy stamp. As this is a commemorative set, it was decided not to have any non-value indicator values.

All values were issued in sheets of 20 (4x5) stamps with margins to all four sides and two puffins are shown in the margins as well as the printers' name.

The denominations are 36 Puffin, 37 Puffin, 50 Puffin and 150 Puffin which will cover the various new British postal rates due out on 21st August 2006. Twenty thousand copies of each value were printed by Cartor Security Printing, Meaucé, France.

The price of a complete set is £2.73 for either mint or cancelled to order stamps. A specially prepared First Day Cover is available at £3.25 per copy and a Presentation pack is also available at £3.25 each. Please send your orders direct to Lundy, Bristol Channel, UK, EX39 2LY and include the following charge for postage and packing:- £1.50 UK, £1.80 Europe or £3.00 Rest of the World.

Below is a copy of the new issue.

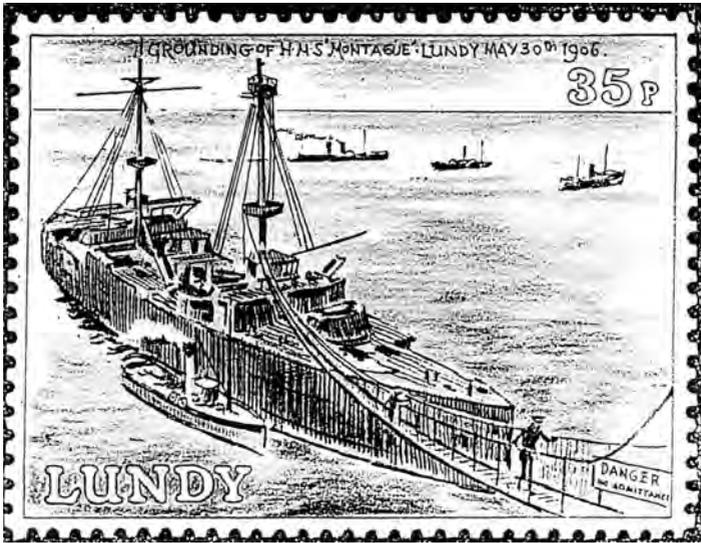


The design of this new set got its inspiration from a set of John Dyke drawings and stamp essays prepared, it is believed, in the mid 1980's to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the grounding of the Montagu. Below are five stamp essays showing three different designs with one design in three different colours.

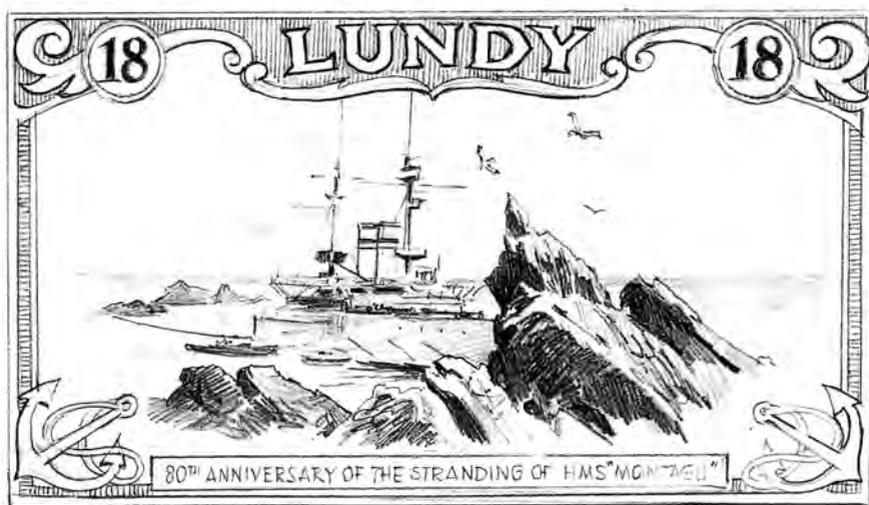


On the following three pages are copies of the original John Dyke drawings from which the design of the trial proofs and the final stamps originate. There are no known trial proofs based on the drawing of Captain Adair.





Below is another John Dyke drawing also of H.M.S. Montagu aground on Lundy, however, this drawing has a decorative frame whereas the others in the set have a plain frame. Again, there are no trial proofs of this design known to exist. Bottom of the page is a picture of Lundy Postmaster Reg Tuffin giving a pre-issue display of the Montagu stamps. (Photo by Keith Hand – 26th May 2006)



MONTAGU CENTENARY DAY – 30TH MAY 2006

By Alan Rowland

Purely by chance rather than design, I was on the Island for the week encompassing the 100th Anniversary of the Montagu's collision with Lundy. Although I had ordered my stamps from Reg Tuffin, I looked forward to posting postcards and buying any other souvenirs in person.

At 9 o'clock (or a couple of minutes before) on the 30th, Patrizia opened the shop to allow the small queue to begin purchasing their souvenirs. Maxicards, postcards, first day covers, stamps and souvenir packs were quickly snapped up. Nigel Dalby was awaiting the Oldenburg's arrival to take delivery of Montagu T-shirts (although one design was already for sale on the racks) and second edition of "The Loss of the Montagu, Lundy, 1906." One of the co-authors, Gill Davis, was on the Island, as she had been for the 75th anniversary in 1981 when the original book was published (*The loss of HMS Montague, Lundy 1906*. Atworth: G M and R C Davis. ISBN 0950739103.) She gave all the children on the Island one of her square blue Montagu badges as a souvenir.

Both the Oldenburg and Waverley were expected to bring hordes of visitors and souvenir hunters as well as the local media. The Oldenburg when she arrived berthed on the Eastern side of the jetty to leave ample accommodation on the Western side for the Waverley, but in the event, the Waverley cancelled. The unfortunate Oldenburg passengers survived a fairly rough passage only to have it prolonged by a visit to Shutter Rock for the benefit of the media on board.

At 11 o'clock the bar opened for the sale of draught Montagu Ale. One hundred bottles of Montagu Ale and, specially created for the day, a cocktail aptly named "Montagu on the Rocks." The Special Ale was brewed using the original (John O's) brewery equipment now installed at "The Big Sheep" near Abbotsham (for more information go to <http://www.thebigsheep.co.uk/brewery-pubs/bigsheepbeer.html>. and The New Puffin Journal – issue one). The first hundred bottles are numbered and signed by Simon Lacy, the brewer and cost £10 each. Luke, the barman would not reveal the secret recipe of the cocktail other than to say that it was, appropriately, rum based.

A party of Lundy Island Society of Change Ringers had arrived on Saturday 27th May and had practised on the 29th but were joined by further bell ringers for the anniversary and rang an especially composed peal – the Montagu Surprise Major – taking 3 hours and 1 minute. This was followed by a quarter peal to commemorate the birthday of Graham, one of their number. Ringing was completed by 3.55pm.

During the afternoon, a further celebratory event was the arrival of a folk singing band. They arrived on the Oldenburg and spent most of their time entertaining the patrons of the Marisco Tavern with sea shanties and other appropriate songs and melodies. Named “A Dose of Salt,” they were formed from this band and two others, Dambuskers and Hearts of Oak all North Devon based folk groups.

Also in the bar could be seen a new life-belt decorated to commemorate the sinking of the Montagu and hanging in prime position in the centre of the gallery railings.

All local media were invited and film crews could be seen taking footage of everything that moved around the village. Representatives were from local newspapers, radio and television and were taken to the south western area of the Island to be given the story and location of the event being commemorated.

By the time I left on Saturday, 3rd June, the reprint of “The Loss of the Montagu,” had failed to arrive. The Landmark Trust had commissioned the republication so it will no doubt be available to visitors to the Island during this summer as will the souvenir bottles of ale left due to the non-arrival of the Waverley.

Finally, on my last day, I was about to order a final drink before departure when a visitor who had just arrived, asked for a bottle of Montagu Ale. Luke asked if he realised that it was £10 a bottle and sold as a souvenir. “That’s alright,” the visitor replied, “and can you open it for me?” Luke and I could not believe it, but the visitor took it away and drank it, saying to his disbelieving wife, “Well, I won’t be able to do this again.”



LUNDY FIELD SOCIETY SYMPOSIUM

By Roger Allen

Celebrating the 60th anniversary of the foundation of the Lundy Field Society, a symposium will be held in the Peter Chalk Centre, University of Exeter, on 23rd September 2006. The event will commence at 10.00am with registration and coffee and will finish at 5.15 pm. There will be three sessions, each containing three lectures. The subjects will range over archaeology and history, marine and freshwater life and habitats and finally terrestrial matters including origins, fungi and the Lundy Cabbage. Speakers during the day will include eminent Lundy personalities such as Dr Myrtle Ternstrom, Dr Keith Hiscock, Shirley Blaylock, Professor Jennifer George, Robert Irving, Tony Parsons and the humorous Professor John Hedger.

The fee will be £15.00 per person and registration forms can be obtained from Alan Rowland, Mole Cottage, Morwenstow, Cornwall, EX23 9JR. The form can also be downloaded from the Lundy Field Society website at www.lundy.org.uk The closing date for applications is 1st August 2006.

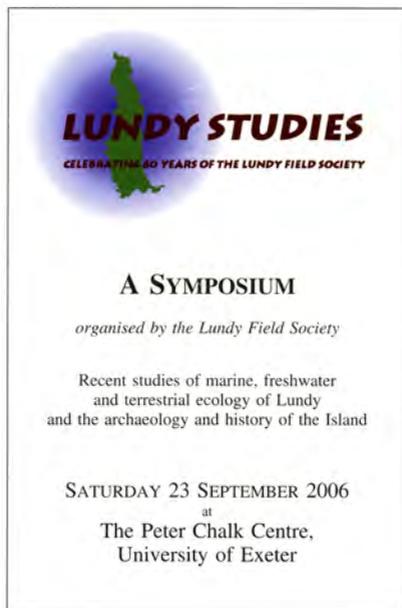


PHOTO PAGE



The Montagu shield which is hung above the bar in the Marisco Tavern on Lundy. (Photo – James Thomas 2004)



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For all Great Britain postal history
including off-shore Islands such as
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Guernsey and Jersey contact.....

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LUNDY ISLAND

*THREE MILES LONG & HALF A MILE WIDE
LUNDY LIES 10 MILES OFF THE COAST OF
NORTH DEVON WHERE THE ATLANTIC
MEETS THE BRISTOL CHANNEL.*

OUR NEXT MEETING

The Summer 2006, Meeting of the Lundy Collectors Club will take place on Sunday 23rd July 2006, 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. | Bourses closes |

It is hoped that as many as possible will join us for the optional lunch at Landmark. The meal will be a buffet, which will include one hot dish and is on offer for the very reasonable price of £14.00 - see booking form for menu. In order that the Club can make the necessary luncheon and accommodation arrangements, will all those wishing to attend the meeting please complete and return the enclosed Meeting Attendance form.

LUNDY COLLECTORS CLUB MEETING

