

The New Puffin Journal



SPRING 2009

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Contents

The New Puffin Journal

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Issue No. 37
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Regulars

- 1 Editorial
- 2 Autumn 2008 Meeting
- 3 Letters to the Editor
- 5 Diary 2009
- 26 Treasurer's Statement
- 27 Photo Page

Features

- 6 New Lundy Photographic Competition
- 7 Beach Road Works
- 8 1939 Red L.A.C.A.L Air Stamp
- 12 New Lundy Collecting Ideas
- 16 Autumn 2008 Souvenir
- 17 White Funnel Season Ticket
- 18 Lundy Europa Metal Datestamp
- 19 Loss of HMS Montagu
- 21 Some Recollections of a Lundy Collector/Dealer Part 3 – The Later Years



Lundy Collectors Club

EDITORIAL

I would like to start the New Year by wishing everyone well especially to Margaret Chadwick who attends all of the Summer meetings and Club trips to Lundy, who was taken ill during the Autumn and to our Meetings Organiser Keith Hand who is now receiving treatment to overcome an illness, which I am glad to say is not quite as serious as the Doctors first thought. I look forward to seeing you both fit and well soon.

This year is, as promised, going to be another busy year for the Club as we are planning to hold our Autumn meeting over five days on Lundy in November. We are also planning to introduce a new Lundy Photographic competition which will be held at the Autumn meeting each year.

This year is the 40th Anniversary of the National Trust purchasing Lundy and the start of the Landmark Trust administration. The formal handover to the National Trust was on 28th September 1969. Will we see another stamp issue to commemorate this important birthday? I do not know. The decision will probably be governed by the size of the current stamp stocks and as we had a new issue last year, perhaps stocks are still high – we will have to wait and see. As soon as I have any news, I will let you know. The Club, however, will celebrate this anniversary and produce a few souvenirs throughout the year. Each souvenir will have the Club's 40th Anniversary Logo printed on it – a copy of which can be seen on the Contents page of this *Journal*.

I would like to wish you all a belated Happy New Year and look forward to seeing you all during the year.

James

AUTUMN 2008 MEETING

By James Thomas

The Autumn 2008 meeting of the Lundy Collectors Club was held on 26th October 2008 at the Crestwood Community Centre at Eastleigh, Hampshire and was well attended with 14 members present.

After morning coffee, the meeting went straight into the playing of a half hour recording of a BBC radio programme from the 1960's about Lundy. The BBC presenter Ross Salmon, interviewed many well known Lundy names of the time, including John Ogilvie (Farm Manager), Trevor Davie (Skipper of the Lundy Gannet), Michael Jones (LFS Warden), Mrs. Gade, Mrs. Brodribb and Mrs. Jane Strick, wife of Arthur and discussed the difficulties, hardships and pleasures of living on a small island such as Lundy. This tape was quickly followed by a second much shorter BBC recording from 1969 of an interview between Hugh Scully and Major Raymond Moore reporting on the sale of Lundy and introducing the Appeal.

Members' displays followed with three fine presentations. The first display came from John Wright who presented 17 pages of 1937 to 1939 Lundy and Atlantic Coast Air Lines issues with imperforate proofs in various colours, an offset block of four and a strip of six. Examples of blue paper and light and dark printings were also on display. John followed this with a second display of 7 sheets of the 1950 'BY AIR' overprints from 1951 to 1953.

Mike Thompson presented the last display before the meeting stopped for lunch with 20 sheets of various Lundy Postal History, including Tramtickets, Wartime censored mail, War mail and LACAL airmail.

After lunch the Honourable Secretary announced that because of popular demand, starting from 2009 the Club would host a Lundy Photographic competition (see page 6). It was also agreed to invite Reg Tuffin to become a Honorary Member of the Club in appreciation of the hard work that he has done supporting the Club and Lundy Philately in general. The Honourable Meeting Organiser stated that the Spring 2009 meeting would be held at Eastleigh on 29th March 2009.

The auction commenced on time and was conducted by Mike Thompson and ably assisted by Julie Lester and Bob Harper.

After tea and with no further business, the meeting closed at 4.00pm.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Many thanks for your letter and magazines.

The complimentary membership came as a wonderful surprise which I gratefully accept.

Please convey my thanks to your members for their past support and I look forward to a continued happy "reading relationship" with you all.

Reg Tuffin

Hello All,

I thought it important to let you all know that I will be leaving the Lundy Co on Friday 19th December. I have enjoyed my Lundy years enormously, after taking on the job as mainland PA with Paul Roberts – not the easiest man to work for but who later became my mentor. Time has moved on and whilst I am still as much in love with Lundy as ever (and will probably remain so) I have been offered a challenge which I really wanted to pursue. I have "ahhmed and ahhed" as to whether I am making the right move but after turning 50 this year I decided that opportunities need to be taken – we cannot always stay in our "comfort zone".

Paul always thought he was taking a risk with me – as I had come from radio – in that I was a bit sparky and lively but he soon knocked that into determined enthusiasm and that is what I have given Lundy for the last seven and a half years.

I have also enjoyed working with some great people on the Island and the Ship and hope to stay in touch with those who want to. This enjoyment mixed with respect is extended to you guys too. As PA I have been involved with some interesting projects and have learned so much more about your organisations – it has been a pleasure.

I am not going far, in fact Bideford. Many years ago when I moved to North Devon from Sussex where I was a Secretary, I did bar work and later became a licensee of a pub in Westward Ho!. I worked a few bars and seemed to do well with it. Well, I have been given the chance again to do this. I shall be managing "Lacey's Ale and Cider House" in Bridge Street, Bideford for Simon and Anna Lacey of Countrylife Brewery.

A completely new concept to going to the pub, Lacey's has 8 real ales, 3 local ciders, Guinness, lager, wines and spirits but NO fizzy ale! It's a dedicated Ale House. And yes I know, this is not the best economic climate for taking on a pub but when the brewer is supplying his own beer – it can't go too wrong I am sure. Anyway, it's exciting and I am going to give it everything I have. We have a function room upstairs for parties etc. and a soon to be opening restaurant. Some of the ales are National award winners and we shall be working towards winning CAMRA Real Ale Pub of the year, with a long term plan of franchising Lacey's out under my guidance.

I had a really long chat with Peter Pearce when I submitted my resignation to him (Derek was on holiday) and he said not to burn any bridges. Well I certainly wouldn't – who knows what might happen in the future. As the Bond movie title says "never say never"!

Thank you all so much for the opportunity of working with you and I hope to see you at Lacey's when you're in Bideford. Until then, check out their website www.countrylifebrewery.co.uk

As of 19th December I will no longer pick up emails on this admin address and anything that is sent will be transferred to Derek, or if that fails it will go to info, so any thing of a sensitive nature needs not be sent to admin.

Once again, it's been brilliant and my life is most certainly the richer for having been privileged to work for Lundy and Landmark.

Bye

Lesley Dixon-Chatfield

PS Any enquiries regarding events, celebrations, parties, bookings etc please call the 01237 470074 number and speak to Lyndsey. She will have the files.



I have been a member for a long time and a slight concern is starting to worry me. There are probably others like myself who cannot get to the meetings due to distance, health and these days cost! The production of the souvenirs for meetings has, it appears, to have slowly improved and whilst odd cards, stamps, etc, may be acceptable and later be obtained at a reasonable price, it is starting to look as if the production of booklets in limited numbers and then with built in variations is starting to 'milk' those who cannot attend. The prices of such items are bound to increase and may at a later date be confused with official items.....

Brian Parkes

*My aim has always been to improve standards wherever possible which includes souvenirs. The production of stamp booklets has been supported by many members and has in fact been done only twice so far. The variations that appear in the margins is not deliberate but is how the stamp sheets are printed and to avoid damaging the gum on the actual stamps, the margin is retained and used to adhere the stamp strip to the booklet cover. The booklets are clearly marked as LCC Souvenirs to avoid any confusion between official and unofficial Lundy products. The reason for producing only 50 of the recent booklets was because I produced one booklet for each year of the Oldenburg's age. In future, however, I will produce an additional amount for sale to members through the Journal.
Ed.*

DIARY 2009

- | | |
|---|---|
| 7 th March 2009 | Lundy Field Society General Meeting, Exeter, Devon. |
| 29 th March 2009 | Lundy Collectors Club Spring Meeting, Eastleigh, Hampshire. |
| 18 th July 2009 | Lundy Collectors Club day trip to Lundy from Ilfracombe, Devon. |
| 19 th July 2009 | Lundy Collectors Club Summer Meeting, Ilfracombe, Devon. |
| 2 nd – 6 th November 2009 | Lundy Collectors Club Autumn Meeting. Lundy, Bristol Channel. |

NEW LUNDY PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

By James Thomas

On several occasions I have received requests from Club members for the Club to hold an annual photographic competition. At first I had reservations because we are a Collectors Club and encourage collecting photographs as apposed to taking them. It was however, pointed out that the Club's *Journal* covers items of general Lundy interest as well as collecting. So, at the Autumn 2008 meeting at Eastleigh, it was agreed that during 2009 the Club would host its first photographic competition and if well supported a trophy would be purchased and presented annually to the winner.

The rules will be simple and are as follows:-

The competition will be held at the Autumn meeting each year so that you have all year to take your pictures.

Each member present at the Autumn meeting will have one vote and the winner will be the entry with most votes.

The competition will be open to all Club members excluding professional photographers.

A maximum of eight prints with a maximum size of A4 can be submitted.

All pictures must be the work of the entrant.

All pictures must be of Lundy or a very close Lundy related subject.

Darkroom and Photoshop adjustments will be allowed but artificial manipulation will be discouraged i.e. a herd of elephants grazing at the base of the Old Light!

The first competition will be judged in November 2009 at the Club's meeting on Lundy. If you are unable to attend this meeting, please send your entry to me and I will submit it on your behalf.

Old photographs can still be entered in the competition for the Roger Allen trophy as ephemera.

BEACH ROAD WORKS

By James Thomas

The work on the Beach Road continues and is now concentrated at the lower levels around the Trinity House stone, Landing Beach Slip and Old Man's Cave area. The old stone slip which has so much character will eventually be covered with concrete as part of a road re-leveling exercise. The new reinforced concrete slip should survive the severe winter storms that beat against this coast each year. The retaining walls which will support the raised road, are partially constructed of steel reinforcement sprayed with concrete and a line painted on the vertical stone face shows where the new road level will be.

Below are two photographs of this area, one was taken in November 2004 and the other in July 2008 and shows how the new road and slip are changing.



2004



2008

1939 RED L.A.C.A.L AIR STAMP

By James Thomas

The 1939 red L.A.C.A.L air stamp was issued on 31st March 1939 and printed in sheets of 48 (6x8) by Willson's Ltd of Leicester. During the printing process imperfections were produced and repeated on each sheet. Five of the major varieties have been listed in "The Stamps of Lundy Island" as produced by Newman and more recently Puffin Stamps. However, John Stanard listed three further constant flaws.

Below is a diagram of the sheet layout and on the following pages are enlarged copies of each variety.

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40	41	42
43	44	45	46	47	48



Position 1 'Setting Sun' - Catalogue reference 19c



Position 9 'Broken Cloud' – Catalogue reference 19b



Position 18 'Cloud into Sea' – Catalogue reference 19a



Position 19 'Two Red Spots In Cloud' – No catalogue reference



Position 23 'Broken Leg of 'A'' – Catalogue reference 19f



Position 26 'Spot in Cloud' – No catalogue reference



Position 42 'Sunspot in Sea' – Catalogue reference 19e



Position 47 'Extended '2' in Value' – No catalogue reference

On closer inspection of the sheet in my collection, I found a further variety on stamp position 43. This shows a wavy 'AIR LINES LTD' and a spot in the cloud and can be seen below.



NEW LUNDY COLLECTING IDEAS

By James Thomas

Not all members of the Lundy Collectors Club collect just the island's stamps. Many collect postal history, postcards, literature, crested china, chinaware, beer and wine labels, maritime ephemera, etc, and the list just goes on.

Recently Lundy tee-shirts have become quite collectable with the most sought after being the 'Staff' Polo shirt which is only issued to Lundy employees, although one was sold recently on e-bay.

Another area that could become a collecting interest is Lundy Horse Brasses! Yes you read it here first.

Roger Allen recently sent me the following :-

"Many years ago I acquired a horse brass with the words LUNDY ISLAND LIGHTHOUSE carved upon it. No records have ever emerged of any other examples of this horse brass and I believe it was hand carved and is a one-off item. Indeed, the lighthouse on the brass bears no resemblance to the Old Light and stands on a rocky pile."

Below is Roger's water colour of his Horse Brass and on the following three pages are a few examples of the tee-shirts so far produced by Lundy.





LUNDY ISLAND

51° 10' North
04° 40' West

A navy blue tee-shirt with cream print or cream tee-shirt with blue print. Printed on the chest is the island's geographical position and on the back all the shipping areas around Britain, of which Lundy is one.

Viking, North Utsire, South Utsire, Forties, Cromarty, Forth,
Tyne, Dogger, Fisher, German Bight, Humber, Thames,
Dover, Wight, Portland, Plymouth, Bisaya,
Fitzroy, West Sole, East Sole.

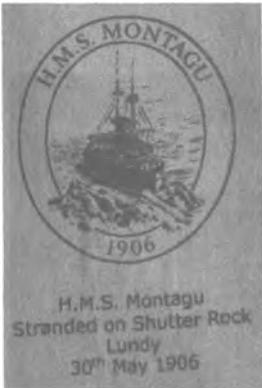
LUNDY

Fastnet, Irish Sea, Shannon, Rockall, Malin, Hebrides,
Bailey, Fair Isle, Faeroes, South East Iceland.

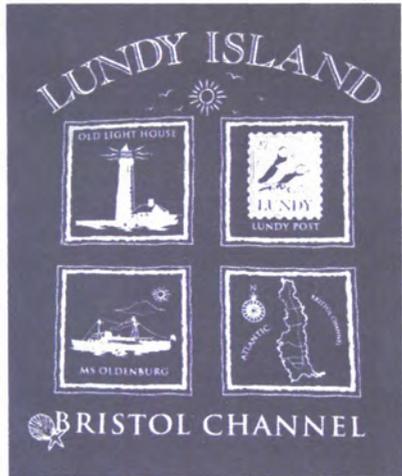




A navy blue tee-shirt with a map logo in white on the chest and images of the Old Light, a Lundy stamp, MS Oldenburg and a map of the island in white on the back.



A grey tee-shirt with a blue printed logo on the chest to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the grounding of HMS Montagu.





A black tee-shirt with a logo on the front only, reminiscent of the Guinness logo.



AUTUMN 2008 SOUVENIR

By James Thomas

A printed card souvenir to celebrate the 50th birthday of the MS Oldenburg was produced for the Club's Autumn 2008 meeting. On the front of the card is a colour picture of the Oldenburg alongside the jetty on Lundy and on the reverse side is a 10 Puffin 2008 Oldenburg Lundy stamp cancelled by a selection of Oldenburg cachets. Each is numbered and a limited number of 50 (one for each year) was produced. Each member present at the meeting received a free copy but for those unable to make the meeting there are few for sale on a first come first served basis.

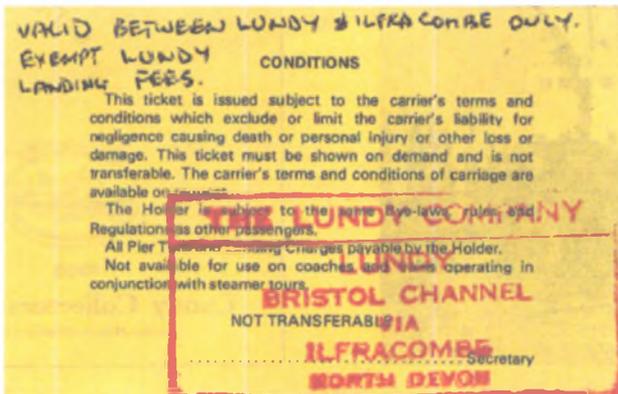
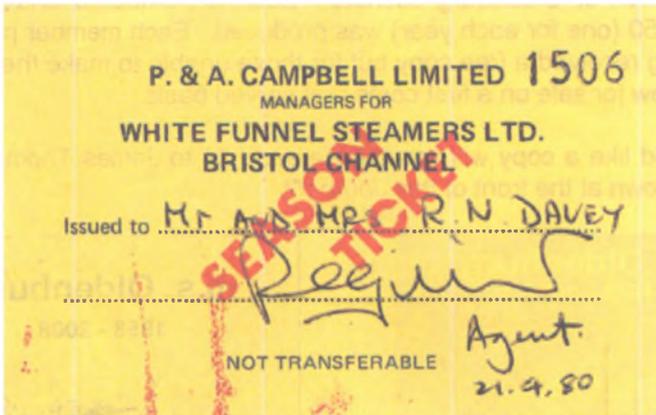
If you would like a copy will you please send £1 to James Thomas at the address shown at the front of this *Journal*?



WHITE FUNNEL SEASON TICKET

By Roger Allen

Below are images of the front and back of a White Funnel season ticket issued to Chris and Dave Davey in 1980. Nothing strange about that although it must be pretty rare, but it is the Lundy Company rubber stamp on the reverse that is of interest. Although it looks ordinary enough I do not have any other examples and have not seen it before.



LUNDY EUROPA METAL DATESTAMP

By Martin Evans

In 2006 I made a trip to the USA and one of my visits was to Dr. Frank Scheer of Alexandria who runs the Railway Mail Service Library and in his collection of original handstamps is the Lundy Europa Metal handstamp.

I can assure members that Dr. Scheer is a very responsible person and has no intention of using it.

Below are two photographs of the actual item.



LOSS OF HMS MONTAGU

From Roger Allen

Included in a bundle of miscellaneous papers that came my way recently, there is a typed account of the loss of the Montagu. It consists of a single page, slightly bigger than A5 and typed in blue on very old buff paper. The style of the typewriter and the size and nature of the paper indicate that it dates from the 1940's or 1950's or even earlier. Although there is not a great deal that is new on this single ancient page, there are two little comments that attract one's attention.

"She was firmly pinned on the sharp rock and as the tide receded it pierced her bottom in the forward part. Admiral Wilson was in charge of the attempt to get her off and Captain Young of the Liverpool Salvage Association was engaged to carry out operations. The rock was reduced and a false bottom built – it being hoped that the vessel would float off at the spring tide – but rough seas bumped the ship about and broke the false bottom."

I have never read in any other account of the loss of the Montagu this story of creating a false bottom and reducing the rock on which it was pinned. It seems very unlikely, but may well have been attempted. There is an indication that the writer of this short account was not well acquainted with the story of the Montagu as he spells the name of the ship incorrectly twice (Montague) and also states that the Shutter Rock is on the North West of Lundy, when of course, it is off the South West corner.

Another paragraph on this typewritten page reads:- "On the last Friday in September, Mr. Twiss received a telegram from Captain Young, telling him to go to Lundy with his camera, as an attempt was going to be made to get the 12" guns off with lighters."

Twiss Brothers of Ilfracombe were certainly there at the wreck of the Montagu from the very start, but it is interesting to read of an actual communication from Captain Young of the salvage operation to Twiss Brothers, advising them to be present at a special Montagu related event.

Loss of H.M.S. Montague.

The date was 23th April, 1906. The Montague was off Lundy the day before and went to the Westward. A very thick sea-fog came on and the ship was returning to Lundy when she ran aground in the early morning, on the "Shutter Rock" on the North-West of Lundy.

She was firmly pinned on the sharp rock and as the tide receded it pierced her bottom in the forward part. Admiral Wilson was in charge of the attempt to get her off and Captain Young, of the Liverpool Salvage Association, was engaged to carry out salvage operations.

The rock was reduced and a false bottom built-it being hoped that the vessel would float off at the spring tide-but rough seas bumped the ship about and broke the false bottom.

The decks were now awash at high tide but all the guns and other moveable superstructure were removed.

On the last Friday in September, Mr Twiss received a telegram from Captain Young telling him to go to Lundy with his camera as an attempt was going to be made to get the 12" guns off with lighters. The weather was then fine, the sea was smooth with a light East wind. The operations were successful and the guns were removed. That finished Captain Young's operations.

In November the Admiralty blew some holes in the side of the vessel and sold her to the Cornish Salvage Association.

SOME RECOLLECTIONS OF A LUNDY COLLECTOR/DEALER

PART 3 – THE LATER YEARS

By Michael Bale

Following up on the Ulrich collection, the next large lot to come our way was owned by a Dr. Mitchell Levine of Toronto, Canada. We purchased this collection in the late 1990's. It was quite a substantial lot, in immaculate condition and with many fine items. Dr. Levine or Mitch as he liked to be known also possessed a fine collection of Israel – much of which we had sold to him over the years. The strange thing was that Dr. Levine had strong collections of both Lundy and Israel – virtually the only two countries that I have dealt with over the years. Another substantial collection that we acquired in the 1990's was that built up by Jon Aitchison. Jon had collected Channel Islands and Lundy for many years and his Lundy was a very large collection, consisting of about 20 albums if I recall correctly. I am not sure of the reason but Jon suddenly lost interest in Lundy and offered me the collection. I purchased the whole lot and often wonder if he regretted parting with it. Anyway, nowadays Jon is back on the scene with a vengeance and snaps up almost every Lundy lot that comes onto the market.

Another large and well-known Lundy lot came to me in the 1990's and this was the William Rowcroft collection/stock. He was a well known old-time American collector of Lundy and his material arrived in two large cartons, absolutely jam packed with stamps and covers of Lundy. I particularly recall one item as a block of about 20 of the 1950 'BY AIR' 4p all folded into something looking like a block of four and shoved into a tiny envelope. When I got them out of the little envelope and opened them out it was a block of about 20 stamps all with double overprint (Cat. 73a).

Also absorbed into stock in the 1990's were the Tim Lardner collection and a good selection of Lundy material from Jim Czul's collection in the USA. He was part of the small band of early but dedicated Lundy collectors based in the Chicago area. Also involved in this group was Duane Larson, Roger Cichorz, George Ulrich, Rich Drews and David Kols and others of whom I have now forgotten the names. Very few of them seem to be obviously active in Lundy collecting nowadays but I do know that Roger Cichorz is still very interested and often writes articles for the *Journal*.

I came across something that Roger once said a while ago that is certainly very pertinent nowadays. He pointed out that in the 1970's a lot of dealers would have laughed at you if you had mentioned Lundy. I can concur with this as my own experience bore this out. Years ago I walked into Stanley Gibbons main shop in the Strand, London and asked for Lundy. The man behind the counter looked down his nose and said "Sir, we do not stock that sort of rubbish". I bet the attitude would be somewhat different nowadays.

An item not mentioned in any depth so far was the opening, in September 1999 of the Lundy Room in the Ilfracombe Museum. This came about because I was invited, some years ago to become a member of the Trustee Board of the Museum and my dream from the very beginning was to add a Lundy Room. We were fortunate enough to obtain a substantial Lottery Grant and then applied to the North Devon District Council for a small piece of land beside the museum to build the new room on. Unfortunately, it took us so long to get precisely nowhere that we eventually gave up and decided to create a small room out of one of the existing galleries. At the same time we were able, with the help of the Lottery Grant to up-date other parts of the museum. The Lundy Room is partly panelled with real mahogany wooden panelling from the Captain's cabin of the Montagu that was wrecked off Lundy in 1906. We also have interpretation display boards, early Lundy crested china and the original printing plate for the ½d and 1d LACAL Air stamps. These were all donated by Bronnie and I and other donors have added more items since. There is also a small mantel clock that is set into the Montagu panelling with a plate describing it as made by Frank Bale, my grandfather!

The story of the Montagu panelling is quite an interesting one and not generally known outside of North Devon. I did not even know of the existence of the panelling until one day my then secretary, Helen Smith told me that there was a cottage on the Harbour at Ilfracombe with an old couple living in it who had their small sitting room entirely lined with Montagu panelling. Some years later the owners passed away and the cottage came on the market. I was able to contact the new owner and he sold me the panelling plus a large original photograph of the Montagu on the rocks at Lundy. We eventually split it into three batches utilising it for the Museum Lundy Room, our own entrance hall in Braunton and the third batch I sold to the Landmark Trust. I never found out what happened to that lot – it could be in a store room on Lundy!

Our final large purchase was quite recent in 2003 – 2004 when we had the opportunity of acquiring a substantial part of the late John Dyke estate. The first part was an enormous lot of worldwide postcards in dozens of shoe boxes totalling about 20,000 including a very large batch of Lundy. This collection was apparently started by John's father and then carried on by John. We purchased the whole lot and brought them home in our car, which it filled! John was of course for many years the chief designer of Lundy stamps from the 1951 'Flying Birds' issue onwards. The philatelic material included many proofs, original artist drawings plus many normal issues in full sheets and large blocks. We sold a lot of the postcards and managed to do an exchange deal for the remainder with another dealer accepting a very nice volume of British Empire King George VI stamps a lot of which slotted into my own collection of these issues.

Over the years we have handled many of the best known Lundy collections and Lundy rarities but I particularly recall two batches of original proofs that came up for sale in London auction houses. Firstly, in early 1993 a number of never before seen single imperforate proofs of the 1957 'Puffin' series were on offer at auction. They were all with huge margins and printed off like singles. In total there were 35 of them and I believe we acquired the whole lot. These are now catalogued at £300 to £350 each and are extremely scarce. Another printer's archive comprised a wonderful holding of the 1972 Trinity House issue which came via a major London auction house in December 2000. There was a total of almost 120 items (see page 57 of the 2003 edition of 'Stamps of Lundy Island' catalogue) and we managed to obtain over a third of them. These soon sold out and are now hard to find and catalogue between £150 and £200 each, for colour pictures see pages 20-21 of the Spring 2007 edition of *The New Puffin Journal*.

Publishing has always been an interest of mine and we acquired from Stanley Newman, some years ago, the rights to the popular Newman Lundy catalogues and we published the 3rd and 4th editions plus a supplement to the 4th edition. This is the only Lundy catalogue published anywhere and has a very strong following amongst collectors. We have been criticised in some quarters for including too many unusual items but we believe that collectors like to be aware of what is in existence.

We have also handled a considerable amount of Lundy memorabilia including books, pottery, paintings and prints and of course postcards. These are a very popular sideline and good quality Lundy postcards are keenly sought after. There seems to be a dearth of memorabilia being offered nowadays.

We have had the pleasure of dealing with many famous Lundy collectors and dealers including (in alphabetical order) :- Roger Allen, Tom Baker, Roger Cichorz, Jim Czul (USA), John Dyke, George Fabian (USA), Peter Horner (Switzerland), Diana Keast, Duane Larson (USA), Dr. M. Levine (Canada), Reg Lo-Vel, Lars Liwendahl (Sweden), Julie Lester, David Kols (USA), Jim Mullett, Stanley Newman, Wim Ros (Holland), Michael Thompson, James Thomas, George Ulrich and Ian Wilkinson plus others I cannot recall at the time of writing.

There have been comparatively few Lundy dealers with any staying power but pre-eminent amongst these must be the late Ken Gibson who died in 2002 aged 74 and who's very substantial stock was acquired by Jon Aitchison about the year 2000. This was probably the most substantial stock to come on the market for some years and it had lain untouched for quite a long time. One of the 'old-time' dealers was Bill Frazer of Trafalgar Square, London who was selling Lundy into the 1960's and then of course, more recently Stanley Newman who held Lundy auctions for many years and inaugurated the popular Lundy catalogue. Our current main Lundy dealer is of course Jon Aitchison who has been on the Lundy scene for many years, first as a collector and then as a dealer.

For well over 20 years I have supplied cheaper Lundy sets and packets to the Ilfracombe Museum, Clovelly Post Office and other local outlets. This is to tap into the local Tourist Trade and we must have sold thousands of sets this way. It is also a very good way of disposing surplus quantities of the mass produced sets of the 1950's and 1960's.

In 2002 we passed on a large part of our working stock to Ian Luggar of Bideford, retaining for ourselves mainly parts of our own collection. Ian trades mostly on the Internet and does not hold Lundy auctions by post. The remainder of my personal collection plus some other bits and pieces, the rights to the Lundy catalogues and the trading name Puffin Stamps were all sold to Jon Aitchison in late 2006 and thus ended approximately 55 years of my collecting and dealing in Lundy stamps.

I reached three quarters of a century (75!) in February 2008 and still cannot really decide which I prefer – collecting or dealing? Having been involved with both aspects for many years I still cannot decide! I can now settle down and enjoy my collections of Monaco and King George VI for the next few years – hopefully! I spend hours looking through auction catalogues from many different companies before making the occasional bid on something that I require. Additionally, I carry out valuations of general collections many of which I purchase, strip out what I want and pass on the rest to local collectors or to auction houses – I never have time to get bored!

Incidentally, I do still look after and maintain the Lundy Tramticket Register (*for which I am extremely grateful – Ed.*) which tracks all known serial numbers of the 1935 Tramticket stamps - mint, used and on cover. If any collector reading this comes across any new examples of these stamps then please list the values and serial numbers and send me the list. It is quite confidential – I have the only known copy of the list of owners. I can be reached via post at Mr. M. Bale, Balestamps, P.O. Box 1, Ilfracombe, Devon, EX34 9BR, England or by telephone on 01272 812339.

All in all I have had a fascinating life with philately and Lundy in particular. I cannot think of any other occupation that would have given me so much interest and excitement over so many years.

I hope you have enjoyed reading about some of my philatelic experiences!

Michael

TREASURER'S STATEMENT

By James Thomas

Statement of accounts from 1st January 2008 to 31st December 2008.

	INCOME	EXPENDITURE
Balance C/F 1-1-2008	423.08	0.00
Subscriptions	1851.38	0.00
Advertisements	100.50	0.00
Auctions	1315.49	904.76
Summer Meeting & Trip	897.00	1018.25
Spring & Autumn Meetings	0.00	249.96
Souvenirs	37.00	26.00
Miscellaneous	25.75	0.00
Interest	31.97	0.00
Journal	0.00	1534.67
Postage	<u>0.00</u>	<u>234.21</u>
	4682.17	3967.85

The accounts show that at the end of 2008 the Club had £714.32 in its bank account; however, Auction 33 has yet to be settled and will have an expected pay-out of £239.86 which will give a true closing balance for 2008 as £474.46. This has increased the Club's capital by £51.38.

It is still my aim to keep the Club as a quasi-commercial organisation. Although our aim is not to make money, each year we make a small profit which has helped to maintain subscriptions at current rates. My plan is to accrue £500 in readiness to replace the photocopier when it finally packs up.

thenewpuffinjournal@tiscali.co.uk

PHOTO PAGE



Photo – James Thomas, 26th July 2008



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

ROGER HUDSON

Michael Bale will soon be moving to South Wales and has a few Lundy items that he will not have space for in his new home. If you would like any of the items listed below, please contact Michael on 01271 812339 or write to "Meadows End", Ilfracombe Road, Braunton, Devon, EX33 2ER.

- 1) Lundy 'Newman' catalogues 1984, 1989 & 1993 plus the Lundy Postmarks catalogue.
- 2) 'The New Puffin Journal' - Spring 1997 to Autumn 2006.
- 3) LCC auction catalogues & prices realised - 1997 to 2008.
- 4) Jon Aitchison's Lundy retail lists - 1997 to 2006.
- 5) NEGEV Stamps/Puffin Stamps postal bid sales catalogues 1989 to 2005.

Michael is only asking for a donation to be made to Club funds.

OUR NEXT MEETING

The Spring **2009 Meeting of the Lundy Collectors Club** will be held on Sunday 29th March 2009 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 2.00 pm	Lunch (not provided)
2.00 to 2.30 pm	Auction Viewing
2.30 to 2.45 pm	Club Announcements
2.45 to 3.45 pm	Club Auction (Auctioneer - Mike Thompson)
4.30 pm	Bourse Closes

The Bourse is open to 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.

