

# THE NEW PUFFIN JOURNAL



## Summer 2015

Published by the Lundy Collectors' Club

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Photo by James Thomas



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# Editorial

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The Club's Spring 2016 five-day meeting on Lundy has been an instant sell out. I am very pleased with the response as it confirms that the Club is 'hitting the nail flat on the head'. It will be an international event again with a Canadian and three Swedish members joining the Brits. For those unable to attend this meeting, the Club is organising a day trip onboard the m.s. Oldenburg on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2015, which is followed the day after with the Club's Summer meeting in Ilfracombe. If you wish to attend the day-trip and/or the meeting, will you please complete the enclosed forms and return to Keith Hand immediately.

To my great surprise, Derek Green, Lundy General Manager, announced at the Lundy Field Society AGM, that Lundy will be issuing a miniature sheet containing nine stamps this year to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Landmark Trust. I am sure that by now, you have already been contacted with details and an order form. If you haven't received anything from Lundy, will you please contact them (Tel: 01271 863636 or email [lundypostalservice@lundyisland.co.uk](mailto:lundypostalservice@lundyisland.co.uk)) and register your interest.

The Lundy environment is very special, it is the only place on this planet where the Lundy Cabbage can be found and its bird life is some of the best in the British Isles. During 2014, the puffin count was very strong with 240 puffins being recorded at Jenny's Cove on 30<sup>th</sup> June. Also, new areas on the island are being colonised by the puffins. This is without doubt, one of the island's greatest success stories.

One thing that I do not say enough is 'thank you' to the small group that forms the 'engine' of the Lundy Collectors' Club. Diana Keast our President who gives me advice, guidance and help, Roger Allen who produces so many top quality articles and does the proof reading, Mike Thompson, Julie Lester and Bob Harper for three very professional auctions each year and Keith Hand for organising our meetings. My final thanks go to all of the members who contribute to the *Journal* and attend the meetings. **Thank you!**

I look forward to meeting you all at the Summer weekend.

*James*

# Spring 2015 Meeting Report

By James Thomas

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The meeting opened at 11:00am with a bourse and coffee with deliciously home baked cakes by Bronnie Bale.

This was followed by James Thomas who up-dated members with the latest news from Lundy.

Apologies for not attending the meeting due to illness were read out on behalf of Diana Keast.

The Club congratulates Diana Keast in being elected President of the Lundy Field Society. Since the founding of the society in 1946, Diana is only the fifth person to hold the position and follows in the footsteps of her father, her brother Albion, Sir John Smith and Sir Jack Hayward.

Lundy has received a pledge from the Heritage Lottery Fund for the sum of £931,000.00 towards the repair and alterations of the church. However, to qualify for the money, Lundy has to raise £400,000.00 as its contribution. The work will include repairs to the external structure, roof, walls, etc., and to convert the building into a joint church/education centre. It is planned to start work on site during the spring 2016 with completion 12 months later. Lundy has now started a Church Appeal Fund and the Lundy Collectors' Club is going to do its bit in appreciation of the support received from the island management over recent years. At each Club meeting the 'bucket will be rattled' and donated items will be sold at each auction on behalf of the fund.

During May 2015 Lundy plan to issue a miniature sheet of nine stamps to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Landmark Trust who administer the island. It is most likely that there will also be a new stamp issue in 2016 to commemorate the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Lundy Field Society.

The 2016 Lundy calendar was printed and delivered to the island, however, a printing error was discovered and they all had to be returned. Well, not all, because I managed to acquire one copy from Derek Green which will be sold in the Club's Spring 2016 auction on Lundy in aid of the Church Appeal Fund.

There is a possibility that Lundy will produce at least one new postcard for 2015, as soon as details are available they will be published in a future issue of this *Journal*.

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In September 2015 the Landmark Trust is going to publish an anniversary book titled 'Landmark – A History of Britain in 50 Buildings' which will include a history of Lundy's Castle and Old Light.

The first display was launched by James Thomas who started with a talk about the most recent Lundy Selection Packs before handing the floor over to Rick Sayers, who being an expert on the subject, continued by displaying 24 earlier selection packs. Jon Aitchison in his publication 'Stamps and Postal History of Lundy Island' accepts that the section devoted to Selection Packs is incomplete and he states that he hopes to expand on this subject in future editions.

John Wright then led us towards lunch with a display of Lundy Pot-Pourri which included four sheets of Marilyn Smith Lundy related notelets, a double imperforated sheet of the 1954, 9 puffin Silver Jubilee Surface Mail stamp (catalogue 98Pa) and a single imperforated pane of the 1954, 12 puffin Silver Jubilee Air Mail stamp (catalogue 105Pa). Next was a Second World War publicity leaflet with ½p and 1p L.A.C.A.L. stamps cancelled with the 1940-41 'Air Service suspended' cachet type E. He also displayed horizontal and vertical strips of the 1982 Definitive stamps with mixed values. This part of his display will be featured as an article in a future issue of this *Journal*.

An enjoyable lunch was partaken by most present and whilst we were finishing off our puddings, Mike Thompson set out the auction lots for viewing.

As always, the auction was conducted in a most professional manner by our Auctioneer Mike Thompson who was ably assisted by Julie Lester and Bob Harper.

The afternoon was rounded off with three further displays from Mike Thompson, Norman Elson and John Wright.

Mike drew from his vast collection of Tramtickets and Large Map stamps and displayed what is probably unique material such as a strip of eight mint Tramtickets.

Norman set out a 15 sheet display of Lundy Pot-Pourri and John showed a 16 sheet Hampshire Federation competition entry for critique.

With no further business the meeting closed at 5:00pm.

# 2015 'The Landmark Trust – 50 Years Rescuing Buildings' Miniature Sheet

By James Thomas

On 16<sup>th</sup> May 2015 Lundy issued a new stamp miniature sheet entitled 'The Landmark Trust – 50 Years Rescuing Buildings' to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the foundation of the Landmark Trust by Sir John and Lady Christian Smith.

The new miniature sheet showcases three properties from Lundy, five other Trust properties from across the United Kingdom along with Sir John and Lady Smith. The nine stamps within the sheet have been produced using the offset lithography four colour process and have been printed by Cartor Security Printing, Meaucé, France. The stamps were designed by Lars Liwendahl and Jan-Erik Wellerfors and are based on photographs from the Landmark Trust archive. For the first time, block perforation has been used with no perforations in the borders. The special Landmark Trust jubilee emblem is highlighted in the border in bronze/gold. 12,000 sheets have been produced.



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The denominations of the new stamps are 49p and 62p, reflecting the new United Kingdom 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> class postage rates. There are three 1<sup>st</sup> class and six 2<sup>nd</sup> class stamps in the sheet. Only complete sheets will be sold by post but individual stamps from the sheet will be used to send mail from the island.

Cost:-

A mint or cancelled to order (CTO) sheet	£4.80
First Day Cover	£5.40
Presentation Pack	£5.40

A special First Day cancel was used on the First Day Covers and all mail bearing the new stamps on the day of issue.



## *New Lundy Franking Machine*

By James Thomas

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On Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2015, the Lundy Pitney Bowes franking machine used on the island was replaced with a new Neopost machine bringing it in line with the Shore Office. The existing cachet was kept and the new postmark is in blue. Special covers have been produced to mark the occasion using the 49p stamp from the 1992 Discover Lundy issue with the first and last days of use of the old and new machines in the postmark and cancellation. The covers can be purchased for £4.00 a pair and have been limited to 250 copies.

**Please place your orders direct with Lundy and allow £2.30 UK postage, £3.00 for European mail and £4.00 for World wide orders.**

# *Early Lundy Guide Book*

By Roger Allen

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“NATURE’S UNSPOILT ISLE.”

**LUNDY  
INFORMATION  
COMMUNICATION  
ACCOMMODATION**

## **THE GUIDEBOOK BOOKLET.**

In early 1926, just a year after Martin Coles Harman had bought Lundy in 1925, the island sent off to the printers Weston–Super-Mare Gazette Ltd., Printers, Centre of St. James Street, the first little guide book of Lundy under the new ownership. The front cover bore the words at the heading of these notes.

The booklet measure just 5 ½ x 4 inches (14 x 10 cm), has dark violet covers, eight pages, stapled, with two black and white photographs. The pages are unnumbered and each page has thin frame lines around the text.

The first of the two photographs is a view of Millcombe Valley, showing the house and all the walled gardens. A long view along the East coast is included in this photograph. This is the same negative as used by Twiss Brothers of Ilfracombe for their postcard entitled ‘LUNDY ISLAND, MANOR HOUSE T93’ (Allen Postcard Catalog No. TW 230).

The second photograph shows the rear view of the Manor Farm Hotel with the original encircling stone walls. This is a similar view to a Sweetman postcard entitled ‘Manor Hotel, Lundy 10205’ (Allen Postcard Catalog No. SW 370).

In this booklet we read that enquiries for accommodation should be addressed to Miss Nancy Sage, Manageress, Manor Farm Hotel, Lundy. Telegrams to ‘Sage, Lundy-Island-Coastguard-Station’. (One word). Enquiries for sailings by the M.V. *Lerina* to be sent to Captain F. Dark, 2 Elm Terrace, Instow. Telegrams: Captain Dark, Instow. Phone: Instow 21. Return fare 10/- per person. The boat may be chartered by private parties for special trips to Lundy at a minimum fare of £5.00.

Enquiries for furnished and unfurnished accommodation on the island should be addressed to Messrs. R. Dymond and Son, Bank Chambers, The Quay, Bideford. Telephone Bideford 25. It would be interesting to know exactly which of the properties was let unfurnished.

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## **ADVERTISEMENT IN THE ILFRACOMBE OFFICIAL GUIDE.**

The slightly amended text of this booklet was sent on a type-written foolscap sheet at the beginning of March 1926 to the offices of the Ilfracombe Official Guide, presumably for inclusion as an advertisement in their publication. The editor in charge of advertisements, Mr. E. Wood, sent back to the island a rough proof of the advertisement on the 9<sup>th</sup> March 1926. It would be useful to view a copy of the Ilfracombe Official Guide from that date to see if this advertisement really did get into that issue.

The above type written sheet containing the text of this advertisement is in the possession of the writer of these notes and the wording, with just one minor difference, is exactly the same as appears in the rough proof of the advertisement returned by the Ilfracombe Guide editor. Interestingly, the typewriter used for this foolscap sheet is not the same as the well known machine used by Mr. Gade throughout most of his life on Lundy. This may imply that the text of this advertisement was composed by Miss Nancy Sage, the manageress of the Manor Farm Hotel, on her own typewriter.

On the other hand, the language of this advertisement and the booklet guide are in a slightly poetic tone that is familiar to us from the letters and writings of Mr. Gade. He may have written or dictated it to Miss Sage.

### **TEXTUAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN GUIDEBOOK AND ILFRACOMBE ADVERTISEMENT.**

To return to the language used in the guidebook, there are many quite significant differences between the text of that booklet and the subsequent advertisement in the Ilfracombe Guide. Some of these differences are detailed here.

- 1). The words "...than on the mainland" that appear in the booklet, first page 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph, have been omitted in the advertisement.
- 2). In the booklet, second page of text, first paragraph, the word "weekly" should read "weakly". This error is found in the booklet, advertisement and indeed also in the original typed sheet.
- 3). The phrase "The Signal Station Telegraph Office is always available." appearing in the booklet, second page of text, second paragraph, has been omitted from the advertisement. Is this perhaps because between the date of the original writing of the booklet and the date of the advertisement, the Signal Station had been closed?

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4). In the second page of text of the booklet, the name of the hotel is the Manor Farm Hotel. In the advertisement it is called the Manor Farm-house Hotel. This is the only occasion that the writer of these notes has seen the hotel described in this way.

5). In the booklet, the contact for hotel reservations is given as 'Sage, Manageress, Manor Farm Hotel, Lundy'. In the advertisement the contact instruction is just for 'Manageress, Manor House Hotel Lundy'.

6). In this same paragraph in the guidebook, the number of passengers allowed on the *Lerina* is given as ten. In the subsequent advertisement, this number is increased to twelve.

7). Also in this paragraph in the guidebook, the time given for the *Lerina* to reach the island is given as about two and a half hours. Whereas in the advertisement it reads about two hours only.

The last two points above, 6). and 7). are quite significant and unless the number of passengers and the sailing time had changed, it might indicate that Miss Sage had herself composed the text of the booklet and that it had been corrected by Mr. Gade for the advertisement in the Ilfracombe Guide.

## **TWO ADDITIONAL FLYERS IN THE GUIDEBOOK.**

Two small additional 'flyers' were inserted in the booklet when it was distributed. The first, on an orange coloured paper, 5½ x 4 inches (13x10cm) was produced by R. Dymond & Son, Bideford, in connection with the letting of the properties on Lundy. All the details and prices quoted in this flyer are for renting properties on an annual or long term basis. No mention is made of daily or weekly terms, although such rates are given inside the guide booklet itself.

The second little flyer for inserting in the booklet was on a turquoise coloured paper, only 5 x 2 ½ inches in size (12 x 6 cm). This was composed in the same semi poetical turn of phrase as the booklet, and was addressed to members of the Clerical and Medical Professions.

It reads:- Special Notice to the Clerical and Medical Professions. The management, desiring that the singular facilities for recuperation and rest for tired, strained nerves which Lundy affords should be better known, offers accommodation to members of the Clerical and Medical Professions at Special Rates. Apply Manageress, Manor Farm Hotel, Lundy.

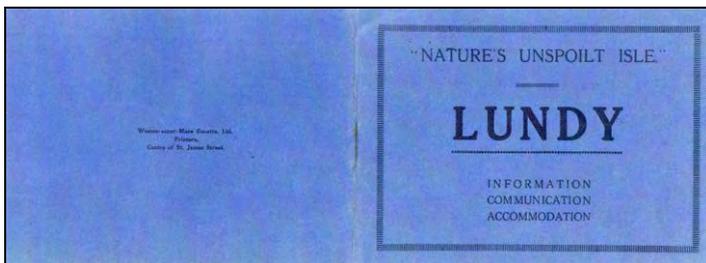
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## MISS NANCY SAGE.

Little is known of Miss Nancy Sage except that she was the manageress of the Manor Farm Hotel during the Christie ownership and for the first two years of the Harman period. Mr. Gade tells us that she was about fifty years of age, grey haired and of a kindly disposition and it appears that, as well as being the manageress of the hotel, she also did quite a lot of the cooking. She was the daughter of a farmer and a very useful person to have on the island. Her friend Miss Phyllis Blackburn, who was a non permanent resident, acted as dairymaid. Miss Sage was also a keen gardener and planted flowers and flowering bushes in the front gardens of the hotel. She died sometime before 1973 according to John Dyke.

From comments in his memoirs and from other sources, it seems that Mr. Gade had a very high regard for Miss Sage and her abilities. She nevertheless left Lundy in October 1927, and although we do not know the precise reason, with the advent on Lundy of Mr. and Mrs. Gade, it was probable that her services were no longer really necessary, as the Gades were employed on the understanding that they would run the hotel.

In John Dyke's Illustrated Lundy News, Number 11 from 1973, there is an article entitled "The Lure of Lundy" taken from the North Devon Journal of August 1922. Miss Sage is mentioned in this article which is concerned with the arrival and reception of a party of dignitaries, including the mayors of Barnstaple and Bideford. It says that she managed the hotel and luncheon arrangements with conspicuous success. John Dyke includes a small drawing of Miss Sage taken from her photograph album, showing her with two small dogs named Pam and Spot. These are the only images of Miss Sage that the writer of these notes has ever seen. On page 33 of the book "The Harman Family's Lundy 1925-1969" there is a group photograph of Lundy employees including Miss Sage and her friend Phyllis Blackburn.



*The outer covers of the guide book*

**PROPERTIES AVAILABLE**  
ON LUNDY—"Nature's Unspoilt Isle."  
WITH IMMEDIATE POSSESSION. NO RATES AND TAXES!

Four comfortable 5 roomed cottages with glorious views on high ground. Rent £20 per annum each.

Two 3 roomed Flats in well-built Old Lighthouse; on the most commanding position on the Island; adjacent to tennis courts and projected 9 hole golf links. Rent £20 per annum each.

One well-built 7 roomed Bungalow in sheltered position midst Riviera-like surroundings, with charming natural garden. Rent £40 per annum.

There are also available the ancient Marisco Castle, and three well-built attached villas, none in a somewhat dilapidated state, but easily repaired, leases of which can be negotiated with tenants who will reside to their own taste, subject to owners' approval. Short leases are not desired.

For fuller particulars and orders to view, apply  
Messrs. E. DYMOND & SON,  
Bank Chambers, The Quay,  
Bideford, N. Devon.  
Phone: Bideford 25.

**Special Notice to the  
Clerical and Medical Professions.**

THE Management, desiring that the singular facilities for recuperation and rest for tired, strained nerves which Lundy affords should be better known, offers accommodation to members of the Clerical and Medical Professions at Special Rates.

Apply Managers,  
Manor Farm Hotel, Lundy.

The two small flyers inserted into the guidebook before it was distributed.

**Ilfracombe Official Guide.**

Date  
**ROUGH PROOF.** 8 MAR. 1926

Please revise this proof and return within THREE DAYS to E. Wood, 109, High Street, or Advs. will be assumed to be correct, and printed accordingly. Additions and corrections (other than printer's errors) will be charged for.

An equable climate (some ten degrees cooler in summer and the same degrees warmer in winter, due to full influence of gulf stream)—wonderful scenery—supple pure water—good rough shooting—excellent sea fishing and safe bathing—make it an ideal summer or winter resort for those who love quietude and retreat.

The Island teems with bird life in endless varieties. Romance and tradition are not wanting, as is evidenced by Marisco Castle (the long-time haunt of freebooters and pirates) and prehistorical antiquities.

To the seafarer after excitement Lundy offers no attractions. Daily newspapers are unobtainable, and from September to May Kingdoms may fall, markets collapse, and the noise of them just filters through weekly, toned down by the hush of mighty nature.

**UNSPOILT.**

Lundy affords all the advantages of a deep sea voyage with none of its disadvantages, yet the visitor is never far from home.

Until recently Lundy was a no-man's-land, visitors were unwanted and unprovided for, landing dues were prohibitive, and its shores were only reached by the uncertain favour of the mail boat.

The Manor Farm-house Hotel now affords comfortable accommodation, and from the products of the Island provides simple wholesome fare. Between June 1st until September 30th a regular two days a week passenger service is maintained from Ilfracombe by the Bristol Channel "White Funnel" passenger steamer, and all the year round the motor mail boat "Lerina" takes not exceeding twelve passengers one day a week from Instow, or can be specially chartered by parties (not exceeding twelve) embarking from Instow, Bideford or Ilfracombe. The passage from mainland to Lundy Island occupies about two hours.

Mail-day—Friday each week. Post Thursdays.

Full particulars free from  
MANAGERESS,  
Manor House Hotel,  
Lundy.  
Telegrams—  
Manageress, Lundy-Island-Coastguard-Station (one word)

Rough proof of the advertisement placed in the Ilfracombe Official Guide in 1926, returned to the island by Mr. E. Wood

## Club Competitions

Please remember to bring an entry for the following Club competitions that will be held at the Summer meeting in Ilfracombe.

The categories are:

Lundy Stamps

Lundy Postal History

Lundy Postcards, Literature and Ephemera

Lundy Photographs

# *Lundy: The Fallen Vicar*

Reviewed by Roger Allen

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In the *Cinderella Philatelist*, the journal of the Cinderella Stamp Club, for April 1998, there appears a very strange story, a fictional tale by Frederick Highland of Bellingham, Washington State, USA, of a murder on Lundy. It may seem a strange subject for a philatelic journal, but on closer reading, the article is illustrated by seven Lundy stamps relevant to the story.

In brief, the story tells of the discovery of the corpse of the vicar of Lundy, Reverend Longmire and opens in the morgue on the island with Mrs. Puffin the mortician's wife beginning the story.

The year is 1952, his shock of red hair had been shaved off and he was found in the sea by the Devil's Slide. He had been vicar of Lundy since 1929 and he was universally disliked by his island congregation but his connections to the archbishop made it impossible to dislodge him. We learn that the island had 620 inhabitants, the main settlement was the town of Marisco and there was substantial traffic on the Tar Macadam roads. There is an airstrip and South Light is mentioned but it has a cream coloured spire! The lighthouse keeper there was called Sam Covet, who was about to lose his job as a result of bad feeling between him and the vicar.

The Old Light is there as well with a flock of Soay sheep around its base. This lighthouse has a rose coloured tinted wash over its stucco casing! It had a caretaker called Jeremiah Ire, an angry and very religious man who hated Reverend Longmire for his irreligious ways. With his son he was responsible for sheering the sheep. The policemen investigating the murder are Inspector Nolan and Constable Rock, Constable Jenny Rock.

There was a rumour that Mrs. Luster, the wife of Jock Luster, the keeper of the North Light had been seeking more than spiritual comfort from the Reverend but the murderer turned out to be the angry Jeremiah Ire who left the telling clue of a piece of Soay wool at the murder scene.

The story ends with a paragraph on the history of the Lundy stamps pointing out the relevance of the seven illustrated Lundy stamps to the story. These stamps include the 1954 Silver Jubilee 9p value, Constable Rock, Aitchison No. 98, and the 6p value from the same set, No. 97, showing Soay sheep.

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Mr. Highland either knew absolutely nothing about the real appearance and facilities of Lundy or he just ignored them in the construction of this rather facile but imaginative story. We are reminded by the tale of 'The Fallen Vicar' of a similar fictional story based on Lundy by Michel et Thierry entitled 'Un Royaume pour un puffin' by Editions Bedescope, France, written sometime between 1954 and 1969.

This story in comic format, tells the tale of a balloonist who lands on Lundy and gets involved with the fight between the King of Lundy, named Kermanagh, who has twenty subjects, and some crooks who want to turn Lundy into a sort of Monte Carlo with casinos, huge hotels and nightclubs. There are some excellent drawings of this vision of Lundy, illustrating huge garish buildings, including Lundy Park Hotel, the Puffin Casino and the Marisco Club. In this comic, there are also some very fine drawings of the Tavern, Millcombe House, the old Hotel, St. Helena's and the 'Lundy Gannet'. There are also good drawings of the old portable landing stage at work and the land rover. Needless to say the brave balloonist and King Kermanagh end the day victorious and Lundy remained untouched.

## *St. Helen's Church Restoration*

By Roger Allen

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On Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2015, the North Devon Journal reported on the developments regarding the revamp and restoration of St Helen's Church, Lundy. The Heritage Lottery Fund has pledged £931,000.00 to help to finance the project to restore and develop the church, which as we all know has fallen into a state of poor repair. The St. Helen's Centre Steering Group was awarded £74,900.00 for initial expenses which will go towards the project of completely recovering the roof, repointing the walls and relaying the tile floor. Also they hope to create educational facilities for visiting schools and for the Lundy Field Society to undertake research and hold meetings in the 120 year old church.

This sum will be towards a future match fund bid of £400,000.00 which is the sum the group needs to raise, in order to complete the whole project. If you wish to make a donation please send it to St. Helen's Church Centre Appeal, Lundy Shore Office, Bideford, EX39 2LY, UK.

# *The 2015 Lundy Selection Packs*

By James Thomas

---

Ceri Stafford has just completed his first year in his new job of Lundy Postmaster and his influence can already be seen. His latest improvement of the Lundy Postal Service is the formalisation of the Selection Packs.

Since the 1950's, selections of Lundy stamps have been available as souvenirs and for collectors on display sheets and in presentation folders from several originators. It is generally accepted that those produced by John Dyke and his business Atlantic Coast Studios were sanctioned by Lundy and most were available from the island's shop. The excellent publication, *Lundy - An illustrated catalogue of souvenir folders of Lundy stamps* by Brian Drew (2004) gives a comprehensive listing of them. From the 1970's Lundy started producing its own selection packs to use up surplus odd values. <sup>1</sup>

Some of the packs produced by Lundy are on yellow, green, blue or lilac card with either no wording or very minimal wording. Other packs have taken the form of Presentation Packs, some have used up old Presentation Pack covers and others have had dedicated printed covers in the same style.

In 2014 there were four Selection Packs, two on plain card and two which used up old Presentation Pack covers. These had a printed sheet slipped into the back of the pack with a description and a short history of the Lundy Postal Service. Please refer to *The New Puffin Journal* – Spring 2015.

For 2015, Lundy has stopped using old Presentation Pack covers and has reverted back to printing dedicated covers for its 'Classic' pack and for the pack containing a selection of 20 Lundy stamps. The colour now being used for both packs is dark mauve and is the same as last year's pack containing a selection of 20 Lundy stamps.

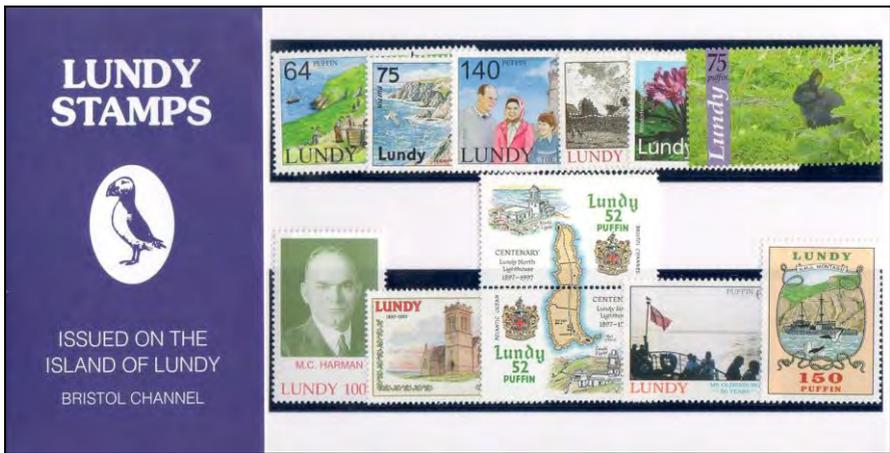
To summarise, starting this year Lundy will be producing four different Selection Packs which are as follows:-

- 1 A plain pack containing five different stamps
- 2 A plain pack containing ten different stamps
- 3 A Presentation Pack style folder containing 20 different stamps
- 4 A Presentation Pack style folder containing 12 different higher value stamps and is known as the Classic Selection Pack.

<sup>1</sup> Stamps and Postal History of Lundy Island 2009



*The 2015 Selection Pack of 20 Different Stamps*



*The 2015 Classic Selection Pack*

## The Classic Selection of Lundy Stamps

### 12 different

Lundy's private postal service is the oldest of its kind in the world still functioning. The first stamps were issued in 1929 by the owner at the time, Martin Coles Harman.

The service transports the Island's mail between Lundy Island and Bideford on the mainland, the home port of our own ship MS Oldenburg. Until 1974 Lundy stamps only covered the cost of this carriage, but since then British postage has been included and shown on each mail item by the Island's franking meter cancel.

Today only mail sent from Lundy is charged and the current postage rate for Lundy/Bideford is a minimum of 10 puffins.

The Lundy stamps are denominated in puffins, which originates back to the days when this bird was sometimes used as currency – today only the name is used!

One puffin equates to the British penny.

Since 1929 some 350 different Lundy stamps have been issued and each year around 30,000 – 40,000 items of mail are sent from the Island by the Lundy Postal Service.

Our stamps form part of the Island's profile which has made Lundy well known around the world and generated global interest in collecting philately. Many of the stamps have been sold out for a number of years and are now much sought after by collectors. The Island can still offer a variety of stamps, mostly from more recent times. This presentation pack includes a selection of higher values from sets issued since 1991.

For further information about the Island, its stamps and how to visit and stay, please contact: Lundy, Bristol Channel, via Bideford, North Devon EX39 2LY [www.lundyisland.co.uk](http://www.lundyisland.co.uk)

## *The Rear of the 2015 Classic Selection Pack*

If you wish to add the 2015 Selection Packs to your collection, please place your order direct with the Lundy Postal Service, Lundy, Bristol Channel, United Kingdom, EX39 2LY.

The four packs are as follows:-

5 different Lundy stamps - £2.15

10 different Lundy stamps - £3.30

20 different Lundy stamps - £6.80

12 higher value Lundy stamps - £10.70 (Classic Selection Pack)

Please remember to include postage and packing at the following rates:-

United Kingdom            £2.30

Europe                        £3.00

Rest of the World        £4.00

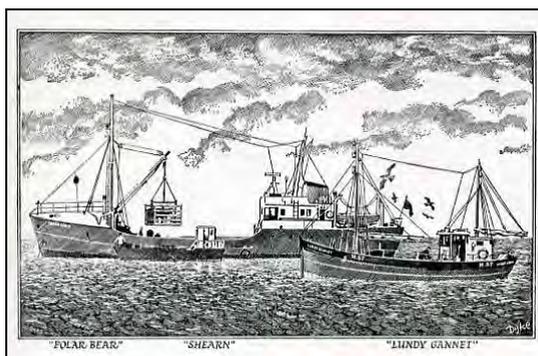
# New Lundy Commemorative Postcard

By James Thomas

Lundy has stamped an old John Dyke designed postcard [Allen Catalog DK 015(i)] with a 1996 30p 'Flora' stamp and a 1996 30p '50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Lundy Field Society' stamp and cancelled with type CCC canceller to commemorate the Lundy Field Society's 69<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting, which was held at Crediton on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2015. Just 100 copies were produced and the island has a few unsold items for collectors. All proceeds will go to the Church Appeal Fund.

This postcard was last prepared as a souvenir on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2011 to commemorate 60 years of John Dyke stamp designs [Allen Catalog DK 015(ii)].

If you would like to purchase a copy, please apply direct to Lundy, Bristol Channel, EX29 2LY, UK and send £1 for each card plus postage of £2.30 UK, £3.00 Europe or £4.00 the rest of the World per order.



# The 1974 GPO Sample Stamps

Material supplied by André Dufresne

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Recently in auction two interesting lots came up for sale which many club members might be interested to see.

The description for the lot shown below was “*Lundy Island: 1974, 5p bright crimson, 4p orange-red on top of 5p orange and 4p orange-red, 4½p cyan, 5p orange and 5½p lime-green on top of each other, three imperforate samples in blocks of 15 on paper without gum from the right upper sheet corner with jubilee lines and tow with test slots, printed by British Post.*”

The second lot was similar except that the same three values were in blocks of eight.



# Variations in Prices of Lundy Material

By George Fabian

On 25<sup>th</sup> January 2014, MacDonnell Whyte sold a 'Dear Doctor' postcard (serial letter 'A') mailed from Lundy to the U.S.A. for €64.40 (approximately £46) which included fees. Twelve days later, on 6<sup>th</sup> February, a similar 'Dear Doctor' postcard (serial letter 'E') with message in Portuguese, mailed from Lundy to Brazil was sold on ebay for \$345.00 (approximately £225).

Below are images of the card sent to Brazil.



# Armistice Day Souvenir

By James Thomas

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Looking through our collections we often admire the album pages with the most valuable (monetary value that is) items mounted on them. However, I also get a lot of pleasure from special items that have little monetary value but are special for other reasons.

One item I recently acquired for my collection is a plain white envelope with a 2014 'John P. Harman – a Lundy hero' stamp fixed to the bottom left-hand corner and cancelled "11 NOV 2014". Along the top of the envelope is the Lundy Franking Machine Metermark (type VVc) also dated "11.11.14".

As the stamp commemorates the birth and death of John Pennington Harman VC, I think it most appropriate to have the stamp cancelled on Armistice Day.



Cover showing the 'John P. Harman – a Lundy hero' stamp cancelled on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2014.

# *An Expert's View of the Montagu Grounding*

By James Thomas from material supplied by Ernie Clayton

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Club member Ernie Clayton has in his collection a most interesting private letter written by Reginald Neville Custance at the time of the grounding of HMS Montagu. The letter is dated 3<sup>rd</sup> May and I can only assume the year to be 1906.

The letter reads as follows:-

*“My dear Egerton, I was delighted to see your nomination to a command in the Atlantic Fleet and hope that it is quite agreeable to your own wishes. I was at Miss Danny’s wedding yesterday and had been in hope of seeing you and Mrs. Egerton to congratulate you in person but some lady told me you are abroad.*

*The Montagu business is a bad one. I cannot understand what can have induced anyone to send a battle ship to potter about in the Bristol Channel in foggy weather on such a service. That is just the way ships are often to be lost. No amount of wireless tuning can justify risking a battle ship. Men seem to have lost a sense of proportion and how our flag battleship on service which would formerly have been done by cruisers.*

*I hope that you are enjoying your trip abroad and Mrs. Egerton is equally pleased with the change.*

*Danny was much upset at losing his daughter and the smartness of the wedding did not recompense him.*

*My hearty congratulations to yourself and kind remembrance to Mrs. Egerton.*

*Yours sincerely*

*Reg Custance”*

Reginald Neville Custance (1884-1939) was born into a family with longstanding naval and military traditions and had connections with Devon when he was the commanding officer of the Devonport Gunnery School from 1932 to 1934. He was made up to the rank of Admiral in 1936 and then became Rear Admiral in charge of H.M. Australian Squadron from 1937 to 1939. He died on board ship in September 1939, and was buried at sea just off Aden.

# *The Island of Lundy by A.F. Langham, 1994. New Editions.*

By Roger Allen.

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Nigel Dalby, who runs the Lundy island shop, has had permission to reprint the 1994 book 'The Island of LUNDY' by Tony Langham. The first edition has long been sold out and the book is no longer in print. There have since been four new editions;- 2001, 2002, 2007 and 2011. The 2011 edition is the version now available in the shop.

I was not aware of all these reprints and I only have the first edition of 1994, and the latest from 2011. There are several differences between these two versions which I will detail below.

- 1). The publishers are no longer Alan Sutton Publishing Ltd. of Phoenix Mill, Far Thrupp, Stroud, Gloucestershire, but now they are produced by the History Press, The Mill, Brimscombe Port, Stroud, Gloucestershire.
- 2). The front cover bears the same aerial photograph of the South Light, castle and village, but the covers are in a darker shade of blue and the faint back ground behind the photograph is of a different design.
- 3) The back cover has the same text, but the sepia photograph of farmer and bull outside the old hotel has been omitted.
- 4) The original price of £9.99 that appears on the back cover of the first edition has also been omitted from the later version and there is in fact no price given anywhere in the book. The island actually sells them for £11.99.
- 5) The ISBN number has been changed and now reads ISBN 978 0 7509 0661 6.
- 6) The printers are now Jellyfish Print Solutions Ltd. and not Redwood Books, Trowbridge.
- 7) The first 1994 edition was also published in the USA by Alan Sutton Publishing Inc., Dover, New Hampshire. There is no indication of an American edition in the new versions.
- 8) The title page indicates that the copyright ownership is still A. F. Langham but this is now dated 2011 and not 1994.

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9) The whole book has been reset but the text and page numbers in the latest edition correspond exactly with those of the first. Here and there small differences occur where the last words of a page are carried forward to the next, but these are always ironed out on the following page or so, and thus the overall text and final page numbers of the two books exactly coincide.

I have not seen the editions dated 2001, 2002 and 2007 and it would be interesting to see if there are any differences worth commenting on in those editions compared to the first.

This latest edition will inevitably become exhausted and others will follow. Collectors should watch out for this and draw the Club's attention to any changes or amendments that may take place.

# *Treasurer's Statement*

By James Thomas

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## **Statement of accounts from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014.**

	<b>INCOME</b>	<b>EXPENDITURE</b>
Balance C/F 1-1-2014	255.89	0.00
Subscriptions	1825.25	0.00
Advertisements	60.00	0.00
Auctions	3342.07	2614.72
Meetings	735.00	1010.55
Journal	0.00	1545.99
Postage	0.00	506.21
Miscellaneous	54.50	40.24
Interest	0.69	0.00
Club Badge	38.00	231.60
Magazine Binders	<u>148.00</u>	<u>224.40</u>
	<b>6459.40</b>	<b>6173.71</b>

At the end of 2014, the Club had a surplus of £285.69 which is £29.80 more than the year's opening balance.

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 maintain a small balance to cover any unforeseen problems that might arise.

# *The Lobster, a tasty Cancellation!*

By Lars Liwendahl

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Having used a seal design canceller for the 2011 LCC five day stay on Lundy, I thought that depicting island animals on cancellers for future club visits could be most appropriate.

I started by re-designing a few older Lundy postmarks with a modern theme but there are not so many nice ones to use. The seal was the right animal to use for the 2011 meeting as it tied in with the 2010 'Wildlife on Lundy' set. Carrying on with the theme, in the 2012 'Historic Lundy' set there is a man holding a lobster on one of the stamps, so the lobster was of course the animal to choose for the 2014 meeting.

When I was on Lundy in September 2013, I had the opportunity to have lobster for my meal one evening. I photographed it and sent the photo to Jan-Erik Wellerfors to use as the base of the 2014 cancel design.



*My lobster evening meal and model for the 2014 canceller*



*The 2014 canceller used with red ink. It was also used with black ink.*

# *Magazine Binders*

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The Club has a new stock of binders for *The New Puffin Journal*.

Each binder will hold 12 'Journals' and is bound in maroon leatherette with gold lettering and logo on spine.

They cost £8.00 each if ordering from the UK or £10 each for foreign orders which includes postage and protective packing.

To place your order, please write to:-

James Thomas, 5 Manor Drive, Kingskerswell, Devon, TQ12 5HB, UK, stating the number of binders required and enclosing a cheque made payable to the '**Lundy Collectors Club**'.

# *The New Club Badge*

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Following up a request from Club members, a new *Lundy Collectors' Club* lapel badge has been produced.

It is a full colour metal badge, 20x40mm and shows a picture of the 1929 Lundy ½ puffin red stamp with the words 'LUNDY COLLECTOTORS CLUB' alongside. On the back is a safety brooch pin.

To place your order please send a cheque for £4.00 for UK sales or £6.00 for all foreign sales to James Thomas, 5 Manor Drive, Kingskerswell, Devon, TQ12 5HB. Please state how many badges you require and please make your cheque payable to the **Lundy Collectors' Club**.

**If you order a badge at the same time as a binder, the badge can be sent in the same packaging at a reduced price of just £3.00 each for both UK and Foreign sales.**

**Badge and Binder - £11 UK, £13 for all foreign sales.**

# OUR NEXT MEETING

The Summer 2015 meeting of the Lundy Collectors' Club will be held on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2015, at the Pavilion Room, Landmark, Wilder Road, Ilfracombe, North Devon – commencing at 10:30 am.

The Programme will be as follows:-

10:30 a.m.	Bourse opens
11:15 a.m.	Club Competitions commence
12:30 to 2:00 p.m.	Optional Lunch at Landmark
2:00 p.m.	Club Auction lots on view
2:20 p.m.	Club Announcements
2:30 p.m.	Club Auction (Auctioneer – Mike Thompson)
3:45 p.m.	Members Displays
5:00 p.m.	Bourse Closes

It is hoped that as many as possible will join us for the optional lunch at Landmark. A reasonably priced two course meal is on offer – please see booking form for menu and details.

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

**Lundy Collectors' Club Meeting**

