

THE NEW PUFFIN JOURNAL



Spring 2020

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THE NEW PUFFIN JOURNAL

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A full report with photos of the
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Editorial

I will start with an apology. In the Autumn 2019 issue of this *Journal* I wrote a report of Lundy's 50th Anniversary celebrations titled *A Journey to the Kingdom of Heaven Through the Gates of Hell!* In the report I listed the main dignitaries by name except the Director of the National Trust, whose name I had, at the time, missed. The Director of the National Trust who attended the celebrations on Lundy on Sunday 29th September 2019 was Mr. Neil Mendoza.

Nine months ago I hastily prepared and printed a review of Jon Aitchison's *Stamps and Postal History of Lundy Island – sixth edition* which was hot off the press at the time. Nine months on Roger Cichorz, now with the benefit of using the catalogue and the experience that he has since gained, has written a more complete review of this most extensive work. Please see pages 18 to 23 for Roger's review.

I would like to thank all of the well wishers who sent me kind compliments about the Club and the *Journal*. I would also like to pay a most sincere thank you to Sue Leather, David Wilshire and Graham Chadwick who have volunteered to join the organising team and help me with some of my Club duties. However, I received no offers to take on the job of Editor. Because of the additional help now being given to me and because I do not want the *Journal* to die, I have agreed to continue as Editor. However, from now on, I will produce a Spring and an Autumn colour glossy *Journal* and a Summer Newsletter which will keep members informed with the Club's and Lundy's latest news.

The first Lundy Collectors Club Newsletter will appear in the summer and will be sent to you with the Summer auction catalogue.

This year's Spring Meeting will be held on Lundy between 16th and 20th March. This event is already fully booked and promises to be something special. I will write a full report complete with photographs for the next issue of the *Journal*.

ATVB

James

Illustrated Lundy News *And Landmark Journal – Issue 17*

By James Thomas



When I completed the article titled *Illustrated Lundy News and Landmark Journal* that was published in the Autumn 2019 issue of this *Journal*, I thought that the full story had been told. However, whilst at the island's 50th Anniversary celebration at the end of September, I received as part of a gift pack, a new edition of the *ILN&LJ* which was produced to celebrate the occasion.

All of the previous 16 editions had been sold to customers and visitors to Lundy, but this 17th edition is not for general sale and was only given to those invited guests which I estimate to be about 100. Because of this, it will take a little while before copies appear on the second-hand market, so I thought that it would be beneficial if I went into a little more detail for you now.

The 17th edition consists of four A4 size pages all printed in black ink on thin white card. Page one which is also the front cover is a reprint of issue one from the summer of 1970, with just one modification, the issue number and date which now reads 'ISSUE No. 17 SEPTEMBER 2019'. Inside, page two is also a direct reprint of page six of the original issue with photographs of the handover celebrations in 1969. The top half of page three is a reprint of the Jack Hayward Presentation Scroll from page seven of issue one and the bottom half of the page gives a potted history of the Lundy Post with images of the Lundy post box in its 2019 livery and the 'Golden Jubilee on Lundy 1969-2019' miniature sheet.

The final page which forms the back cover is a 'then and now' page giving a short story of how the island was acquired by the National Trust and the agreement that it has with the Landmark Trust. It also shows a photograph of Mr and Mrs Gade surrounded by some of the island staff from 1969 and another photograph of all the island staff in 2019.

Although this is a lovely publication and a most suitable souvenir to commemorate the 50th Anniversary, I hope it will be the last publication to carry this title because I believe that the *ILN&LJ* is unique to the late John Dyke.

Diary 2020

Saturday 14th March 2020

LFS AGM, The Boniface Centre, CREDITON, Devon

Monday 16th March to Friday 20th March 2020

LCC Five-Day Spring Meeting on Lundy (Now Fully Booked)

The LCC Autumn 2020 Meeting

Date and venue have still to be arranged. Full details will be published in the Club's Summer Newsletter.

thenewpuffinjournal@aol.com

The New Look Lundy Collectors Club

By James Thomas

A year ago I announced that I was standing down from all of my Club duties from 31st March 2020 and asked for volunteers to come forward and take on some of the work to keep the LCC going.

I was pleasantly surprised when three members offered their help commencing from 1st April 2020. David Wilshire offered to take on the Secretary's duties, Sue Leather agreed to organise the Club's meetings and Graham Chadwick will take on the Treasurer's post. As I had expected, nobody volunteered to take over the editorship of the *Journal*. I do not want the *Journal* to die because I believe that it is a very important tool to maintain the link between the collectors and Lundy. So, I have decided to continue in post to produce two issues a year of a similar standard to the current magazine, one in the Spring and one in the Autumn. I will also produce a Summer Newsletter called 'Lundy Collectors News' with issue one appearing this summer. With the help of Sue, David and Graham, I feel that I can manage my reduced Club duties to fit in comfortably with my other commitments.

The Club's new organising team:-

President – Diana Keast
Secretary – David Wilshire
Meeting Organiser - Sue Leather
Treasurer – Graham Chadwick
Auctioneer and Meetings Chairman – Mike Thompson
Proof Reader – André Coutanche
Web Master – Roy Bentley
Membership Secretary – James Thomas
Editor *Lundy Collectors News* – James Thomas
Editor *The New Puffin Journal* – James Thomas



The new summer newsletter will be known as the 'Lundy Collectors News' and each issue will have the heading design as shown above. The artwork was produced by the late John Dyke and it will be used with the permission of his family.

Each edition will be dedicated to just Club matters such as the Treasurer's Statement, Club meeting up-dates, membership news and a listing of current Club stock along with other Club and Lundy news.

I would like to thank all of you who sent me kind wishes for the future and thanked me for the work that I have done for the Club since we started in late 1996. However, you are not getting rid of me that easily! I look forward to working with my new colleagues and enjoying the extra time that it will give me. I now hope to have enough time to make sense of my own collection with the intention of researching new quality articles for future issues of *The New Puffin Journal*.

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Montagu Essays

By Barry Chinchon

At some time in the 1980s (1986 is a reasonable assumption) John Dyke sent me photocopies of drawings that he had produced which could have been suitable for a stamp issue, but which I think failed to be approved by the Landmark Trust.

There were four designs. One was of Captain Adair of H.M.S. Montagu who had been court martialled for negligence in allowing his ship to founder on Lundy. The drawing was only a preliminary version and the oval cartouche containing his portrait was a little lop-sided and as I was reluctant to tamper with John's artwork I took little interest in this. It also seemed in bad taste to commemorate someone for a failure, no matter how understandable it was.

The other three designs were so attractive that I thought they ought to be shared in some way. Therefore, I had printing plates made, which were of a type I had seen before. They had the usual white-metal base but the surface was of a white substance. These were lightly attached to a printing block one at a time. The resulting prints were not 'essays', they were 'might have beens'.

I used blue ink and printed a small quantity of each. The 'landscape' format labels were printed one on grey un gummed paper and the other on yellow un gummed paper. The 'portrait' format label was printed on blue paper, yellow paper and white gummed paper.

The labels were individually perforated using the same machine that was used for the additional half puffin stamp (*catalogue ref. 249*) issued on 3rd October 1978. This is a difficult process as the perforating comb is inside the machine so the images had to be lined up blindly.

This was only an experiment. Quantities were not counted: perhaps 20 of the 'landscape' format label on grey paper (which is probably the rarest – no reason, maybe lack of paper), 50 of 'landscape' format label on yellow paper and possibly about 80 of each of the 'portrait' format label on blue paper, yellow paper and white gummed paper.

A few may have been given away to collectors who ordered Lundy stamps at the time and some were in the sack of 'rubbish' that Stanley Newman bought at the LCC auction on Sunday 20th October 2002.

At that date I was experimenting with hot-foil printing and encountered the same problem of blind-alignment. I had printing plates with the silhouette of the small puffin facing right and left and attempted to add a coloured metallic puffin to a hand-full (one or two of each, literally) of the 'portrait' format labels in silver, red, green and perhaps gold. I am surprised that these escaped; however, I am uncertain about the green and gold.

Barry sent me these notes in answer to the article produced by André Dufresne titled 'Essays for a Possible 1986 H.M.S. Montagu Commemorative Set – A New Find?' which was printed in the Autumn 2019 issue of The New Puffin Journal.

There has been a lot of speculation since 2002 when Stanley Newman found a few, I think five, sets of these labels in the 'Sack' of rubbish that he purchased at the Club's auction.

I am sure that the information that we now have is probably going to be as definitive as we are likely to get. Ed.

Stockholmia 2019 Postcards

By Ian Collins

Three postcards were officially used with the 'Lundy at Stockholmia 2019' Lundy cancel.



Special Lundy cancel used at Stockholmia from 29th May to 2nd June 2019

The three postcards are 'Lundy Puffin' - photograph by Shaun Barnes issued in 2018, 'Lundy Puffins' - photograph by Linda Brennam issued in 2018 and an untitled multi-view showing six images which was issued in 2017. Other cards showing different images were also privately sent from the conference.

Book Review

By James Thomas

Lundy – A Landmark 50 Years

By Simon Dell, Published by Amberley Publishing.
Price £14.99 plus p+p from the Lundy Shore Office.
ISBN 978-1-4456-5337-2

This latest release from Simon Dell was published on Saturday 28th September 2019 as part of the island's 50th Anniversary celebrations. It follows along similar lines to his 2011 publication *Lundy Island Through Time*, where Simon tells the story through the use of photographs with captions. This time the story is how Lundy has developed since the Harman family sold the island to the National Trust in 1969.

The concept of this 96 page book is very good because, although we think we remember the changes that have happened over the last five decades, it is not until you see the pictures that you realise all of the improvements that the National Trust and Landmark Trust have actually made. The reason for this is because all of the work has been done gradually and in sympathy with the island's natural charm and with no drastic changes.

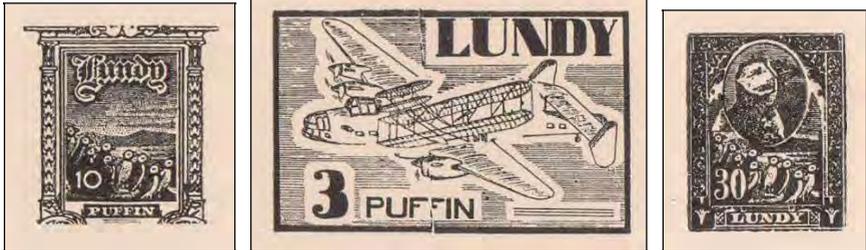
The book starts with *Lundy Before Landmark* and takes the reader up to the sale of the island to the National Trust. From this point it concentrates on the many areas of the island where repairs and improvements have been made. From the construction of Brambles, The Quarters and Government House it also details the many alterations around the village including the old Manor Farm Hotel and the restoration of the Castle. The landing places, the lighthouses and the island's shipping have all been included. There is even a section about the Lundy postal service. As always in a book such as this, the most interesting pictures are those of the people, many of whom have spent their lives tending to this special place. All of the pictures have come from private collections with many which have never been seen before in public.

It is one of those books that once you have finished reading it, you keep returning to have another look.

It is a lovely book which I am proud to have on my bookshelf.

Lundy Wartime Essays

By James Thomas



Recently the Lundy Wartime Essays have come to my attention for a couple of reasons. I know little about these issues and have only reprints in my collection mainly because the originals rarely come up for sale.

André Dufresne started my curiosity with his article in the Spring 2019 issue of this *Journal* titled 'An account of our visit to the British Library'. In his article he illustrated two 30p perforated essays and said that he has a good collection of these essays but has never seen a perforated one before. Shortly afterwards I arranged a private sale of a collection of the essay reprints which then made me ask myself why have I given these stamps little attention. I then did some research starting with Jon Aitchison's latest edition of his catalogue and finished with several editions of *The Puffin Journal* which was produced by Bryan Sherwood and later by Barry Chinchin.

In 1939 Mr. Brian Rigby-Hall was appointed by Martin Coles Harman to manage the Lundy Philatelic Bureau during the Second World War from Northamptonshire. Mr. Gade in his autobiography mentions Mr. Rigby-Hall and many of the wartime overprints; however, there is no mention of the essays.

Here is a reproduction of a paper from *The Puffin Journal* prepared in 1986 by Roger Cichorz.

“Information is sparse and conjectural about the so-called ‘Bureau Essays’ which consist of a 3 puffin, 10 puffin and 30 puffin value, all in various design colours on various coloured paper and card. It is likely that Brian Rigby-Hall, manager of the Lundy Philatelic Bureau operating in Northamptonshire during World War II, was responsible for the inception and production of these essays sometime during 1943.

Felix Gade did not mention their existence in his ‘Postal History of Lundy’ and, according to Barry Chinchin, had stated that he had not commissioned them.

We know that Brian Rigby-Hall had Bureau Essays in stock and was selling them for 5/- (25p) each as late as 1966. We also know he reprinted them in different (brighter, more intense) colours on different (thicker) papers of various colours sometime during the 1970’s.

Quantities of complete sets (30 of each type) of the reprints from the Brian Rigby-Hall estate entered the philatelic market in 1985 through arrangements with his widow, Mrs. P. Rigby-Hall, although some types of the reprints had been made available to collectors during the 1970’s. Additional types of what appeared to be ‘originals’ of the essays (types other than those listed in Michael Windeatt’s 1957 *Priced Catalogue of Lundy Island Locals*) were available prior to the 1970’s reprints and because of differences in basic colours and paper types, it can be surmised that Bureau Essay Originals were not limited to the initial 1943 printing and that perhaps over the years Mr. Rigby-Hall printed additional quantities as he needed them!”.

Roger then continued by listing the many varieties known up to the mid 1980’s using the late George Ulrich’s collection as a reference. (The most up-to-date listing can now be found in Jon Aitchison’s *Stamps and Postal History of Lundy Island – sixth edition. Ed.*)

From an earlier 1974 issue of *The Puffin Journal*, Bryan Sherwood and Barry Chinchin wrote, “The standard listing of the Lundy 10 puffin and 30 puffin essays was first made by Michael Windeatt in his catalogue of 1957. This is a first fairly comprehensive record of types, but there is no record of where they were produced, by whom or for what purpose. It has always been assumed they were a wartime product of the Lundy Philatelic Bureau and it was suggested they were intended for use on postal stationery.

This latter assumption does not seem to have much validity as perforate issues of both exist. Some copies of these essays have been recorded on the island, although Mr. Gade has stated that he did not commission them, nor did he know how they arrived there.

In both values (*10 and 30 puffin essays*), perforate and imperforate examples occur, although on the whole the perforated ones are better quality prints. This would either mean that the imperforates were printers waste or that no great amount of care or skill was employed by the printers and the best were selected for perforating. The perforated examples or for that matter any 'better quality prints' could have been printed at a later date. However, this is not so as all copies used for this article were pre 1960's and none of them could be from 1970's reprints. If they were reprints they must have been made in the 1950's. This would account for the fact that no pairs, blocks or part sheets of either value have ever been recorded. It would also account for the large margins on the imperforate examples.

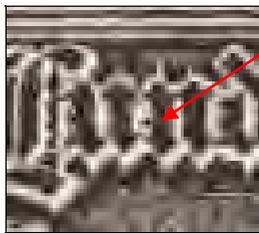
These general observations are borne out by closer examination. The best and the worst printings available of each value were taken and searched for minor spots and marks in the design. Next, all available examples (perforate and imperforate) were examined and in all cases it was found that these faults were common to all stamps despite condition, colour and quality. From this it would be safe to assume all printings were from the same three blocks – one for the 10 puffin and two for the 30 puffin (bird and duty plate). As these minor marks are identical, it could safely be assumed that multiples were never prepared and sheets were never printed.

10 Puffin Essay flaws:-

- 1 Break in U of Puffin
- 2 Dot between U and N of Lundy
- 3 Dot in right-hand side frame base
- 4 U and F of Puffin joined
- 5 Spot in left side support
- 6 Break in centre bottom line
- 7 Dot between L and U of Lundy



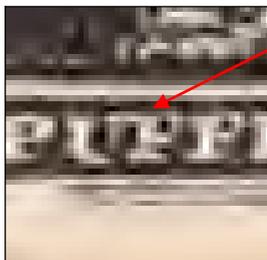
Break in U of Puffin



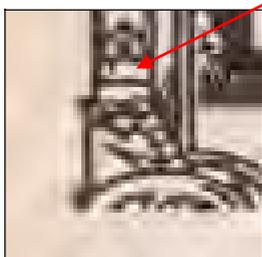
Dot between U and N of Lundy



Dot in right-hand side frame base



U and F of Puffin joined



Spot in left side support

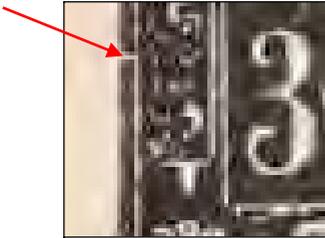


Dot between L and U of Lundy

From my collection of reprints, I could not find the flaw listed as number 6 - Break in centre bottom line.

30 Puffin Essay flaws:-

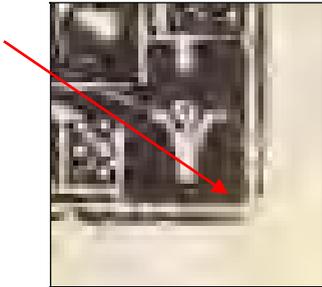
- 1 Break in left-hand outside frame
- 2 Mark over bird's head
- 3 Break in bottom right-hand corner
- 4 Spot on top of bird's beak
- 5 N and D of Lundy joined
- 6 Misshapen 0 of 30



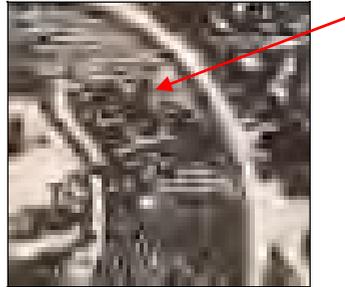
Break in left-hand outside frame



Mark over bird's head



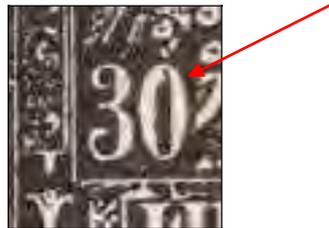
Break in bottom right-hand corner



Spot on top of bird's beak

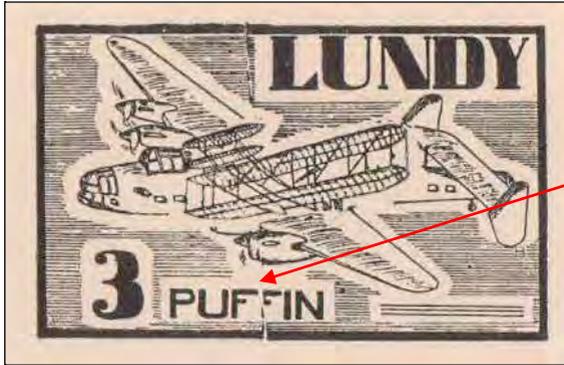


N and D of Lundy joined



Misshapen 0 of 30

3 Puffin Essay re-print flaw:-



These plate flaws were not corrected and exist on the reprints as well. This discussion does not preclude our contention that essay printings could have been conducted from 1943 well into the 1970's. The Wright Brothers 3 puffin essay was not discussed in detail in issues of *The Puffin* although Barry Chinchin noted in his *A Catalogue of Lundy Stamps*, reprints suspected to be 1970's had a cracked frame. The cracked frame plate flaw distinguishes reprints from originals."

There are many unanswered questions which I am not prepared to speculate on but I would like to hear from anyone who might have any evidence that could help to further this research.

The questions that still remain unanswered are:-

Why were they produced?

Who authorised the production?

Were there sufficient stocks of the 1929/30 definitives to continue through the war?

Were the designs intended to be used as stamps or for postal stationery?

Why just 3 values and such strange values for Lundy at that time?

Why is the printing quality so poor?

Are they bogus labels privately produced by Rigby-Hall and not genuine Lundy? Perhaps Rigby-Hall's enthusiasm got the better of him!

Has anyone done a study of the flaws of the 3p value?

Please accept my apologies for the poor quality of the enlargements, but even modern technology has struggled with these images.

A Lundy Album - A Lucky Little Find!

By James Thomas

A Lundy Album is a book first published by Myrtle Langham (later Ternstrom) in 1980 and is based on the Heaven family photographs, diaries and letters and the *Lundy Log* and family history written by Mrs M.C.H. Heaven. The book was revised and re-issued in 1987, 1995 and 2006.

For a long time I have wanted to have a copy of the first edition in my collection to sit on my bookshelf alongside my other editions. However, I wanted a nice clean copy so I had to search for sometime.

One day last year I was looking through a dealer's stock when I came across just what I wanted. It was a nice clean hardback edition which I purchased, with no haggling, for just £2.00. I was so pleased with my purchase that when I arrived home I immediately took it out of my bag to start reading it. This is when I found a little bonus, because inside the front cover were two proof pages for the third edition along with a letter from Myrtle Ternstrom.

The letter which is dated 8th March 1995 is addressed to Roger Allen and Myrtle was asking Roger if he could pass comment on the two pages that dealt specifically with the postal interest.

In the bottom right-hand corner of each page are the words "Proof Page" and initialled "MT". The two pages in question are page 39 and 60. On page 39 in line two Roger has crossed through the second use of the word 'occasion' and on the penultimate line he suggest the use of a comma after "G.P.O.". He also suggested putting a caption "The Gannet" under a picture of the ship that carried that name.

On page 60 he suggested adding a comma after Heaven Family on the penultimate line.

Both pages have been reproduced on the following two pages and can be compared with those printed in the book to see the differences.



Concert party, 13 October 1886. Illustration: Vanity Fair, 1886

This was held in the newly-built Schoolroom, and the harmonium was moved from the church for the occasion. Most of the islanders were present, and the occasion was judged to be a great success. The artist recording the event, Miss Violet Heaven, is sitting at bottom right of the picture. At this time concert parties were held frequently, usually "behind the Store", and probably because Walter Heaven was an enthusiast.



The Gannet

Captain Dark of the *Gannet* always carried the mail for the Heaven family in their own box, which was delivered to and collected from the Villa. At times when the skiff had been delayed, odd letters were frequently carried by visitors and islanders travelling by any other vessel; this was a courtesy that was much appreciated, as was the receipt of newspapers. Until 1897 the Lighthouse also had its own letter box, which was conveyed by Captain Cox (in the *Chance* from Clovelly) who had the Trinity House contract. Thus, for some years there were, with the G.P.O. three distinct mail systems in existence concurrently.

*Post page
MT.*



Mr F.W. Allday and his donkey

The postmaster's duty was to collect and deliver the postbag on the beach.

Mr Wright was responsible for contracting the G.P.O. to serve Lundy. The service started on 4 March 1887, the post office was in the Store, was open from 9-10 a.m. and 5-6 p.m., and postal orders were sold. The sub-postmaster was Mr Wright, who would have deputed the duties to his storekeeper. The enterprise was beset with problems: firstly, the mails were sent weekly by ship from Cardiff, which made for confusion with items sent to the usual address at Instow, especially as Capt. Dark still carried the Heaven letter box. On 16 March the *Queen of the Bay* brought back to the island the mailbag which had been sent off 10 days before, and another time arrived with an incoming bag that had been one week aboard. Another problem was the arrival of the boats in the early hours of the morning with hootings to get attention. Lastly, it was not popular in that the mailbag exchange was such that no time was allowed to send replies by return. From 4 May 1888 Capt. Dark took over the G.P.O. mail contract from Instow.

M. Langham: *Lundy Post During the Ownership of the Heaven Family*, *The Puffin Journal* No 26 1983.

91

Post Page
MT.

Catalogue Review

By Roger Cichorz

Stamps and Postal History of Lundy Island, Sixth Edition

by Jon Aitchison RNCP, FRPSL, Tithehall Publishing, Bishop's Stortford, Herts., Great Britain, 2019, viii + 436 pages, profusely illustrated, wire-bound 6" x 8¼" (A5 format) softback with card covers, ISBN978-0-9544817-3-5. Available for £35 + postage (£5 to U.K., £10 to Europe, and £15 to the U.S.A. and the rest of the world) from Jon Aitchison, Old Tithe Hall, Start Hill, Near Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire CM22 7TF, Great Britain, e-mail britishlocals@aol.com.

It is not often that a new edition of a single country catalogue/handbook comes out with almost double the number of pages of its comprehensive and authoritative predecessor. Jon Aitchison's Sixth Edition of *Stamps and Postal History of Lundy Island* has greatly expanded to 436 pages from his Fifth Edition's 237 pages issued ten years ago. This volume is divided into four major sections, so let's examine, starting with Section 1 titled the "Lundy Stamp Catalogue" listing portion and continuing into the other sections, what has changed and what has been added to account for these 199 pages of growth.

While one might expect a significant number of pages to increase because of listings of new stamps issued in these ensuing ten years, the catalogue listings only increased from 141 pages to 158 pages, with six pages of this increase devoted to the six emissions issued from 2010 through 2017. The other 11 pages expand on listings and details primarily for the stamp issues from 1929 to 2002, in particular the addition of information on marginal inscriptions. For example, the first definitive issue listings went from nine pages to ten, one page was added to explain the marginal numbers applied to the WWII-era overprints, and an entire page added after the 2002 definitives warning of double impression forgeries, Questa presentation folders, and the change of printer to Cartor Security Printing.

A major change from previous Lundy catalogues, which deems this 2019 Edition an essential acquisition, is with the numbering system. Previous editions used the numbering developed by Barry N. D. Chinchin for his *Catalogue of Lundy Stamps* issued in 1969 and revised in 1981.

Subsequent Lundy stamp catalogues by Stanley Newman, Michael Bale, and Aitchison's Fifth Edition just added numbers as new issues appeared, but when varieties came to light (particularly with the non-Chinchen-listed and/or unnumbered 1953 "BY AIR" and "By Air" overprints and surcharges), capital letters were added to the numbers to distinguish these stamps from what Chinchen had already listed, resulting in an eventual unwieldy listing of an additional 12 stamps numbered 69A to 78D.

Aitchison is not entirely consistent in eliminating capital letters following a stamp number. I note that the two types of the two printings of the 1989 R.S.P.B.C. sheetlets are assigned 273A to 273D. Stamp booklets are listed with catalogue numbers preceded by the letter B. Also, most souvenir sheets having face different perforated stamps are given consecutive numbers for each stamp, but the 1st August 1977 Royal Silver Jubilee souvenir sheet with six different stamps is assigned a single #232SS, presumably because the separated stamps will not differ from the sheet stamps assigned #226-231 also issued 1st August, 1977. The 7th August 1977 Royal Visit to Lundy S/S is assigned #233-237 as its six overprinted stamps were not issued in sheet form.

Chinchen numbered A.C.A.S.'s "large maps" stamps by their apparent order of printing, so the ½d to 1/- stamps were assigned #s 11, 12, 14, 16, 13, 15, respectively, and this carried through until now. Aitchison, wisely in my opinion, took into consideration that all six stamps were issued on the same date (1st April, 1936) so listed them as #s 11-16 in order of increasing denomination. The listing of L.A.C.A.L.'s non-overprinted small air stamp of 1937, intended for issue but objected to by the Island owner M. C. Harman, was postally used in rare instances; consequently, its status changed from essay #18e to stamp #17, preceding both L.A.C.A.L.'s violet ½d with marginal inscription (now #18, formerly #17) and the 5-line overprinted #17 (now #19, formerly #17) as both of these stamps were issued after #17. I note also that the capital E following numbers assigned to the unissued essays and unofficial stamps produced by the Lundy Philatelic Service during the 1970s are now listed without the E.

As a result of these renumbering changes, especially the elimination of numbers with capital letters for issued stamps, this catalogue has a fluid and consistent numbering system that follows the chronology of the stamp issue dates more than previous editions. Aitchison acknowledges that the change in numbering system "may initially cause collectors some inconvenience, in the long run being simpler, tidier, and logical will have benefits."

Likewise, some of the letters that indicate proofs and varieties were also changed for better uniformity. The last listing in the Fifth Edition was the 10th May 2008 M.S. Oldenburg's 50th birthday set of six assigned #s 331-336, and this set is now assigned #s 354-359, indicating the many renumbering changes as there is one previously unrecorded stamp listed, let alone 23! The last stamps listed in the Sixth Edition are the May 13, 2017 Birds of Lundy set of six assigned #388-392, so a total of only 56 new stamps have been issued by Lundy over the past ten years.

A major addition to the stamp catalogue listings portion is that every stamp issue now shows a "status" in the heading. Aitchison states: "This explains who produced them, where they fall into the patchwork of differing issuing authorities, and the degree of legitimacy they have." Consequently, the catalogue user understands the status of all the issues and can choose judiciously what and what not to collect depending on this level of interest.

Valuations in this catalogue are given in pounds for both mint and used stamps and are based on true market value. Aitchison details in the preface section titled "valuations in this catalogue" his pricing philosophy, how values are determined, and the expected condition of the stamps in both mint and used listings, with premiums added for exceptional condition or subtracted for detriments such as heavy cancellations. Lundy stamps appear to have been relatively flat over the past ten years, so there are few notable changes for the basic stamp listings. However, many rare to unique items have come on the market over the past ten years, especially in several "name" auctions. Aitchison is a retail dealer of Lundy stamps, so is well aware of auction realisations and what's selling and what's not and for how much, so the Sixth Edition value changes reflect true market value. A major change is that "V.R." (for very rare) has been excised from the listings and prices substituted based on auction realisations or, when these items have not occurred for sale, educated, realistic estimations from similar auctioned items.

For a full appreciation and understanding of the "Lundy Stamp Catalogue" section, this reviewer urges the user to read pages vi-viii and continue through pages 1-5 for more details and additional information. It is simply impossible to present a complete and thorough overview in a review because of space limitations and there's an obvious reviewer bias to pick and choose what's discussed. The rest of this review will centre upon the expansion of sections previously contained in the Fifth Edition and the additional sections introduced in the Sixth Edition and will proceed in the order they appear in the Sixth Edition.

Some specialty and/or minor sections that have not undergone extensive revisions and additions will not be mentioned in this review. The Selection Packs section increased from one page of text without an illustration to four pages with four illustrations. The Officially Produced Lundy Covers & Cards section expanded from seven to 14 pages with its “C” number listings increasing from 35 to 62 items while the total number of entries including variants climbed from 58 to 138. Eleven pre-2009 items not listed in the Fifth Edition along with 16 items produced during 2009-2018 were added, necessitating completely revised numbering from C1 to C62.

The second major section of this Edition, titled “Lundy Postal History and Official Lundy Postal Markings,” accounts for most of the increase in pages in the Sixth Edition. It begins with a table of contents on page 187 with a following two-page introduction whereas the Fifth Edition’s second section was titled “Postmarks and Cachets of Lundy” without a table of contents, began on page 159, and introduction of only one page. The postal history section was expanded from 13 to 17 pages with a poor illustration of a Heaven cover replaced by a more suitable one and three more inward Heaven cover illustrations added. Incorporated into the GPO Sub-Office on Lundy section was a major finding reported in 2017 that the GPO Lundy thimble cancels known as type Ab and Ac are actually the same, just with a differentiating date change configuration brought about by a January 1914 GPO Circular stipulating that the dates on all cancellers be changed from month-day-year to day-month-year. (Unfortunately for this reviewer, this new finding negated my conclusions based on earlier research that appeared in the Fifth Edition.) Most of the postal history valuations either went unchanged or were given modest increases, except for the earliest known Lundy cover, a 1649 letter written aboard *Triumph* off Lundy that decreased from £7000 to £4000!

The greatest area of expansion is for what the Fifth Edition titled the “General Purpose & Commemorative Cancels” section and is now retitled “Official General Purpose, Special Event, Franking Meter, Delayed by Storm, and Other Lundy Cancellations and Cachets” (whew!) as it grew from 56 to 128 pages. This is what stamp collectors ranging from beginners to advanced stamp collectors, cover collectors, and postal historians would term the marcophily and cachets section. It encompasses all known official and unofficial postal markings associated with the Lundy mail system since it broke off from the GPO in 1927 and became a local postal service. Most notably, the A.C.A.S. and L.A.C.A.L. airmail cancels were moved back from the tail end of the “General Purpose Cancels for ‘Everyday’ Use” section to follow chronologically between Lundy Post’s “boxed puffin” and “Lundy Lights and Leads” cancels.

This placement now follows the order of the stamp listing where the air service stamps are interspersed among the Lundy local stamps.

What continued under the Fifth Edition's "General Purpose & Commemorative Cancels" has been rearranged under tighter headings and greatly expanded from what was formerly 38 pages to 31 pages – but wait, many of the items formerly listed in that section (about 16 pages worth) have been moved to the Sixth Edition's entirely new Section 3 titled "Unofficial Lundy Cachets and Postal Markings" that encompasses a whopping 164 pages. Beginning on page 251, this section comprises an index and introduction to this section and valuations followed by nine separate sections. Perhaps not every Lundy collectors' cup of tea, this section is profusely illustrated with every imaginable Lundy-related cachet for ships, air transports, cruises, Lundy Field Society events, letterboxes, Collect Lundy Stamps, Lundy Collectors Club, personal identification, and others that according to Aitchison "do not fall comfortably into any of the other sections" and, to boot, have been further divided into three separate subsections.

This takes us all the way to page 316, the start of Section 4 comprising seven appendices, only one of which, Appendix 7 ("Lundy Coins"), had appeared in the Fifth Edition. These appendices in themselves are reason enough to purchase a copy! Although simply mentioned as "Appendices" on the "Contents" page v, page 315 of Section 4 presents a listing by title of each one and on which page it appears.

Appendix 1 is titled "The 'Tram Ticket' Stamps of Atlantic Coast Air Services" and contains the invaluable "Tram Ticket Register" that has been maintained by the author since he obtained the publishing rights for Michael Bale's "Puffin Stamps" *Stamps of Lundy Island* catalogues. Each A.C.A.S. tram stamp has a unique number printed on its front, and the Register is a record of every tram ticket number reported since the late Ian Wilkinson began stewardship of the project in the early 1980s. It lists the tram number by its roll number and whether that tram is mint, used, or on an inward or outward cover. The number of trams recorded has increased substantially since the Register's inception and demonstrates that widely varying quantities of tram stamps survive from different rolls and this affects their catalogue value. The Register Summary on page 319 is an excellent breakdown by rolls of the number of stamps recorded, showing how some roll numbers are relatively common while others are extremely rare. The listing for the trams on page 15 prices them by roll number based on the total numbers reported in the Register.

Interestingly, this reviewer has already reported to the author six previously unrecorded tram numbers that have appeared on eBay since the Sixth Edition was issued in July, leading the author to jokingly comment that his catalogue is already out-of-date and in need of revision! One might be surprised to learn that almost 28% of the possible tram numbers have been reported and appear in the Register.

Appendix 2 is titled “Printed Lundy First Day Covers” and is an 11-page detailed listing of Lundy’s specially printed FDCs beginning with the 2nd June 1953 Coronation issue through the 13th May 2017 Birds of Lundy issue and includes all the known variants. Appendix 3 is a five-page section written by this reviewer, titled “Abbott Laboratories *Pentothal* Advertising Postcards from Lundy” that lists and prices the known types of cards (three English-text and four foreign-text) and gives added premiums for each of four variants. Appendix 4 comprises an extensive 48 pages of illustrated priced listings of “Privately produced Stamp Folders, Cards, and King of Puffinland Sheets.” Appendix 5, written by the late Roger Allen and titled “Postcards Produced by Lundy, Its Owners, Administrators, or Societies,” is an extensive 14-page specialised listing of these postcards, a distillation of Allen’s 2014 132-page *Catalog of Lundy Postcards*. Appendix 6, titled “Unofficial, Bogus & Forged Lundy Stamps,” comprises only two pages – a page of text giving an overview and perspective of the “problem” and a page illustrating 15 examples of various bogus issues and overprints. Appendix 7 is the aforementioned “Lundy Coins” comprising three pages, but now with additional text on two types of bogus Lundy coins that have appeared on the market since 2011. The Sixth Edition concludes with a useful three-page “Bibliography and Reference List” — although I spotted an error in the listing for the *Lundy Collectors Club Philatelic Quarterly* as it had 80 consecutive issues published during 1979-1998, not 67 from 1979-1996 as cited.

A major upgrade to the Sixth Edition is its twin-loop wire-binding that not only stabilises the catalogue’s 444 pages when standing upright but also permits it to lie flat without concerns about breaking the binding while it is being used. This reviewer deems the Sixth Edition an essential acquisition for any intermediate or advanced Lundy stamp or cover collector or postal historian, not only for the major changes in stamp numbering from the past adherences to the “Chinchen” numbering system, but for its current valuations based on market prices, and also because of the additional wealth of information contained therein that is not present in any previous Lundy Catalogues, including Aitchison’s (remarkable in itself) Fifth Edition!

The LCC Spring 2020 Meeting

By James Thomas

The Club's Spring 2020 meeting which will be held over five days on Lundy between Monday 16th March and Friday 20th March 2020 is now fully booked.

As in previous years there will be talks, displays, auction and a Lundy pub quiz, so if you have already booked, please consider bringing along a Lundy related display, one sheet item of any Lundy subject or a talk. It's amazing what other people will find interesting!

Most importantly, don't forget to purchase your helicopter ticket!

Magazine Binders

The Club's stock of binders for *The New Puffin Journal* is now sold out.

I am now starting a register of members who are interested in buying a new binder.

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

I cannot confirm the exact price at the moment but each binder will cost approximately £10.00 which will include UK postage.

To register your name, please write to:-

James Thomas, 5 Manor Drive, Kingskerswell, Devon, TQ12 5HB, UK, or email me at thenewpuffinjournal@aol.com stating the number of binders you will require. At this stage please **do not** send any money.

The Club will be obliged to place a minimum order of 50, so as soon as I have 20 names on the list I will proceed with a purchase.

Photo Page



*Gatekeeper butterfly on Sea Thrift at Castle Hill, Lundy
Photo James Thomas – 6th July 2019*

***Don't remove one single thing in nature because
it's attached to the rest of the World***