

THE NEW PUFFIN JOURNAL



Autumn 2020

Published by the Lundy Collectors Club

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Front Cover

Lars Liwendahl, Lundy Stamp
Advisor and Dr Anna Key,
Director of the Landmark Trust
On 29th September 2019

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British Revenue Stamp
on Lundy Related Banker's
Receipt

Lundy Postal Rates Since 1929

Donald T. Heaysman, Lundy
Agent and Postmaster from 1945
to 1949



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Editorial

After more than six months of lockdown and movement restrictions I am sure that we all now have some of the best presented and catalogued collections! But seriously, since March life for all of us throughout the World has been different and it is very difficult to imagine let alone plan the future.

Shortly after returning from Lundy in March it quickly became very clear that further meetings for 2020 were not a good idea so Sue Leather decided after consultation, to concentrate her efforts on events for 2021 and 2022.

As soon as the Oldenburg timetable for 2021 is published Sue will organise a Summer weekend with an optional day-trip to Lundy and then later in the year an all-day meeting on the mainland. Hopefully we will have more information by the end of the year and details will be posted to you with the Club's Christmas card.

It has become customary to hold a five-day meeting on Lundy approximately every two years. These events have to be planned more than a year in advance to ensure that we can book all the accommodation we require. So, as soon as the accommodation became available for 2022 Sue and I decided to book several of the island's properties from Monday 14th March to Friday 18th March 2022. We are sure that by then, even if Covid is still with us, there will be sufficient measures in place to live with it safely. It will also give us something to look forward to and will be a stepping stone back to some kind of normality.

Lockdown has also encouraged several members to put pen to paper or as we would say now-a-days, rattle the keyboard, and they have sent me several very diverse and interesting articles which will all appear in the *Journal* throughout next year.

The movement restrictions and lockdown have very seriously affected Lundy's finances. The spring and early summer months is when Westcountry tourist businesses make the money to see them through the leaner months of the year. However, because of lockdown, Lundy has been left with a £300,000 hole in its finances, so please support the island as and when you can to ensure that it is there for us in the future.

Finally, I hope you enjoy reading this slightly larger than normal issue of the *Journal*.

ATVB

James

As soon as the last flight of the day left Lundy, the Tavern closed!

A report of the Club's Spring 2020 five-day stay on Lundy

By James Thomas

Monday 16th March 2020

When I arrived at Hartland to catch the helicopter to Lundy in bright, sunshine I thought that my prayers had been answered. The island, after several months of rain, was very wet with many areas so wet that it was difficult to walk on. But now the sun was out and the winter was already becoming a distant memory which was a good omen for what has been two years in the planning.

It was hoped to use the St. Helen's Centre for our meetings which would have given us a large space to spread out, however, the easterly wind kept the temperature down so we reverted to our old favourite, the Wheelhouse.

At 4:30pm Derek Green, Lundy Manager and friend welcomed us to the island and gave us the highlights of Lundy news for the past year. He thanked us all for visiting Lundy despite the Coronavirus and said that the highlight of 2019 was the 50th Anniversary celebrations on Lundy which were held at the end of September. He took the opportunity to introduce Tiina Pehkonen who is the island's new Postmistress.



Lars Liwendahl and Tiina Pehkonen

Before leaving us to continue with our programme of events, in what has become a tradition, he handed to each of us a signed souvenir card.



Lars Liwendahl then picked up the baton with what has become another tradition and presented the latest in his series of 'Prior to Printing' presentations.

With the use of a PowerPoint presentation he showed how the 2019 '50th Anniversary' stamp issue developed from the initial idea to early sketches and photographs and then how Jan-Erik Wellerfors worked up the final designs which even included the merger of parts of two photographs to enhance the Lundy Cabbage image and the removal in Photoshop of a pile of rubbish from outside the Church in the 60 puffin stamp. Actions such as these usually go unknown. The stamps have been designed so that if they are used separately from the miniature sheet, they are still recognised as part of the same set. Lars also showed images of how Jan-Erik developed the design for the 'Lundy Stamps 90 Years' metermark cancel which came into service on 2nd April 2019 and ran until 30th December 2019.

Lars paid tribute to the hard work that our previous Postmaster Grant Sherman did, often cancelling mail and preparing postal orders at the back of the bar between serving drinks to customers. Tiina Pehkonen, who is our new Postmistress, attended all of our meetings and showed a lot of interest in our somewhat peculiar hobby whilst at the same time making new friends.

2020 marks another anniversary which will sadly not be marked by a set of Lundy stamps; this year is the 50th anniversary of when Lars Liwendahl started his Lundy stamp collection. To mark the occasion, Lars showed a few select items from his collection which included an essay for the 1939 Standing Puffin issue and initial drawings for a proposed 1950s Devonair Air Service issue.

Tuesday 17th March 2020

All of our good fortune with the weather had come to an abrupt end as we woke to thick fog which lasted all day.

At 9:00am Jon Aitchison held an impromptu bourse in the Tavern and laid out on the long table albums and boxes full of goodies, most of which was new stock.



However, for some, breakfast was not quite over but this did not stop anyone from delving in to search for that elusive goody.



Who said that men can't multi task!

At 2:30pm the Lundy Post Office opened to service mail. Also on sale was the new 'The Old Light, Lundy – 200 Years 1820 – 2020' commemorative postcard. Interest in the new card was very good and kept Lars and Tiina busy until 4:00pm.



THE OLD LIGHT, LUNDY - 200 YEARS 1820 - 2020



At this point the Post Office closed and the meeting was captivated by Rosie Ellis, Lundy Assistant Warden, who did a magnificent presentation titled 'Lundy – Above and Below the Waves'. Rosie's story went as far back as 259 million years when our little granite and slate island was formed at the time when Britain separated from the European continent – no not Brexit! She also covered the Marine Protected Area Zoning and the formation of the first Marine No Take Zone in 2003. She showed images of Pink Sea Fans and explained their importance in the island's eco-system. She explained how larger creatures such as Basking Sharks and the Atlantic Grey Seals are increasingly suffering from entanglement from marine waste. It was no surprise when Rosie reported that 2019 was the wettest on record and the amount of lying water on the island confirmed this. Since the start of the rhododendron eradication, 87,532 plants have been removed however; last year 5 flowers were found which will mean that another 10 years will have to pass before Lundy can be declared rhody free. The Lundy Cabbage, Lundy Cabbage Beetle and Lundy Cabbage Weevil together with many sea birds are doing well although Kittiwake numbers are on the decline. Since the Rat Eradication Programme which declared Lundy rat free in 2006, Puffin numbers have increased considerably year on year with 250 active burrows (representing over 500 birds) in 2019.

As we were thinking that this would be a hard act to follow, André Dufresne presented a magnificent twelve sheet display of the 1943 unadopted Trials and Essays. All of the material, except for just two items, was originals from the 1940s. André also displayed the three blocks each of six stamps from the 1930 issue that featured in the Summer 2018 issue of this *Journal*. In the article they were described as 'Mystery Stamps' but the experts in the room decided that they are die proofs.

Jon Aitchison followed by showing a 1961 emergency helicopter flight cover with a typed inscription by Felix Gade and an accompanying letter of explanation.

The last display of the day, which took us up to our evening meal, came from Michael Bale and was an interesting insight into his business history from Lundy to Tristan da Cunha.

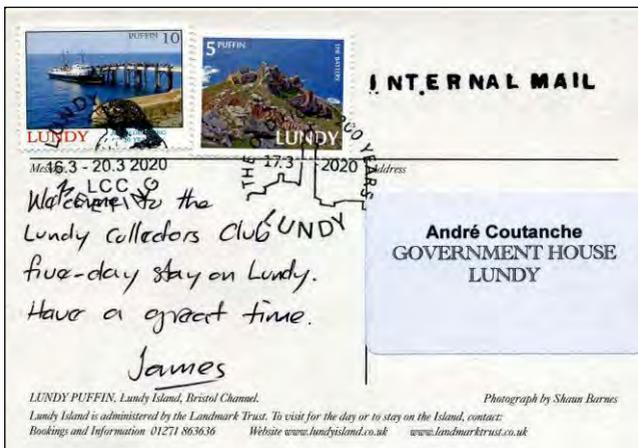
Wednesday 18th March 2020

More dense fog and drizzle! That is all I am going to say about today's weather.

This was a morning for doing jobs so the first thing after breakfast was to do the handover of the Treasurer's job to Graham Chadwick, which was followed by a visit to the shop to buy souvenirs and the silver trophy for the winner of the Pub Quiz on the following day.

Mid afternoon, the Oldenburg battled through the rough sea to deliver much needed stores and post. The Post Office on Lundy is very efficient and within a hour of landing, the post from the Big Island was delivered. Our Club President, Diana Keast sent me a lovely letter offering her best wishes to all of those present and wishing us a good time.

After the incoming post was delivered, there was a second delivery of Internal Mail which was posted on Tuesday and mainly consisted of postcards sent by the organiser to each member wishing them a good time.



Lars and Tiina opened the Lundy Post Office at 4:00pm for a hour before handing over to André Coutanche who presented a captivating talk which was supported by a film titled 'A Little Kingdom – The Harman Family's Lundy 1925 – 1969'. The combination of an interesting subject and a brilliant presenter held everyone's attention for the whole hour. Tiina and Rosie who are quite new to Lundy joined us and afterwards said that they had learnt so much about the island's history. Even those who have been involved with Lundy for many decades also found it most interesting and informative.

After our evening meal Mike Thompson in his usual professional style conducted the Club's 69th auction. In addition to the catalogued lots which sold for more than £2,000, Mike auctioned several late lots which were put into the auction by Derek Green to raise money for the Lundy Fund.

Thursday 19th March 2020

We awoke to buffeting easterly winds and heavy rain, so it was another long relaxing breakfast in the Tavern and definitely not a day for a beach clean. However, despite the awful weather, the island staff have to continue with their daily tasks. Watching the bedraggled staff popping into the Tavern for a hot reviving brew, brought to our attention what real island life is like. Long time islander Tom Carr, brought his brew to the fireplace so that he could dry off a little before returning to the outdoors to attend to the sheep. He explained to us the problems that they have experienced with caring for the sheep in such wet conditions since the autumn of 2019.

The afternoon's programme of events started at 4:00pm with the second part of members' displays.

James Thomas opened with a selection of non-philatelic Lundy collectables and items of interest. He showed a copy of the *Illustrated Lundy News* issue 17, a series of photographs of Architectural drawings from the 18th century for a proposed manor house and armoury on Lundy for Sir John Borlase Warren, two shop advertising boards for Lundy guides, one from 1936 and the other from 1950 and two proof pages for the third edition of Myrtle Ternstrom's book titled 'Lundy Album'.

Roy Bentley followed with 14 sheets of various items of Lundy incoming mail from all over the World. Over the years Roy has collected items from as far as Gabon, Switzerland, Chile, Newfoundland and the Italian Isle of Capri.

During the evening Lars Liwendahl compèred the Tavern Teaser, twenty-five Lundy related questions which he had prepared back in Sweden during the winter. The competition was intense with lots of cheating going on! Finally, after a tie-breaker question, the winner was announced. Derek Green, who did not cheat, took home with him the 2020 silver trophy, well a Lundy silver plated spoon which he said was going to be given to his daughter Hannah to join her collection of Lundy souvenirs.

Friday 20th March 2020

Well, would you believe it! As we prepared to return to the Big Island the sun put its hat on for the first time since Monday.

It was a beautiful clear day with no problems for the helicopter flights, but before we all said our fairwells we took part in what has become another tradition, a group photograph. This year, because the easterly wind was bitterly cold, we took the picture in the Tavern instead of outdoors.

Because of the Coronavirus which was quickly developing during our stay on Lundy, all new arrivals, which amounted to only 11, were taken directly from the helicopter to their accommodation. As soon as the last flight of the day left Lundy, the Tavern was closed and the following Friday the island was closed to visitors until July when movement restrictions were relaxed.



The 'Lundy Family' of 2020

I have enjoyed better weather on Lundy, however, there is an old Lundy saying which goes something like; the only thing you need to take with you to Lundy is your sense of adventure. I would add one more item to that very short list, a good crowd of companions because when you blend the two together, anything else really doesn't matter.

Good bye Lundy until next time, or as we say in Devon, uz'll be zeein ee dreckly!

A total of 500 souvenir cards were produced and of these 250 cards had two stamps affixed to the picture side and cancelled with the special handstamp using black ink and will cost £3.00 each. 75 cards had the two stamps affixed to the picture side and cancelled with the special canceller using red ink and will cost £5.00 each. Plain cards are available at £1.50 each. Please place all orders direct with Lundy.



The elder brethren reminiscing!



Big stakes!



Meeting souvenir postcard compliments of Roy Bentley

Barry Chinchin presented everyone with a book titled 'Mystery Stamps Investigation of 1966'. This is a revisit of research that he started in 1966 when he reconstructed entire sheets of mystery ½p, 2p and 9p perforate and imperforate stamps from 1929 to 1939 by examining fly-speck variations.

The material supporting this research can be found in the British Library.

Barry also presented each of us with a selection of his Montagu 'might have beens' which exhausted his remaining stock. Another article on this subject will appear in a future issue of the *Journal*.

Lundy produced two special cancellers for use during the week. The first was to commemorate the Club's 5-day visit and was struck in red and black. The second was to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the completion of the Old Light and was struck in black and used only on 17th March 2020.



Finally, because the weather was so wet all week, I returned to Hartland to find my car in the car park bogged down in mud. However, during the helicopter pilot's break, the Lundy Fire Brigade went down from the Heliport in the Fire Engine to tow me out. Somehow I don't think that this was the first time they have helped a stranded motorist!



I would like to wish a huge thank you to all of the Lundy staff. They are all brilliant and always so friendly and helpful from the Shore Office staff, all of the islanders, the Oldenburg Crew, the Lundy Fire Brigade and heliport staff and not forgetting of course the boss, Derek Green.

Obituary

It is with great shock and sadness that I announce the passing of Charles Ellis who died suddenly on Sunday 23rd August.

Charles who had been a member of the LFS since 1951 and more recently the LCC attended many of our summer meetings as well as most 5-day stays on the island.

Our condolences were sent to his widow Jennifer.

Official Lundy Postcards

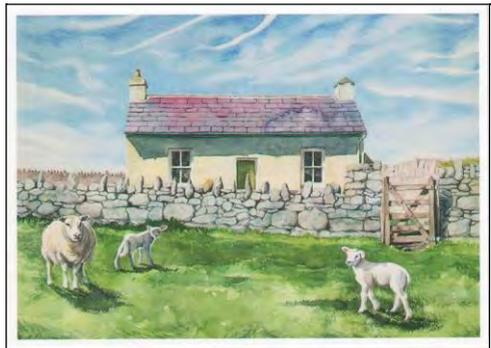
By James Thomas

Sixteen new postcards have been issued by Lundy this year. Fourteen new Sharon Smart watercolour based designs were added in April to the four that she produced in 2017. A photograph of a seal by Joshua Harris and the 'Old Light, Lundy – 200 years 1820 – 2020' card which appears on page 6 completes this year's issues.

If you wish to purchase these postcards, please refer to the Lundy Sales sheet that accompanied the Summer Newsletter. Please send your orders direct to the Lundy Postal Service, Lundy, Bristol Channel, EX39 2LY or email lundypostalservice@lundyisland.co.uk



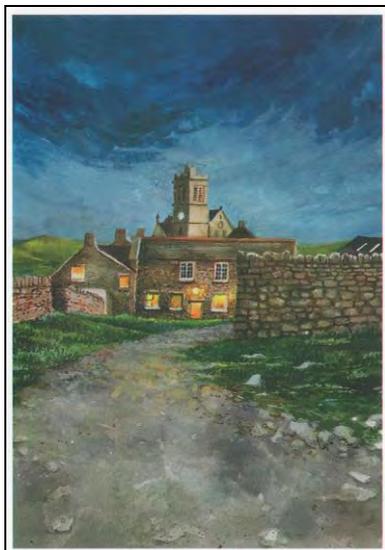
Hammers, Lundy Island (2017)



Stoneycroft, Lundy Island (2017)

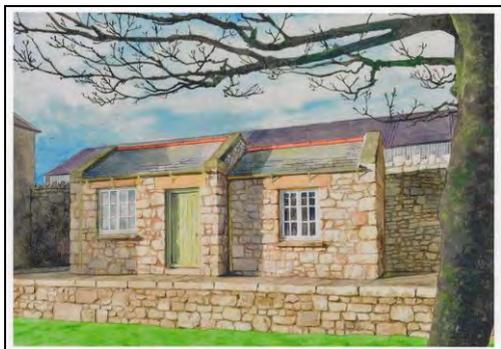


Tibbetts, Lundy Island (2017)

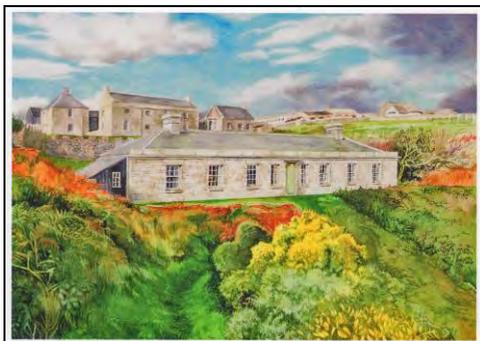


Marisco Tavern, Lundy Island (2017)

The following fifteen cards were issued in 2020.



The Radio Room, Lundy Island



Government House, Lundy Island



Millcombe House, Lundy Island



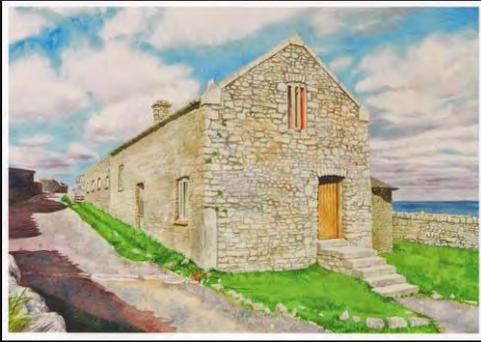
Old Light Lower & Upper, Lundy Island



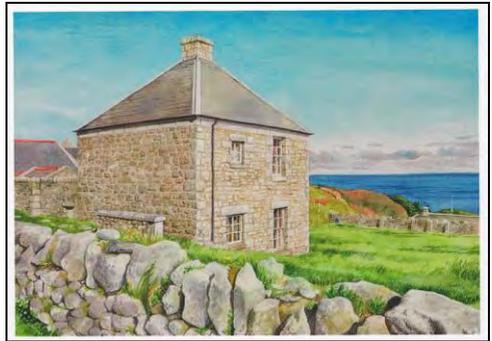
Castle Cottage, Lundy Island



The Quarters, Lundy Island



The Barn, Lundy Island



Square Cottage, Lundy Island



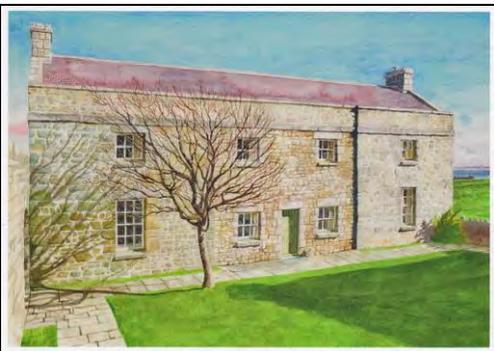
Old Light Cottage, Lundy Island



Big & Little St John's, Lundy Island



Bramble Villas East & West, Lundy Island



Old House North & South, Lundy Island



The Castle, South, East & North, Lundy Island



Old School, Lundy Island



Photograph by Joshua Harris (2020)

Lundy postal activities in 2019

By Lars Liwendahl

It has become a tradition that I tell a little about the latest Lundy stamp issue at the LCC meetings held on the island. When we met in March this year I spoke about the Lundy postal activities during 2019, which I thought might be of interest to all of those who were unable to attend. Here follows my presentation, “adjusted for reading”!

Two important jubilees came up in 2019, it was 90 years since the first Lundy stamps were issued and, even more importantly, a half century since The National Trust and The Landmark Trust took over the island.

With the island’s strict issuing policy it would have been just too much with two stamp issues. Ninetieth anniversaries are not normally highlighted with stamps, not even on some Caribbean islands! Still, Lundy wanted to do something and a suggestion was to produce a special cancel and maybe a special cover on the birthday of 1st November. However, who would really notice apart from the keenest Lundy collectors? After some discussions the idea was presented to have a special cachet in the franking machine. We also said it could be used for the whole year, or at least during the tourist season.

The next thing to do was to design the cancel and find an appropriate motif. I sat in Derek’s office above the Tavern and discussed it with Derek and Ceri, the postmaster at the time. Different ideas came up with no really good suggestions. We talked about the island birds, and then Ceri came up with THE idea, which we all thought was brilliant – to show the puffin head from the very first 1929 Lundy stamp in the cancel!

We all realised we could not take the picture as such from the stamp because it needed to be simplified, but still to be recognisable. This would be an ideal job for my friend Jan-Erik Wellerfors who has helped Lundy several times in the past.

When I returned home to Sweden I spoke to Jan-Erik and asked how to handle the stamp’s standing oval? “Let me do some thinking”, Jan-Erik said, and he then came up with this:



Great we all said when we saw it! Still, the design had to be simplified a little more which Jan-Erik did.

We decided to start using the cancel on 2nd April 2019 by which time Ceri had already left the island and Grant Sherman had taken over as postmaster.



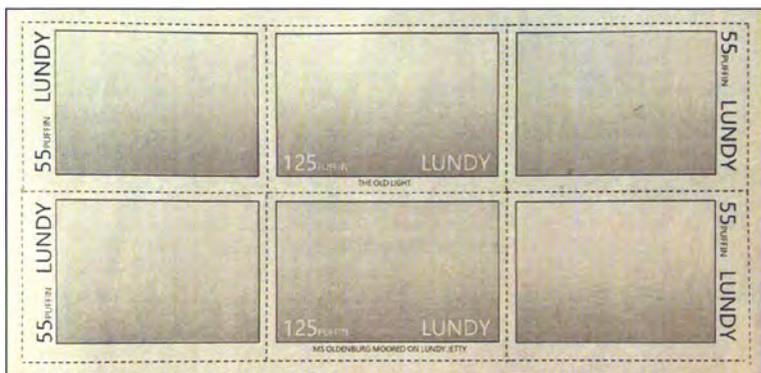
Here we are on the day of issue manning a temporary Post Office in the Tavern.

The other jubilee, the 50th anniversary of the take over of the island by the National Trust and the Landmark Trust, should indeed be highlighted with a stamp issue. The initial discussions started up when I was on the island in April 2018. I suggested a traditional stamp set of 4-5 different stamps, however, Derek wanted to have an issue in line with the Silver Jubilee miniature sheet which I designed in 1994. I was slightly reluctant as I think it is important to be very moderate in issuing miniature sheets, but now I realise it was the right decision. A 50th birthday is after all quite special!

Having had six stamps in the 1994 sheet, we should aim for the same number this time. It had also been decided that the island should have a special emblem for the Golden Jubilee which should be included.

To help to keep cost down, Cartors used standard sized stamps in the miniature sheet and did not perforate the borders – something that I do not like the look of and which restricted us a little.

Derek gave Jan-Erik and me some homework; to come up with a general design idea. Without going into detail we came up with this, in the autumn of 2018.



So, what to show on the stamps? It was decided that they should show off and sell the island as well as tell a little about all the work carried out by the National Trust and Landmark Trust over the last 50 years. The designs were not finally decided on until the autumn, but two designs were selected in the spring: a puffin and the Lundy Cabbage.

I thought that Shaun Barnes' already legendary photo showing a flying puffin would be ideal, and for the cabbage I took at least 40 different photos during my April visit. The time was flying, as always and it was now late autumn when Jan-Erik and I started and finalised the puffin bird and cabbage designs.



Finally we prepared a mirror image of the puffin photo because we wanted the bird to fly into the centre of the sheet and have the text behind it, to the right of the bird.

For the cabbage stamp Jan-Erik took all my photos including one which was a close up so that he could see how the little flower really looks and by combining two photos gave an outstanding result.



Later the remaining designs were finally selected: The Old Light, an aerial view of the island, the church and the jetty.

Jan-Erik used to live in Stockholm but is now retired and has moved to the island of Öland in the Baltic. Öland is not as remote as Lundy but almost as windy! I spent a winter week at Jan-Erik's house and this was when we designed the four remaining stamps.



Jan-Erik at his PC



Lars combining the different stamp designs for the miniature sheet

The design of the sheet as such, the text, which font to use and colours, created some challenges. What looked best?

The final complete design of the sheet was not ready until the end of April 2019. The artwork was then sent to Cartor in France at the start of May on a USB stick in a registered envelope which is hard to believe in these modern times!

The date of issue was decided some time beforehand as being the weekend of 28th-29th September 2019 which gave Cartor enough time for the printing process. Then a gap in their production programme meant that the stamps were suddenly printed and shortly afterwards I was contacted at the end of May to inform me that the stamps were ready.

Then I had an idea! The Stockholmia 2019 exhibition was coming up, the world stamp exhibition, and the Second Cinderella Stamp World Congress. Christer Brunström and I were responsible for the congress so I thought that this could be the right moment to show the new Lundy stamps “to the world”.

Cartor was kind enough to send me three sheets on loan, by courier, to Stockholm. I used the new Lundy stamps as a grand finale at the Congress. The theme for the two days was “Old and New”, starting with showing Spanish revenue documents from Spanish America from the 1640s and I ended by showing the not yet issued Lundy stamps! I can say, it was quite a “WOW”, when I let the stamps circulate in the conference room. To hold new stamps in your own hands almost four months before the date of issue was something new for all present.

The Jubilee weekend

A lot could be said about this weekend! Summarising: all was great, apart from the weather! I will not go into details regarding the weekend as James has already published an account in the Autumn 2019 issue of this *Journal*.

I arrived on Lundy a week before the jubilee because there were a lot of preparations to do: 1000 FDCs to frank and cancel, 1000 presentation packs and 6 stamp postcards which we decided to issue. The cards' main aim was to be part of a goody bag for all attending the anniversary weekend so 600 sets were required which meant 3600 cards to be franked and cancelled. All of this was quite a task and not an afternoon job! However, no complaints!

Thankfully we received help from willing hands and with Grant's help, on some days we had a workforce of five.



l to r. Alan Rowland, Michael Williams and Sandra Rowland in the Wheelhouse 'licking and sticking'!

Although the attendance numbers were lower than originally planned because of the weather, the weekend was a great success. We had a Post Office in the Tavern both on the Saturday and Sunday, with good sales.



Dr Anna Keay, Director of the Landmark Trust with Lars at the temporary Lundy Post Office in the Tavern

Because the mail did not leave Lundy until the following Tuesday we had both the Saturday and Sunday dates in the FDC cancel. This is probably a world premiere for a first day cancel with two dates!

On the Sunday there was a church service, just as in 1969. The priest even highlighted the new stamps and the work involved in her sermon. I guess it must be the first time that stamps have taken a part in such an event.

I can now reveal that when selecting the designs for the jubilee stamps we chose the Old Light for one of them. This had a double use because 2020 was the 200th anniversary of the construction of the Old Light. Lundy could not justify producing another stamp issue for this anniversary so it was decided to mark the occasion with a Postal Stationary card with the stamp design printed on it. It was “by accident” that this item was issued during the LCC week on the island!



Last, but not least, since the end of 2019 the island has a new postmistress, Tiina Pehkonen. She has settled in very quickly with her new tasks and is already an expert on tearing, licking and sticking stamps to covers, making up presentation packs, neatly cancelling stamps and efficiently dealing with postal orders. Tiina, you are most welcome to the Lundy stamp world!

I ended my presentation by telling about another 50th anniversary that took place the very week we had the LCC meeting. This is a smaller jubilee but important, at least to me. It was exactly 50 years since I started to collect Lundy! After showing some photos of items from my collection I ended by showing a page from my passport in 1978, where Felix Gade had written and given me permission to visit Lundy, notwithstanding the extreme shortage of water!

New Lundy Postage Rates

By James Thomas

New Lundy postal charges came into force on 23rd March 2020.

The new rates for letters and postcards are as follows:-

- Second class to the mainland – 60 puffin
- First class to the mainland – 80 puffin
- Basic foreign postage – from 140 puffin to 150 puffin
- The Lundy ‘puffinage’ – 15 puffin

The Club’s 2022 five-day visit to Lundy

By James Thomas

Sue Leather and I are organising a 5-day stay on Lundy between Monday 14th and Friday 18th March 2022 during which time we will hold the Club’s Spring 2022 meeting.

As in previous years there will be talks, displays, auction and a Lundy pub quiz, although because of Covid, arrangements might be slightly different to previous occasions to fit in with the Government’s guidelines that will be in force at the time. We will be flying by helicopter from and back to Hartland, North Devon.

The cost of the accommodation is £170.00 per person which is payable now. Should you need to cancel at anytime, a refund will be made as soon as I am able to resell your place. The helicopter ticket can be bought three months before we leave direct from the Lundy Shore Office.

We have a limited number of places which will be allocated on a first come first served basis, so if you wish to attend will you please write to James Thomas, 5 Manor Drive, Kingskerswell, Devon, TQ12 5HB, UK?