

THE NEW PUFFIN JOURNAL



Autumn 2022

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Front Cover

Aerial View of the Village
Photograph by
James Thomas
Friday 20th March 2020

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Collecting "Puffinage" on Lundy Mail Before 1992.

2021 & 2022 Lundy Postage Rates Detailed up-date.



www.thelundyclollectorsclub@weebly.com

Editorial

Due to the recent sad news of the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, this issue of *The New Puffin Journal* is the first to be published in the New Carolean era. This along with referring to the Monarch as The King will, for most of us, take a little time to get used to.

The World is continually changing and evolving and it is something that we must all accept and not fight against, no matter how much we might dislike the thought of change.

In the Summer 2022 Newsletter I announced changes to the Club which have had to be made to give the Club a future and I hope you will support me and the Club's small group of workers with the changes.

Also, during October, Haven and I moved from our family house where we had lived for 35 years, to a bungalow so that we can enjoy living on one level. We haven't moved far but our details have changed. So, will you please note my change of address and telephone number? My email address remains unchanged.

My new address is:

**38 Wolverton Drive, Kingsteignton,
Devon, TQ12 3EY.**

Telephone 01626 331495

As soon as we settle into our new home, I will have more time to research interesting articles for the *Journal*. I am also looking forward to continue to sort through and arrange my collection. This I started when I retired but there is still a lot more to do!

James

thenewpuffinjournal@aol.com

Red skies at night...

A report of the Club's Spring 2022 five-day stay on Lundy

By James Thomas

Monday 14th March 2022

A winter-season trip to Lundy starts with the smell of aviation fuel, gushing down draughts, and the loud noise of the helicopter. The excitement builds through the pre-flight film and then the smiley faces of the helicopter ground crew guide the passengers under the rotating blades and into their seats ready for take-off. For some first timers, the trip starts with anxiety but by the time they land on Lundy just seven minutes later the feeling is exhilaration and everyone walks away from the helicopter, under the guidance of the Island ground crew, wearing big smiles.

We were very lucky with the weather as we arrived on a clear sunny day, enjoyed wall-to-wall sunshine all week and returned home in beautiful sunshine and experienced some glorious sun rises and red skies at night.

The Club's five-day trips to Lundy are now full of various traditions which continued throughout this year's visit. At 4:30pm Lundy General Manager, Derek Green, welcomed the group with an up-date of island life over the last two years. This year's up-date was dominated with how the island and islanders managed lockdown and the changing Covid rules. The day we left Lundy in 2020, the island started to close down at the start of the first lockdown and there we were, two years later, back on Lundy with everything back to normal. Derek then followed with another tradition and handed out to all in the group a specially prepared card with a personal message.



For the duration of our five days on the island a special canceller designed by Jan-Erik Wellerfors was used to cancel all mail leaving the island with Lundy stamps. For the special cards that were handed out to members of the group, the canceller was stamped in red ink and for all the general mail, black ink was used. For those who were unable to attend the visit, stamped cards with either red or black ink cancels can be purchased from Lundy.



Derek reported that over the last two years many improvements have been carried out to Island properties as well as to the Heliport at Hartland. The main improvement at Hartland is a new tarmacadam helicopter landing pad. On the island, Millcombe has had a new kitchen fitted and Stoneycroft and the Old Light have been repaired. The Rocket Shed has had a makeover and has been renamed 'Museum'.

Derek said that the jetty is now 22 years old, which took us all by surprise because we still think of it as the 'New Jetty'. So, a programme of repair works has been put into place to keep it going for another few decades.

A lot of work has been done to the services infrastructure including bringing old bore holes back into use for much needed water and the introduction of a Green Energy programme which will include a wind turbine and photovoltaic panels and will help to reduce the island's dependency on diesel and petrol.

The North Devon NHS visited Lundy during March 2021 to give the staff their first Covid inoculation and then returned a few months later to administer the second vaccination.



Before leaving the meeting, Derek made a special presentation to James Thomas in recognition of 25 years' service with the Lundy Collectors Club and for the close bond that has been generated between the Club and Lundy.

James was speechless (there's a first for everything!) when Derek asked him to step up to the front of the room and accept two brown envelopes. In the first envelope was a set of three full sheets of the 2021 'The Lundy Field Society 75 Years' stamp issue. In the other envelope was a set of three artwork prints of the 2021 stamp issue, signed by Sharon Smart, Lars Liwendahl and Derek Green. Beneath the artwork were the corresponding issued stamps cancelled by the 2021 'Pigmy Shrew' canceller.

James was honoured by Derek's generosity and friendship and said that these unique items will take a special place in his collection.

Following on from Derek was Rosie Ellis, Lundy's new Warden. Rosie isn't new to Club members because she has lived on the island for a couple of years and started work as the Island's Assistant Warden.



One of the three special presentation cards presented to James Thomas

With invited visitors of other groups, Rosie gave an interesting and very informative up-date of the environmental work that has taken place since our last visit. Rosie is a very knowledgeable hard-working lady and it is a treat to attend one of her talks.

As tradition has it, after Rosie, Lars Liwendahl took the final act of the day and gave us an insight into the design and preparation of the 2021 'The Lundy Field Society 75 Years' stamp issue.

Lars explained that since our last visit, on 21st April 2020, Lundy celebrated the 200th anniversary of the construction of the Old Light by issuing a Postal Stationery card with a printed stamp.

He then went straight into a detailed account of how the LFS 75th Anniversary issue was produced. He explained that first of all Derek Green had to approve the idea of having three se-tenant pairs with just three values in the set. The values were agreed later and had to fall in line with the latest GPO rates. The artist Sharon Smart was then appointed and asked to produce ideas in watercolours.

The issue was threatened by the uncertainties surrounding Covid, but Derek was insistent that it went ahead.

Cartor's the French security printers were once again appointed to do the printing. The island has established a good relationship over the years with this company, liking the high standards of production and security. For example, all of the paper is weighed on delivery at the factory and the final stamps are weighed along with all scrap paper that is burnt and the two must tally. As well as Lundy, Cartor print the stamps for approximately 100 countries around the globe.

The stamps were delivered to Lundy three weeks before the issue date which meant a lot of work had to be done very quickly to produce the Presentation Packs and the First Day Covers to fill orders.

An article with rare unique colour images prepared by Lars Liwendahl will appear in the Spring 2023 issue of *The New Puffin Journal*.

Tuesday 15th March 2022

After a morning of enjoyable walks in the lovely Spring sunshine and lunch in the Marisco Tavern, Lars Liwendahl opened a Lundy Post Office counter in the Tavern. Today saw the release of the 2022 Selection packs which were on sale alongside the meeting souvenir cards and envelopes that were produced to commemorate the Club's visit.

At 4:00pm James Thomas opened the first afternoon of Members' displays with two different subjects with the aim of generating discussion to find the truth behind the items. Firstly, he showed the 1967 'Help the R.S.P.C.A. Save Sea Birds from Oil' small Presentation Pack which was produced in cream card with an embossed sailing ship on the front cover. This card was thought to be the first of the island's Presentation Packs, however, Barry Chinchon who produced it dispelled this myth. Barry stated that he produced it sometime during the 1970's from surplus card that he had in stock and it was a free gift given to Club members with their stamp orders and was not officially produced by Lundy.



*1967 'Help the R.S.P.C.A. Save Sea Birds from Oil'
small Presentation Pack*

James' second display was a collection of material relating to the 2002 Definitive Issue.

He started by saying that this set, in philatelic terms, is not special or valuable, however, in so far as Lundy Philately is concerned, it is very important.

Up until 24th July 1998, when Reg Lo-Vel left Lundy to work on other Landmark properties, Lundy had issued a new set of stamps every year or every second year. After Reg, Paul Roberts followed on as Manager and Paul did not like the collectors, or to be precise, those who were abusing the system. James had the impression that Paul wanted to end the Lundy Private Postal service but met resistance from the Landmark Trust. Five years passed without issuing a new set of stamps and stocks started to run low, so a reworked set of the 1991 'Puffin on Coast' set of definitives was issued. It gave the collectors something new for their collections and solved the island's stamp needs and although not very inspirational, it kept the Lundy Private Postal service going. On the passing of Stanley Newman in early 2004, James Thomas took hold of the Club's reins and immediately discouraged the misuse. A year later Paul left Lundy and Derek Green took over as Manager. Derek saw that the Club's new management was taking a more responsible approach and gave us a second chance.

For the last 17 years the Club has been privileged to enjoy a good working relationship with Derek and his team and the island now has in place a Postal Strategy with the intention of issuing a new set of quality stamps every two years.

James displayed 10 pages of the 2002 Definitive Issue with one particular sheet of interest which showed the House of Questa packing card that was used to protect the 6 puffin sheets of 25 stamps.



Chas Povey then followed with a magnificent display of the Atlantic Coast Air Service "Large Map" bisects.

To pay full justice to this display, Chas has submitted a full article with colour images which appears in this Journal starting on page 17.

Wednesday 16th March 2022

Mid afternoon Lars opened the Lundy Post Office in the Wheelhouse and conducted brisk business for well over a hour.

It was programmed for today's talk to be presented by André Coutanche, however, due to illness, André had to cancel at the last minute, so Jon Aitchison quickly stepped in and gave us a one-hour display of the more rare and interesting philatelic items from his stock.

After our evening meal in the Tavern, Jon Aitchison, with the assistance of Julie Lester and James Thomas, conducted the auction. This year the auction was held in the Wheelhouse which made for a most relaxing atmosphere. Bidding was at times quite brisk with some of the other visitors and members of staff showing great interest.

Thursday 17th March 2022

Jon Aitchison organised for the very brave a trip to Rat Island to change the Lundy 'Letterbox' cachet. This can only be done at low tide and an eye has to be kept on the tide at all times because when it starts to return it comes in fast and in the past some members have got their trousers wet. On this occasion only a few made the venture whilst the rest of us looked on

After Lars closed the afternoon Post Office in the Wheelhouse, Julie Lester showed a magnificent 30-page display of the 1936 Large Map issue. In addition to imperforate sheets of mint stamps, Julie showed rare used items such as the Lundy Straight-line cancel, several variations of the winged cancel and many Pitman covers.

Chas followed on with a selection of interesting Lundy philatelic and non-philatelic 'odds and ends' which included letters from the 1800's, and postal history from as far back as the 1700's. He also included 17 sheets of 2nd World War censored mail including a "Return to Sender by the Censor" label and several "Opened by Examiner" labels.

As this evening was our last for this trip, after dinner Lucy and Reg Lo-Vel organised and compèred the Tavern Teaser. The Quiz Mistress was Lucy who threw her immense energy into making it a fun time to remember.

We were all competing for a John Dyke print which was won by just one point by Alan Rowland. Alan said that he would like to keep it to hang in his own house, however, as Chairman of the Lundy Field Society, he most generously gave it to the LFS for auction at next year's AGM.



Jon Aitchison leading André Dufresne around the base of Rat Island at low tide. (Photo – Peter Burnett)

Friday 18th March 2022

All good things have to come to an end!

This year the helicopter briefing was different to what we had been used to. As we gathered in the Tavern those leaving on the first flight were taken direct to the helicopter and briefed at the departure point whilst the those remaining were briefed in the Tavern. At the end of the briefing, the first flight had left resulting in us being unable to take a group photograph which has always been our last tradition.

However, unlike many previous years, the weather and flying conditions were perfect and the helicopter made good time returning us safely to Hartland to continue our onward journeys.



Lars Liwendahl (l) from Sweden and André Dufresne (r) from Canada learning a few British customs!

2022 Meeting Souvenirs

By James Thomas

During the Club's five-day stay on Lundy between 14th and 18th March 2022, Lundy produced the following meeting souvenirs.



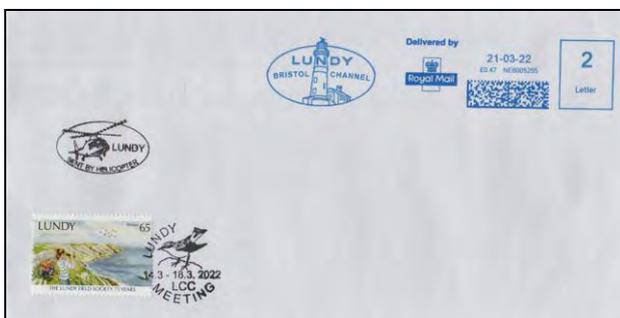
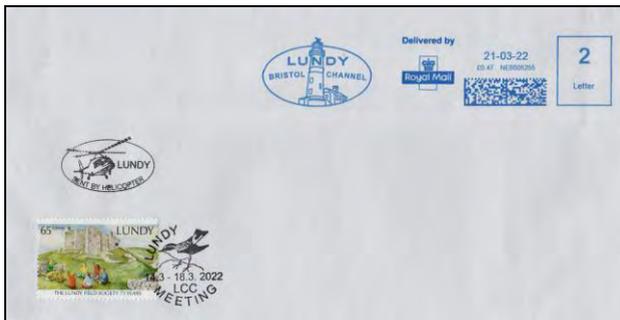
2022 LCC card without stamps and cancel



2022 LCC card with corresponding stamps and special black cancel



2022 LCC card with corresponding stamps and special red cancel



2022 LCC Covers with stamp, special cancel and blue franking metermark
Note: two different stamps

Prices

2022 LCC card without stamps and cancel	£1.00
2022 LCC card with corresponding stamps and special black cancel	£5.00
2022 LCC card with corresponding stamps and special red cancel	£7.00
2022 LCC Covers with stamp, special cancel and blue franking metermark	£1.00 each

Should you wish to purchase these items, please place your order direct with Lundy either by post to Lundy Postal Service, Bristol Channel, EX39 2LY, UK, or online at lundypostalservice@lundyisland.co.uk

Please remember to include postage and packing – United Kingdom £2.00, Europe £3.80 and the Rest of the World £4.80.

Obituary

By James Thomas

It is with great sadness that I announce the passing of Brian Drew at the end of May 2022 after a battle with Parkinson's Disease.

Brian and his late wife Marie attended nearly all of the Club meetings from when it transferred from America to Britain. He was a very enthusiastic collector and would study particular subjects to immense detail.

He spent many years studying HMS Lundy and produced several articles which were published in *The New Puffin Journal*. However, his major work was the production of *Lundy – An illustrated catalogue of souvenir folders of Lundy stamps*. This was published in 2004 after many years work and became the definitive reference for the island's souvenir stamp folders.

From 2004 to 2016 he produced several stamp folders to commemorate special events organised by the Club.

Our heartfelt condolences go out to his family.

2022 Selection Packs

By James Thomas

On 15th March 2022, Lundy issued three new selection packs. Also, over the week of the Club's Spring visit, Lundy issued two special commemorative envelopes each with one of the two 'Lundy Field Society 75 Years' 65p stamps cancelled with the special canceller used for the Club's visit between 14th and 18th March 2022.

The three selection packs consist of either 10 stamps, 12 high value stamps or 25 stamps and are dated March 2022. All three packs are printed in blue on white.

A specially printed cover franked with two 90p LFS Lundy stamps cancelled on 14th July which was the first day of use of the new canceller, plus the blue franking metermark can be bought for £4.50.

Should you wish to purchase these items, please place your order direct with Lundy either by post to Lundy Postal Service, Bristol Channel, EX39 2LY, UK, or online at lundypostalservice@lundyisland.co.uk

10 stamp Selection Pack



Price – £5.00

12 high value stamp Selection Pack



Price – £10.00

25 stamp Selection Pack



Price – £8.00

The Atlantic Coast Air Lines

“Large Map” Bisects

By Chas Povey

In the 1930s L Pitman, a philatelist from Newport, South Wales, prepared many covers often with an aerophilately and island-to-island theme. Many have a Lundy connection, and most were self-addressed in his elegant copper-plate writing. Some are identified by a ‘L Pitman’ cachet on the back of the cover.

In 1936/37 a small number of Pitman covers had the A.C.A.S. “Large Map” issue of 1936 bisected. These were the ONE PENNY value bisected, diagonally or horizontally, to realize the halfpenny rate for letters between the mainland and Lundy. The bisects did result in the correct halfpenny rate. Not due to a shortage of halfpenny labels but rather out of aesthetics to fit a limited space on already ‘busy’ covers (Fabian, 1980). Paul Seybolt (LCCPQ Winter 1980 p1) recounts hearing from Felix Gade that Pitman contrived the bisecting and that it was agreed to, and performed by, Bob Boyd and his colleagues at ACAS. The bisects are cancelled with the ACAS ‘winged motif’ (Aitchison type Cb).

There has been no previous compilation of all known bisects. They are rare; most are from a batch of Canadian first flight covers with Lundy as the final destination via Atlantic Coast Air Services, Heanton Court aerodrome, Braunton nr Barnstaple, North Devon. A very few Pitman covers with Large Map bisects are from other origins and at least one bisect has been reported on non-Pitman mail (on a postcard).

Canadian First Flight Covers.

These first flight covers were from Rimouski, Quebec to Natasquan, Rimouski to Sept-Isles and Rimouski to Harrington Harbour on Dec 17 1936; and from Harrington Harbour to Rimouski on Dec 18.

All the covers have the same ACAS cancel date (18 Feb 1937). Upon arrival on Lundy on Feb.23 (apparently there was some delay probably due to stormy weather) Felix Gade affixed the Lundy half puffin and applied the Lundy Bb cancel. (Fig. 1)

Table 1 lists the 12 known/reported covers in this series. If we assume that each pair of bisects was affixed to a cover, we can match 4 pairs, i.e., 8 covers. That leaves 4 covers which cannot be matched. That suggests at least 16 covers were mailed in this series.

Table 1 Tristan da Cunha Series of 'Pitman' Covers with ACAS Large Map Bisects

Details	Bisect	Half	Match?	Ref.*
ONE PENNY bisects	Diag. TR-BL	Upper	No	RC
	Diag. TL-BR	Lower	Yes	RD
	Diag. TL-BR	Upper	No	JW
	Diag. TL-BR	Upper	No	GF
	Diag. TL-BR	Upper	Yes	CP
	Diag. TL-BR	Lower	Yes	CP
	Diag. TR-BL	Upper	Yes	CP
	Diag. TR-BL	Lower	Yes	CP
	Diag. TL-BR	Upper	Yes	MT
	Diag. TL-BR	Lower	Yes	BC
	Diag. TR-BL	Lower	No	LL

* see References

Tristan da Cunha Covers

A batch of Pitman covers was dispatched from Tristan da Cunha on HMS Carlisle in 1937. The three covers for which details are available (Table 2) each have a Tristan da Cunha circular undated cachet (Gibbons type C9) in blue; British stamps making up the 1½d rate with a LONDON F.S. /PAQUEBOT cancel March 30 1937; 'Large Map' bisects. Two covers are ONE PENNY bisects; one cover has two halves of a HALFPENNY bisect (Fig. 2). All have the ACAS 'winged motif' cancel dated 1 April 1937; and finally, the Half Puffin Lundy stamp with 'boxed puffin' cancel dated also 1 April 1937.

The two ONE PENNY bisects are not a matching pair. Duane Larsen in a personal communication indicated he has a One Penny bisect and knows that the matching half was sold in the Rev. Gene Scott's Tristan da Cunha collection circa 2005, probably to another Tristan collector. Therefore, we can assume there were at least 7 bisect covers in the batch.

Other Origins

A pair of Pitman-prepared covers posted from S.S. Manhattan to Lundy have matching vertical bisects of the Half Penny "Large Map" (which represents an under-rating of the half-penny ACAS fee), are in my collection (Fig 3). Both covers are signed by Commodore A B Randall, the captain. The Manhattan sailed the New York – Hamburg, Germany route from 1931-1939. Hence the barred duplex cancel "U.S. GER. SEA POST" dated Feb 24 1937. The ACAS cancel is 23 March 1937 and the Lundy cancel is the same day.

George Fabian shared a scan of a ONE PENNY bisect on an Australian first day cover of the 1d and 2d stamps: the first two definitive values of George VI's reign. Cancelled Enmore, New South Wales 10 May 1937, ACAS cancel 16 June 1937 and Lundy cancel of same date.

Michael Thompson (2007) published a scan of a postcard from Lundy to Ilfracombe with a small bottom horizontal part of the One Penny Large Map with ACAS cancel Cc (unboxed) of 14 Sep. 1937 and the Lundy ½ puffin with Bb cancel of Sep 13. The address side has George VI 1d stamp with Braunton double-circle cancel of 14 Sep.

This article identifies and details 17 examples of ONE PENNY bisects (18 including Duane Larsen's Tristan bisect), 8 of these can be matched as pairs. Assuming that both halves of all bisects (with the exception of the postcard) were used on covers there would be at least 9 covers with bisects to be documented. The author would love to receive a scan of any bisect which has apparently not been detailed above. (chaspovey@aol.com).

Acknowledgements:

Thanks to Roger Cichorz, Rich Drews, George Fabian, Duane Larsen and Lars Liwendahl for contributing information and scans of covers.

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Gibbons Auction 1998
Larsen, D pers comm 2021
Liwendahl, L (LL) pers comm 2022
Povey, C (CP) personal collection
Seybolt, P 1980 LCCPQ #4 Winter 1980 page 1
Thompson, M (MT) 2007 The 1936 'Large map' Issue. Part 2 of Lundy to Devon Airmail Service
Watson, J (JW) 1969 The Puffin 19 page 6

Figures

1. 'Pitman' Canadian First Flight cover Harrington Harbour to Rimouski Dec 18, 1936, addressed to Lundy. Received at Atlantic Coast Air Services 18 Feb. where One Penny Large Map was bisected to provide the halfpenny carriage fee and fit the limited space available. After a delay to 26 Feb. (probable weather related) the cover received Lundy stamp and cancel.
2. 'Pitman' cover Tristan da Cunha to Lundy with a Halfpenny ACAS 'Large Map' bisected to fit available space without obstructing other features. One of a small series of 'Pitman' covers from Tristan carried on HMS Carlisle, received in London (Foreign Section Paquebot cancel 30 March 1937), ACAS cancels 1 Apr 1937 and received on Lundy the same day.
3. 'Pitman' cover USA to Lundy posted on board the SS Manhattan and with ship's duplex cancel Feb. 24 1937, signed by the captain, Commodore Randall with bisected Halfpenny (under-rated!) ACAS cancelled 23 March 1937 and Lundy half puffin cancelled on Lundy the same day.

Table 2 Tristan da Cunha Series of 'Pitman' Covers with ACAS Large Map Bisects

Details	Bisect	Half	Match?	British Stamps	Ref.*
ONE PENNY bisect	Diag. TR-BL	Upper	No	George V 1 1/2 d 1934	GA
	Diag. TL-BR	Lower	No	George V 1/2d Edward V111 1d	RC
2 x HALFPENNY bisects on cover			Yes	George V Jubilee 1½ d	CP

* see References



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3

A Lundy Spanish-Text Abbott Pentothal Postcard

By Roger Cichorz

In my Abbott Pentothal article in TNPJ Issue No. 74, I stated there was only one Lundy 'G' card with Spanish text recorded, but its destination (probably Argentina) and present whereabouts are unknown.

After that article was written in 2019 for Jon Aitchison's Sixth Edition Lundy Catalogue, a Lundy collector in the U.K. reported to Tom Fortunato, who maintains the "Dear Doctor" Postcard Collector Page Website (<http://www.deardoctorpostcards.com/>), the Lundy 'G' card illustrated here. Surprisingly, this card is addressed to a doctor in Spain – a previously unrecorded destination for Abbott Pentothal Spanish-text cards as all the others are addressed either to doctors in Spanish-speaking South American Countries (primarily Argentina, but also to Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Peru, and Uruguay) or, less often, to doctors in Cuba, Mexico, Panama, and Puerto Rico.

This card has the same Lundy and G.B. postmark dates of 16 APR 62 as the previously recorded 'G' card on Fortunato's Website, which had no destination cited, so this may be that same card or a second example. Incidentally, this Lundy card is no longer the only Abbott Pentothal card recorded to Spain, as I subsequently acquired a Singapore Spanish-text (coincidentally also a 'G') card addressed to Barcelona.

The only recorded Lundy Pentothal Portuguese-text 'E' card, which happens to reside in my collection, is addressed to Rio Negro, Brazil, postmarked Lundy 9 APR 62 and Bristol 10 APR 62, and is illustrated here for the record. Brazil is a rare destination as all the other Abbott Pentothal Portuguese-text cards in my collection and most recorded on Fortunato's Website are addressed to Portugal.



Lundy Marine Festival

By James Thomas

From 14th July 2022 to 11th September 2022, Lundy celebrated 50 years of Lundy Marine Conservation with a Marine Festival.

To help to celebrate the occasion Lundy issued a special postmark and first day of use cover. The postmark was used on all mail with stamps using black ink throughout the Festival period and was withdrawn at the end of business on 11th September.

The First Day of use cover which is illustrated below has a pair of 90p stamps from the 2021 *Lundy Field Society 75 Years* set. Each cover cost £4.50 plus postage and packing and can be purchased direct from Lundy.

