

THE NEW PUFFIN JOURNAL



SUMMER 2026

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Front Cover: The damaged beach road.
See Mark's article on page 5.
Photo by Mark McShane

The Manager's Post

On Sunday afternoon, following the conclusion of our summer meeting on 2 August, Rosie and I walked along the quay in Bideford. The warm, bright weather and the sight of people wading across the River Torridge made for an idyllic end to the weekend. Looking out over that perfect summer scene, I reflected on an excellent few days spent with like-minded LCC members and felt a strong sense of accomplishment as our 2026 summer weekend drew to a close. I had looked forward to the event for months, fretting since May about the weather and whether the Lundy day trip would proceed.

The day trip proved a great success, and the Sunday meeting, with its annual competitions and a well-supported auction, provided a fitting conclusion to our 2026 calendar of in-person events. It was a tremendously enjoyable and productive day.

Although much of the year still lies ahead, the Lundy Collectors' Club has already experienced one of its busiest and most ambitious periods since the Spring *Journal*. Working closely with the management team, we have aimed to offer more to our current members while also appealing to prospective collectors who may wish to join our friendly and welcoming community. We have produced three journals and held live meetings to ensure members receive value and opportunities to come together. Our 70th anniversary celebrations, including commemorative souvenirs, have been warmly received, and we hope to continue offering LCC items in future. I am especially grateful to Lundy Stamp & Postal Advisor Lars Liwendahl and Lundy Postmistress Sam Scantlebury for enabling the servicing of the LCC 70th anniversary cover included in this *Journal*.

Our strong social media presence, continually developing website, and increased visibility through ABPS, alongside a welcome growth in word-of-mouth interest within philatelic circles, have all contributed to rising membership. We now stand at 103 members across the UK and internationally. Requests for LCC displays on Lundy have also begun to arrive, reflecting the enthusiasm and dedication of everyone who helps promote both the Club and Lundy as our shared collecting interest.

Finally, I would like to thank all members who reach out and correspond with me. I thoroughly enjoy receiving your emails, and it is genuinely rewarding to connect with so many of you. Please continue to share your thoughts, comments, or simply say hello. It is you the members who make the LCC the success it is, and I am grateful for your support as I continue my own journey with the Club.

Best wishes,

Mark McShane
Club Manager



Mark with new member Liz Barrett at St Helen's Centre at our Lundy day trip open day

Upper Beach Road Repairs – *Mark McShane*

Some of our members may not be aware that a section of the upper beach road on Lundy experienced a structural failure (*see photo on front cover*). This has impacted the movement of heavy loads on the road and limited traffic to quad bikes and pedestrians only. During our day trip to Lundy on 1 August, I was speaking to Managing Director, Derek Green, who was explaining the significant repair works that are involved in returning the beach road to normal heavy load traffic. It is a tribute to the island staff that day trippers and staying visitors can still be accommodated without any noticeable changes.

From a recent news update from The Marisco Club, the estimated cost of the repairs is in the region of £250,000, with works expected to take up to 14 weeks to complete. This means that disruption is likely to continue for much of the remainder of the summer season. That update did ask for any extra financial support to the Lundy Fund from friends and supporters of Lundy would be really appreciated. You can donate directly to The Lundy Fund to help us ensure the island remains accessible and safe for the future.

To donate you can follow this link:

<https://www.landmarktrust.org.uk/lundyisland/support-us/supporting-lundy/>

A Refresh of the Club Competitions

For philatelic collectors who are also members of other philatelic societies, the significance of the annual competition is readily understood. It generates genuine interest while providing an opportunity to showcase items from members' collections that may not have been previously exhibited.

The Lundy Collectors' Club competition has four categories that cover a wonderful range that can showcase all the areas of Lundy collecting. The competitions are normally held during the summer meeting that is currently held in Bideford. While this meeting can be strongly attended, we do appreciate that travelling to Devon for the weekend from ant locations in the UK can be a lengthy excursion, with similar travel complexities for our international members.

To align with the club's decision to hold a meeting annually in Bideford, the annual competitions will now be open all the membership, ensuring the competitions are more inclusive and category submissions remain strong and competitive. Those not attending in person can submit scans of their submissions. We will also retire the competition trophies and introduce LCC award certificates that will be presented to the category winners. The refreshed LCC annual competition will now look as follows:

- **The Stanley Newman Award for Lundy Stamps**
- **The Julie Lester Award for Lundy Postal History**
- **The R.E. Allen Award for Lundy Postcards, Literature and Ephemera**
- **The Keith Hand Award for Lundy Photography**

The previous Stanley Newman Lundy philately category has been updated for Lundy stamps, which will better define content for that category. Numbers of sheets required for each category: Lundy stamps (formerly Lundy philately) 1 sheet as per previous years. The remaining three categories should contain between two and six sheets.

Remote competition entries should be sent to secretary.lundyclubclub@gmail.com with the closing date set to one week before the date of the meeting that the competition will be held. Scanned copies of the entry sheets should be submitted; however, if members do not have access to a scanner, then good quality photos of the sheets can be accepted. Remote entries will be printed off and displayed at the meeting. Members present at the meeting will vote on all submitted entries. Members with remote competition submissions that win a category will have their award certificate mailed to them.

Winners of **The Keith Hand Award for Lundy Photography** will have their entries showcased, with their permission, on the cover of TNPJ and we will also introduce a special LCC summer postcard with a winning entry on the front.

***This is to certify that Lundy Collectors' Club
member _____***

Has been presented:

***The Keith Hand Award for
Lundy Photography***

Date: _____

Manager: _____



***This is to certify that Lundy Collectors' Club
member _____***

Has been presented:

***The Stanley Newman
Award For Lundy Stamps***

Date: _____

Manager: _____



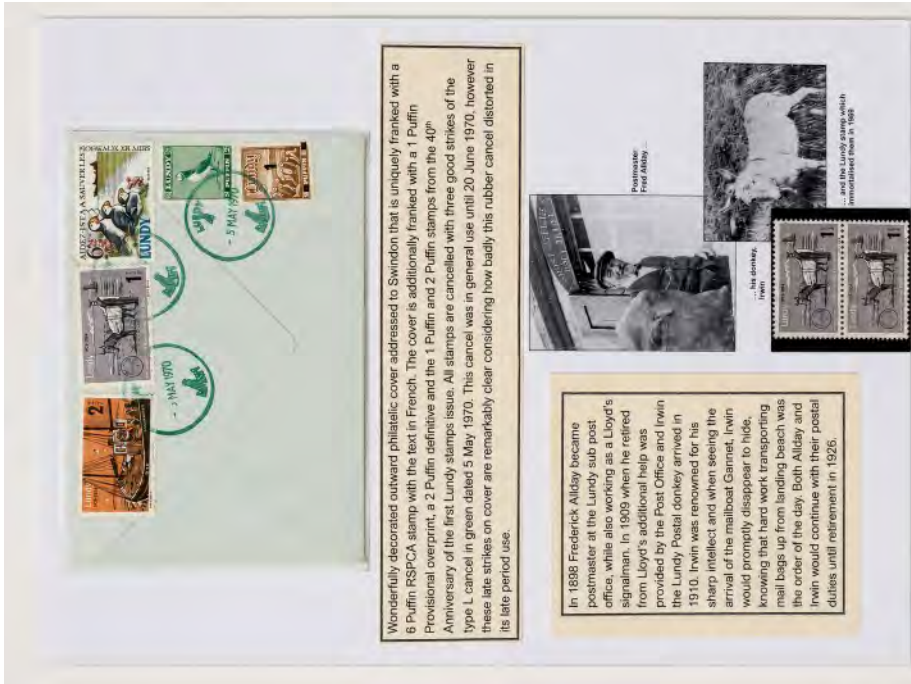
Lundy Collectors' Club Members' Activity Report

The promotion of Lundy philately has continued through a number of external exhibitions and society meetings. On 14 March club member Mark McShane presented displays of Lundy stamps and LCC-produced private label material at the Annual Seminar of the Association of Essex Philatelic Societies and subsequently on 1 June at Basildon Philatelic Society, where the 1954 Silver Jubilee Airmail with Dates issue received particular attention.



LCC members Jon Aitchison and Mark McShane also participated in a joint meeting of the Cinderella Stamp Club and the Revenue Society on 6 June. Presentations included pre-local post postal history, correspondence connected to the Heaven family, examples of Lundy's distinctive Thimble cancellations, and a specialist study of the 1967 *Save the Seabirds* issue.

L to R: Mark & Rosie McShane, Jon Aitchison





André showing 'Le village vu du haut du clocher de l'église Sainte-Hélène' (the village from the bell tower of St Helen's Church)

LCC member André Dufresne gave a presentation on 18 April 2026 to the Quebec Academy of Philatelic Studies. This talk explained how the 'Lord of Lundy', Martin Coles Harman, dismissed the British postal service in 1927 and created his own private postal system in 1929. The presentation emphasised that the Lundy Postal Service is the longest running private postal service in the world with its own unique stamps available on the island.

At the Cinderella Stamp Club July meeting at the Royal Philatelic Society London, Mark McShane entered the annual Glass Slipper one frame competition with a display titled 'Unissued, Unrecognised, Then Valid - Lundy's 3 Puffin "Bureau" Stamp, 1988-1990'. The back story to this stamp and the brief Lundy Philatelic Bureau period is very interesting and this display explored the stamps conception, the Bureau's role and how the stamp went from unissued through to final postal validity. The competition was very well represented and following voting by those attending the meeting, Mark's display was joint first, ending as runner up once the vote tally was counted based on 1st, 2nd and 3rd preference votes.

Stamp Collector Magazine Highlights Lundy as a Serious Collecting Field

The April 2026 issue of *Stamp Collector* included a four-page **Collect by Country** feature written by LCC member and long-time Lundy collector Christer Brunström. The article presented Lundy philately as a compact but remarkably rich collecting area, noting that since the first two issues of 29 November 1929 the island has produced just over 400 stamps.

Christer began by addressing a misconception familiar to many Lundy collectors: that Lundy stamps are somehow 'bogus' or merely souvenir labels. He argues the opposite, stressing that Lundy's postal service has fulfilled a genuine role for almost a century by linking the island community with the North Devon mainland. The distinctive 'Puffin' currency is explained through the island's identity and name,

How to Collect Lundy Island

As a long-term collector of Lundy Island stamps, Christer Brunström shares a detailed and personal account of the stamps from this small island in the Bristol Channel.



while the 1-puffin stamp shows a full bird. When additional denominations were added in 1930, the number of birds corresponded to the denominations.

There is another reason for the choice of name for the local currency. There are several theories regarding the name of the island. It is a well-known fact that the names of many British islands are of Norse origin, and I favour the theory that Lundy was named by Vikings arriving from Denmark or Norway 1,000 years ago. Puffin is *lunde* and island *ey* in the language spoken by Norsemen. If we put these two words together, we get Lundy or Puffin Island, which seems to be a very neat explanation of the island's name.

Lundy has always been famous for its

widely associated with the Norse-derived idea of 'Puffin Island.' The early half-puffin and one-puffin definitives are used to illustrate how the bird quickly became central to Lundy's stamp design.

The article usefully places the stamps within Lundy's wider history. It touches on William de Marisco and Marisco Castle, the Heaven family and St Helena's Church, and Martin Coles Harman, the island's colourful 20th-century owner often dubbed the 'King of Lundy.' Harman's role in the closure of the former GPO office, the introduction of the island's own postal arrangements, and the later sale to the National Trust are all brought into the philatelic narrative.

Modern Lundy postal operations are also clearly described. Visitors must use Lundy stamps for the island-to-mainland service and also pay the appropriate Royal Mail charge for onward delivery. The article highlights the island shop and post office, the role of the Marisco Tavern, and the practical realities of mail carried by boat or, in winter, helicopter. A 2025 cover delayed by stormy weather is used to show how contemporary Lundy postal history continues to produce collectable material.

Christer also draws attention to the people behind Lundy philately, including Felix Gade, John Dyke, Lars Liwendahl and Jon Aitchison. The piece concludes by directing readers towards the Lundy Collectors Club, *The New Puffin Journal*, and the detailed catalogue *The Stamps and Postal History of Lundy Island*.

Summer Day Trip to Lundy

Mark McShane

The Lundy Collectors' Club enjoyed a truly memorable day trip to Lundy, blessed with fantastic weather that set the tone for a warm and cheerful outing. Although our group was small, every member arrived with great enthusiasm, eager to make the most of the visit. The crossing aboard Oldenburg was wonderfully smooth, giving us time to relax, chat, and enjoy the sunshine as we sailed toward the island.

We arrived on time and made the familiar walk up the landing beach road, noting the damage to the upper section. Once at St Helen's Centre, we quickly set up for our open day. The atmosphere was lively from the start, with a steady flow of visitors keen to learn more about Lundy and the work of the LCC. Conversations were warm and engaging, and it was a pleasure to share our passion for Lundy stamps, postal history, and the island's unique heritage.

While some members staffed the centre, others set off to explore the island, some enjoying the glorious weather, others hunting for letterboxes and taking in the scenery.



Among our visitors were several notable guests, including the Rector of Lundy, Revd Jane Skinner (*above*), Lundy Company Managing Director Derek Green (*left*), and fellow LCC members Liz Barrett and Richard Breese. Their interest and support added greatly to the day.

Throughout the afternoon, we handed out plenty of information and spoke to many enthusiastic visitors. The level of curiosity about Lundy and its stamps was heartening, and we hope that several of those we met will soon join our friendly club.



As the late afternoon approached, everyone began preparing for the return sailing. A flurry of postcards and mail was sent off, always a highlight of any Lundy trip. The journey back to Bideford was pleasant and relaxed, and we were greeted by more LCC members on arrival. It was a fantastic and thoroughly enjoyable day, filled with good company, sunshine, and shared enthusiasm. We are already looking forward to next year's visit.

Summer Meeting Report

Mark McShane

After a long and unforgettable day on Lundy, members were up early once again for the Sunday meeting at the Penthouse Suite, Durrant House Hotel, Bideford. The room filled quickly as members arrived to set up for the bourse and the warm atmosphere was immediately evident. Morning coffee fuelled lively conversations, catch-ups and a brisk trade at the bourse tables. With the auction lots available for viewing, the morning soon became a busy and engaging start to the day.

Sharon Read looking over the bourse tables



At 11am sharp, Meetings Chair David Elliot called everyone to order. Several club announcements followed, including a heartfelt thanks to former Club Secretary James Thomas for his many years of dedicated service. The judging of the club competitions then began. Entries across all four categories were impressively supported, and members congratulated the winners for their exceptionally presented displays.

Meeting Chair David Elliot keeping the meeting on track



Before lunch, several fascinating items were shown. Jon Aitchison presented three intriguing postcards and invited members to help determine whether they were official Lundy issues. Mark McShane followed with a Lundy cover carried by Zeppelin, outlining the history of the two known Zeppelin carried Lundy covers (an in-depth article on Lundy Zeppelin mail will appear in the winter *Journal*). Mark also displayed a complete set of full sheets from the 1929 and 1930 issues (1–5), sharing his ongoing efforts to establish how many full sets survive in collections, with at least one known example held by a collector in the United States.

After lunch, anticipation built for the auction. Jon Aitchison had assembled a remarkable selection of 250 lots, including prestigious items from Roger Cichorz's collection. Bidding was energetic and competitive, with several notable results, most strikingly, the 1940 Red Cross surcharged set (30–37) first day cover, reserved at £600, which achieved an impressive £1,360. Julie Lester worked tirelessly assisting the auctioneer and distributing lots to successful bidders.

As invoices were finalised, members enjoyed more conversation before offering their farewells. With 25 attendees at the Sunday meeting and glorious weather enabling the first Lundy day trip in several years, the weekend was a resounding success, surely a benchmark for future gatherings when we return to Bideford.



The impressive Red Cross first day cover which attracted lively bidding, finally selling at £1,360

2026 Annual Competitions

As described on page 6, this year saw a change to the competitions to revitalise the event and to make it as inclusive as possible for all the members, with remote entries now being accepted. Following that change and with active promotion of the competitions in the run up to the summer weekend meeting, this year's competitions were hugely successful. Over the four categories we had five remote entries and in total there were sixteen entries received, giving the meeting attendees much content to review and serious deliberation over very high quality material. Meetings Chair David Elliot announced the winners at the meeting, listed for each category:

- **The Stanley Newman Award for Lundy Stamps:**
ANDRÉ DUFRESNE (remote entry) - *Lundy Small Air Stamp in Violet.*
- **The Julie Lester Award for Lundy Postal History:**
MARK MCSHANE - *Transit Ports of Lundy Mail, 1970-1971: The Transition Period.*
- **The R.E. Allen Award for Lundy Postcards, Literature and Ephemera:**
CHAS POVEY (remote entry) - *LCC Lundy Christmas Cards*
- **The Keith Hand Award for Lundy Photography:**
JAMES THOMAS - *A Study of Lundy Landmarks in Black & White.*



*André Dufresne's
winning entry in the
Stanley Newman Award
for Lundy Stamps*

Transit Ports of Lundy Mail, 1970-1971: The Transition Period

Introduction and Purpose

This postal history exhibit studies the handling of Lundy mail during the short but important transition in the island's national mail connection from Bristol to Ilfracombe. The change arose when Devonport became the operating base for the Lundy mailboat, Lundy Gannet, altering the practical routing, port handling and postal treatment of mail carried between Lundy and the mainland. The exhibit examines outward postal routes from Lundy between 1970-1971 to show how this transition is reflected in the mail itself. The exhibit will identify mailboat usage, the actual routes the mail and where the change remains considerable scope for further research into this issue. The intention is to identify Lundy covers, but to demonstrate how the postal route benefited during the changeover period and how the move from Bristol to Ilfracombe can be identified through contemporary postmark evidence, local newspapers and illustrated Lundy News (LNX) archival material.

Scope

The exhibit is limited to Lundy mail handled to or from mainland transit ports during 1970 and 1971, with emphasis on the movement from the established Bristol connection to Ilfracombe as the new operational base of the Lundy Gannet.

Philatelic Significance

This was a brief but significant transitional change in the postal history of Lundy. Because the transition occurred over a short period, dated covers are clearly attributable (with marriage and important) for establishing the sequence of change. The exhibit also shows places particular emphasis on material that can be tied to a specific transit port, sailing date, or handling activity.



Outward cover to Bristol, England, representative of mail transited through Bristol, via the Lundy Mailboat. This was the Lundy Mailboat. The back has a 1970 2 pence definitive cancelled using the type 1 canceller (which was used in December 1970). Interestingly, the receipt on the reverse of the Lundy stamp was sufficient to allow the cover to be returned to sender, with a second 2 pence definitive and type 2 canceller, dated 05 October, this time in green ink on the front.

Lundy Gannet Returns and transfers to Ilfracombe

Further articles from The South Devon Journal dated 17 April 1970 stated that the vessel was still undergoing repairs following the long maintenance period and once back in service, it would return to the Ilfracombe. The cover above, however, has been cancelled at Ilfracombe on 18 April 1970, which could indicate that this was the first outward mail from Lundy carried by Lundy Gannet to its new transit port.



Outward the Westminster 20 Boat has 40 Machine with Ilfracombe cancel dated 18 April 1970. The back has a 1969 2 pence 40th Anniversary stamp, and the Lundy Gannet is depicted on its return to mailboat service. Usually the date from the type 1 canceller is also 18 April 1970, both date of dispatch from Lundy and processed through Ilfracombe being on the same day.

Extracts from Mark McShane's winning entry in the Julie Lester Award for Lundy Postal History category

LUNDY CHRISTMAS CARDS

This exhibit is selected pages from a collection of 41 sheets of greetings cards associated with Lundy and its personalities



A two-colour proof of a John Dyke linocut on thick card.

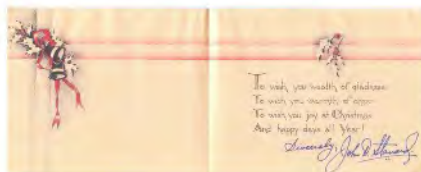
The 'Dyke' signature is indistinct above the boldy in the top right. Probably from the 1950s

Chas Povey LCC Aug 2026

LUNDY CHRISTMAS CARDS

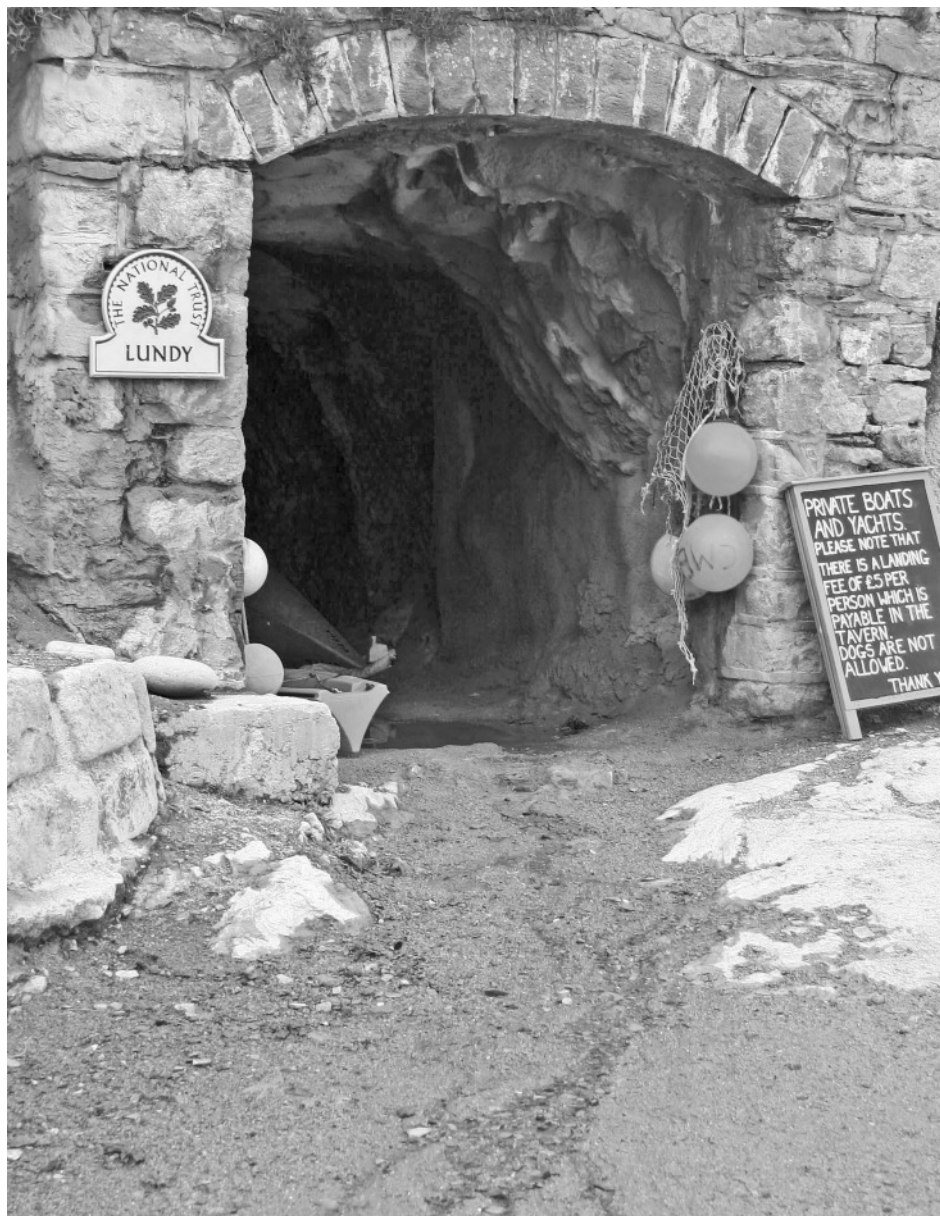
The earliest card in the collection, from the American Lundy collector, author and dealer, J. D. Stannard, circa 1939.

The original picture with affixed Lundy stamps is in my collection and indicates 100 cards were produced. The scan of the inside greeting is reduced in size.



Chas Povey LCC Aug 2026

Extracts from Chas Povey's winning entry in the R.E. Allen Award for Lundy Postcards, Literature and Ephemera category



*Part of James Thomas' winning entry in the **The Keith Hand Award for Lundy Photography** category*

The winning entries can be seen in full on the LCC website. Visit <https://www.lundycollectorsclub.org.uk> and click 'Club Competitions' in the 'Quick Links' on the left of the screen.

Future Programme

As we continue to refresh our outlook and seek to engage with as many of our club members as often as possible, the schedule for club meetings is following that ambitious goal and evolving to an increased frequency. We have also looked at where our UK membership reside and how we can hold future meetings in locations that have the lowest estimated mean travel time, which turns out to be central Bristol. The next closest locations recommended for fairness in travel time was the Gloucester-Cheltenham area. The venue for this year's Spring meeting at Easter Compton turns out to be a fortuitous choice as it aligns with the analysis of locations for its proximity to central Bristol.

An annual weekend meeting (Saturday Lundy day trip and Sunday club meeting with annual competitions) at Bideford will be held, regardless of whether the club is running the 5-day Spring visits to Lundy. Devon remains the centre of gravity for our UK membership, with 22% residing in that county. Bideford meetings will also have a refreshed venue and the intention is to relocate to **The Burton at Bideford Art Gallery and Museum**, beginning at the summer 2027 meeting. We will also continue to look for ad hoc opportunities at events such as large stamp fairs held regionally where meeting rooms are available. Members' feedback on our meetings, locations and venues is always welcome, so please do reach out if you have any suggestions.

This new meeting schedule will follow this revised cadence:

- Years with spring Lundy visit: Summer weekend Bideford + Autumn meet Easter Compton.
- Years with no Lundy visit: Spring Easter Compton + Summer weekend Bideford + Autumn meet Gloucester/Cheltenham range.

Forthcoming meetings for the remainder of this year and for 2027 are:

Saturday 12 September 2026: Zoom meeting, *Lundy Collectors Club Souvenir Material Over the Years*, presented by guest speaker David Boyd starting at 6.00pm British Summer Time (1000 Pacific Daylight Saving Time; 1300 Eastern Daylight Saving Time; 1900 Central European Summer Time). Zoom joining details will be emailed to members.

Saturday 7 November 2026: Zoom meeting, *Lundy Mail To/From Destinations/Origins Other Than The United Kingdom*, presented by LCC member Sid Morginstin starting at 6.00pm GMT (1000 Pacific Standard Time; 1300 Eastern Standard

Time; 1900 Central European Time). Zoom joining details will be emailed to members.

Saturday 6 February 2027: Zoom meeting, *Bring, Show & Tell*, starting at 6.00pm GMT (1000 Pacific Standard Time; 1300 Eastern; 1900 Central European Time). Zoom joining details will be emailed to members.

15-19 March 2027: 4-night visit to Lundy, including meetings, events and auction. The reserved accommodation is for Members only. Anyone on the island at the time is welcome to come to the events. Pre-bookings and deposits are now being accepted – please contact the manager. Note that 50% of the pre-booked accommodation has now been reserved.

Early May 2027: Zoom meeting, details TBA.

Summer 2027 weekend meeting (exact date TBC once the 2027 day trip Oldenburg timetable is published). Day trip to Lundy on Saturday and club meeting on Sunday. The proposed new venue for the Sunday meeting is The Burton Art Gallery, Bideford. Full address: Burton Art Gallery, Kingsley Road, Bideford, EX39 2QQ

Saturday 30 October 2027: Autumn meeting at The Halls, Easter Compton with club bourse, members displays and club auction. Full address: The Halls at Easter Compton, Main Road, Easter Compton, BS35 5SJ.

New Lundy Stamp Issue for 2027 Announced

At our inaugural zoom meeting in May, the Lundy Stamp and Postal Advisor, Lars Liwendahl, formally announced to the members that the Lundy Postal Service will issue a new stamp in March 2027. To make this new issue even more special for the LCC, the date of issue will coincide with our five day visit.

According to Lars, the new stamp issue is progressing and our visit will undoubtedly be another very special event. We currently have 50% of the accommodation for March 2027 booked, and members wishing to reserve their stay should contact the club manager.

TNPJ Reviewed

This review has been reproduced by kind permission of Xanthe Page who operates XANTHE'S STAMP MAGAZINE.

Members are encouraged to visit this wonderful stamp blog at <https://www.xanthe.blog/>.



The New Puffin Journal is published by the Lundy Collectors' Club. It is a much smaller magazine than the others I've mentioned and I think it's important to say that it's not a stamp magazine as such, although it always has stamps in it! Members of the Lundy Collectors' Club are interested in all kinds of things and while many focus on stamps some will also collect postcards, coins, photographs, ferry timetables, maps and books – or anything else associated with the island.

The Club is celebrating its 70th anniversary this year, which is obviously very important. You can see this from the cover. The magazine opens with introductions from the editor and the club manager, and then there is an article on “celebrating 70 years of passion, history and community” followed by a detailed programme of the events planned for this year. Some of these are definitely all about stamps, while others are visits to the island. It all sounds really good and makes the club look really outgoing and quite attractive if you're maybe thinking about joining.

The first main article is Lundy Letterbox Review. If you've been to Lundy this will make perfect sense but if you haven't I will explain. There are letterboxes all over the island where you can collect ink stamps on postcards or books. A new permanent letterbox has been set up recently and there was also a mystery about a missing letterbox stamp...

A fascinating five-page article by Lars Liwendahl, who has been involved with designing Lundy stamps for over 35 years, explores the Harman family Lundy Postal Archive, which is now in the British Library. This is an extremely important collection of Lundy postal history that will help future historians learn more about Lundy. It is remarkable that this collection has survived and when Lars calls it “a big box full of history” he is absolutely right. It's not just stamps but also sketches and drawings used in discussions about future issues and a lot of correspondence.

The next article is about postcards created by a publisher called Thomas Burrow (1872-1956). These postcards include one showing the Lundy shop and Lundy lighthouse.

A short article about colour variations with the 1961 Europa stamps is followed by a review of Virtual Stampex 2026. The club had a presence at Virtual Stampex, which resulted in receiving 55 messages and welcoming 120 "visitors". It makes sense that more philatelic clubs will be thinking about how to maintain an online presence and engage with collectors.

For me, the best article in the magazine was another piece from Lars Liwendahl. He describes in detail what it was like to create the recent Lundy Bird Observatory stamps. Lars goes right back to the beginning, telling us about the inspiration for the stamps, working with the artist, deciding how the stamps should look, overcoming challenges with the design, printing, delivery and then creating presentation packs and first day covers! It is the story of a set of stamps and it makes you realise just how much work goes into producing stamps when you're doing it properly.

The artist (Sharon) painted some outstanding images but of course it doesn't end there. There's also the pressure of timescales and deadlines. Lars tells us how everything came together to create a fantastic set of stamps that respects the island's bird life and the work of the observatory.

There is a report of a recent club meeting and photographs of some of the impressive philatelic displays. This was followed by a report from the managing director of the Landmark Trust, which manages Lundy. There wasn't much about stamps in this, but there was a lot of information about staffing, environmental management, the ferry and the renewable energy project. It provided an overview of what is happening in Lundy now and what the Trust's priorities are. I think it might also encourage people to visit Lundy.

Finally, there were brief articles on the 1936-38 "Winged Motif" cancel, an improved system for ordering Lundy stamps and a photograph of what one reader thinks might be the world's largest puffin.

Overall, I was quite impressed with this magazine. As I say, it is not just about stamps but if you are interested in Lundy stamps then it really is a must-read. Like *The Cinderella Philatelist*, I think the writers really care a lot about what they write and some of them have a lot of expertise.

The photography is very good and not only of the stamps. There were some excellent photographs of Lundy itself, the ferry, the Royal Cornwall Show and the recent club meeting.

The content is very "niche" but this is a club magazine so it is always going to be about members' interests. I've rated the other magazines for "value for money" and this has to be the best of all as you can download it for free from the club website if you want.

Xanthe's scores: Expert knowledge: 5/5; Quality of articles: 4/5; Range of topics: 3/5; Magazine design: 4/5; Distinct identity: 5/5; Appeal to young people: 2/5; Quality of images: 5/5; Ease of reading: 4/5; Usefulness for collectors: 4/5; Historical interest 5/5; Originality: 5/5; Value for Money: 5/5; Good for beginners: 3/5; TOTAL SCORE: 54/65.



Mark McShane

Preface

For this series of articles we present an introductory instalment for a regular programme devoted to Lundy collecting. Our aim is to provide a clear, reliable, and practical record of the subjects that have engaged members of the Lundy Collectors' Club across decades, which has been captured and recorded in the *Philatelic Quarterlys* and *The Puffin Journal* series. The material and topics for discussion are intended for collectors, researchers, and those newly interested in Lundy philately and associated ephemera. It is hoped that contributions will be submitted by all our memberships and the series will provide a practical purpose: to inform, educate, identify areas for further research and classify Lundy collecting areas that may warrant further study.

Purpose and Scope

The Lundy Collective Series of articles will be published in alternate journals aimed to support the exchange of knowledge, to encourage refreshed study and to foster a community of collectors who share their passion for exploring Lundy collecting. The articles should be structured to be both instructional and referential. They should emphasise what collectors can observe, how material may be classified and which questions remain open for investigation. The themes should reflect the breadth of Lundy collecting, encompassing technical philately and postal history. But it should cover more than just philately and postcards, ephemera and the visual and social culture of island visits should be other key areas where information sharing can be beneficial to the club. Each theme can be treated as a distinct subject capable of supporting focused study and practical collecting guidance.

Guidance to Contributors

All articles will be curated and presented with appropriate themes commensurate for our specialist journal. As research into any area may sometimes pose a challenge

due to a lack of empirical data, speculative claims should be avoided and it should be indicated where additional member's research would be particularly valuable.

When submitting further work, authors should identify the theme addressed, summarise the primary evidence, and list the specific items or archives consulted. Use precise descriptions, clear provenance where known, and explicit statements of uncertainty where evidence is incomplete. Photographic and plate references must be checked against the original scans. Where possible, include high-resolution images and clear captions.

Looking Ahead

Further articles will follow in this series. They will be educational in purpose and grounded in study of Lundy collecting. Future instalments will expand on Lundy collecting themes, publish new and revised research findings and offer practical guidelines and suggestions for collectors. We invite members to contribute new evidence, to propose topics for study, and to use these pages as a working forum for collaborative research. Our objective is to support careful collecting, to encourage members to explore new areas to consider collecting and to sustain the Club's role as a centre for specialist study of Lundy philately and related material.

Membership News

We're pleased to welcome the following new members who joined since the winter newsletter – a warm welcome to you all!

New UK members:

Jeremy Malinge	Simon Wood	Clive Leslie Brooks
Michael Williams	Graham Soult	Belinda Cox
Adrian Greenway	Richard Breese	James Emptage
Colin Hughes	Ian Parry	Andrew Daglish
David Wiseman	Bev Davies	Philip Milton
Martin Weaver	Bob Gardner	Nicholas Campbell-Mostert
Martin Dyer	Kathy Weston	Karla Gregory
James Smaldon	David Edwards	Liz Barrett

New international members:

Howard J Wunderlich, USA	Bjorn Schoyen, Norway
Peter Dormon, New Zealand	Jerald Zimmerman, USA

Beyond the Main Issues: Revisiting the Collecting Periods of Lundy Philately

Mark McShane

A framework for understanding areas of Lundy collecting

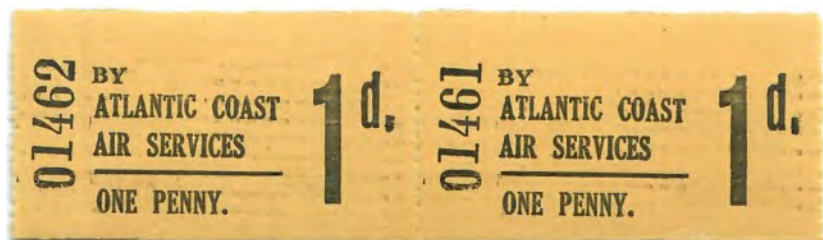
When George Fabian began his celebrated *Puffin Hunter* series, he gave Lundy collectors more than a chronological survey of stamps. He offered a structure. His division of Lundy philately into four broad periods, the **Classic Period**, the **Overprint Period**, the **Philatelic Period** and **The Landmark Trust Period**, remains one of the most useful ways of explaining the subject to new collectors. It provides order where there might otherwise appear to be only a bewildering succession of puffin values, overprints, essays, covers, cancels, cachets and souvenir material.

Fabian's four periods were not rigid catalogue compartments. They were interpretive tools. They helped collectors see why the stamps of one era differ from those of another: why the early issues must be read against postal rates and practical usage; why wartime and post-war overprints form a separate field; why the years before 1969 produced so many proofs and imperforates; and why the change in ownership brought a new administrative and philosophical context.

This article revisits Fabian's framework and suggests that it remains highly valuable. It also argues that some of the less discussed collecting areas within each period deserve greater attention. Finally, it proposes that the broad Landmark Trust Period might now usefully be divided into two or even three phases, with recognition of the Lundy Philatelic Bureau episode and the later modern era of more controlled island-related issues.

The Classic Period, 1929–1939

Fabian's Classic Period begins with the first Lundy stamps of 1 November 1929 and continues through the independent Atlantic Coast Air Services and Lundy and Atlantic Coasts Air Lines material of the 1930s. For many collectors, this period is dominated by the first definitives, the 1930 higher values, Tramtickets, Large Maps and LACAL issues. These are rightly central, but the Classic Period offers several less frequently explored byways.



Pair of One Penny 'Tram tickets' from 2nd Printing, Roll 2

One such field is the study of rate-correct usage. Fabian himself warned that many covers were overpaid for philatelic reasons and that collectors of usage must understand the relevant rate structure. This remains an important point. A single early cover should not be judged merely by the stamps it bears. It should be examined for weight, route, mainland postage, puffinage and whether it represents genuine need or collector construction. Properly studied, even modest-looking ½ puffin and 1 puffin usages can become highly informative.

A second and collector favourite field is inward mail to Lundy. Lundy collecting has often favoured outward covers because they display island origin postal history. Yet incoming mail, especially where Lundy stamps were applied on arrival, provides evidence of how the system worked in practice. These items help answer questions about collection of charges, island handling and the relationship between British postal carriage and Lundy's private charge.

A third field is the study of address, sender and handwriting. The covers of collectors such as Leonard Pitman demonstrate that individual creators shaped the survival of Lundy postal history. Their covers were philatelic, but they were also carefully routed postal documents. Studying the people behind the covers, collectors, pilots, captains, agents and island staff, turns the Classic Period from a stamp sequence into a social history of Lundy mail.

Finally, the cancellers and cachets of the A.C.A.S & L.A.C.A.L. period deserve continuing attention. The Tramtickets and Large Maps are familiar, but the worn, altered and short-lived cancels tell their own story of equipment, regulation and improvisation. The smallest differences in a strike may be evidence of chronology, wear and postal history of the cancels used.

The Overprint Period, 1939–1953

Fabian's Overprint Period begins on 1 November 1939 and continues to the 1953 Coronation overprints. It includes some of the most popular Lundy material: wartime commemoratives, Red Cross issues, Wright Brothers, V + Plane, BY AIR and related varieties.

One less discussed area is the administrative purpose of overprinting. Overprints were sometimes commemorative, sometimes postal, sometimes economic and sometimes philatelic. The collector who studies them only as varieties may miss the wider story. Why was an overprint made? Who authorised it? Was it needed for postal use? Was it sold primarily to collectors? Did it reflect shortage, commemoration or opportunity?



Marisco Castle Postcard with 1951 'BY AIR' wide setting 1 Puffin

The second area is the boundary between official, semi-official and questionable material. The wartime Lundy Philatelic Bureau left a complex legacy. Some material is accepted; some is disputed; some is better treated as essay, proof, reprint or souvenir. New collectors can easily be confused if all such material is presented as equal. A period-based approach helps explain why authority and provenance matter so much in this era.

Postal history of the period also deserves more attention. Wartime transport disruption, changes in air service, suspension markings and transit port routing all add significance to covers. A simple wartime cover may reveal more about Lundy's isolation and communication difficulties, than a spectacular mint variety.

The Philatelic Period, 1954–1969

Fabian named the years from the 1954 Silver Jubilee of the Postal Service to The Landmark Trust takeover as the Philatelic Period because of the large number of imperforates and proofs available to collectors. The term remains apt, but it should not be understood dismissively. This was an era in which Lundy stamps became highly collectible in a deliberate and organised way.

The obvious collecting areas are imperforates, trials, proofs and presentation formats. The less discussed area is the relationship between philatelic production and island identity. Issues of this period were not simply labels for sale. They created a visual language of Lundy: puffins, ships, lighthouses, anniversaries, local history and island symbolism. The study of design development, artwork and presentation material can therefore be as important as the study of finished stamps.

Another under-explored area is first day handling. By this period, philatelic servicing had become more intentional. Covers may therefore be studied not only for stamps and cancels, but for cachet design, addressee patterns, servicing agents and distribution. Such material helps reconstruct the collector network before the modern Lundy Collectors Club.

The end of this period is also significant. The 1969 transfer to The Landmark Trust did not merely change ownership, it changed expectations. It raised questions about what Lundy stamps should be: a postal necessity, a heritage tradition, a revenue source, or a collectible expression of island identity.

The Landmark Trust Period reconsidered

Fabian's final period was the Landmark Trust Period, beginning in 1969 and continuing to his present. At the time, this was a sensible broad category. Today, with more than half a century of additional history, it may be too broad to serve new collectors adequately.

The early Landmark Trust years, from 1969 through the 1970s and into the 1980s, form one distinct phase. This was the era of adjustment, new policy, John Dyke's

influence, island publications, souvenirs, modern publicity and the tension between limited issuing and collector demand. Less discussed collecting areas include postcards, island newsletters, guidebooks, souvenir labels, cachets, stamp booklets, presentation packs and the ephemera of Lundy events. Much of this material is now scarce because it was treated as disposable at the time.

The second phase might be called the Lundy Philatelic Bureau or Bureau-transition era. It is short, but important. The 1988–89 period, including the R.S.P.B. issue, the 3-puffin Bureau stamp and the 60th Anniversary material, exposed difficult questions about authority, validity, communication and collector confidence. This phase deserves separate recognition because it explains why later Lundy policy placed such emphasis on legitimacy, sufficient quantities and fair access.

*RSPB 1989 Sheetlet, 2nd Printing,
Type A*



The third phase may be called the modern era. From the 1990s onward, Lundy issues became more measured, more professionally designed and more closely tied to island anniversaries, conservation, transport, heritage and club events. The 1991 definitive, later reworked in 2002 and revisited in modern form, shows how a design can become part of Lundy's visual identity. Modern collecting is not only about mint sets and first day covers. It also includes postcards, postal stationery, temporary post offices, signed meeting souvenirs, postal-rate changes, helicopter and Oldenburg cachets, and the documentation of how the island now manages its postal service.

Presentation packs are particularly worthy of attention. They bridge stamp collecting, commercial presentation and Lundy publicity and remain a favourite seller in the General Stores shop today with tourists. Variations in size, card, colour, folding and reprinting can be overlooked because they do not fit neatly into stamp album spaces. Yet they show how Lundy material is still marketed and how potential new collectors encounter the stamps.

A modern collector should not assume that recent material is easy. Many event items were produced in small numbers, distributed only to visitors or members, or used briefly. Some modern ephemera may prove harder to find than many older stamps.



Presentation Pack for the '75th Anniversary of the LFS' Stamp Issue

The value of defined collecting eras

Defined collecting eras help new collectors in three important ways.

First, they reduce confusion. Lundy philately can appear chaotic because the same themes recur: puffins, overprints, air mail, proofs, cachets, booklets and special covers. Periods explain why similar-looking material may have very different status.

Second, they encourage balanced collecting. A beginner may be drawn to rare overprints or expensive airmail covers, but a period framework reveals other possibilities: rate studies, incoming mail, presentation booklets, postcards, ephemera, postal stationery, meeting souvenirs and modern postal usage.

Third, they teach judgement. The key question in Lundy collecting is often not "Is it rare?" but "What is it?" Is it postal, philatelic, official, unofficial, experimental, commemorative, bogus, reprinted, postally valid, or merely decorative? A chronological framework gives the collector the context needed to answer that question.

Conclusion

George Fabian's four-period structure remains one of the most useful introductions to Lundy philately. The Classic Period, Overprint Period, Philatelic Period and Landmark Trust Period each describe a real change in production, administration and collecting character. Yet the passage of time now allows us to refine the final category. The Landmark Trust years are best understood as an early transition phase, a brief but important Lundy Philatelic Bureau phase, and a modern era of more controlled, island-conscious issuing.

Such frameworks are not intended to restrict collectors. They are intended to guide them. They help new members understand why Lundy material is so varied, why authority matters, why postal use must be studied carefully, and why some neglected areas may be more rewarding than the familiar headline rarities.

For a specialist club, this is especially important. New collectors need a map before they can enjoy the landscape. Fabian gave us the first clear map. It is now for today's collectors to annotate it, refine it, and use it to welcome the next generation into the rich and sometimes surprising world of Lundy collecting.

You collect what?

Alan Rowland

Just when you think you knew of all items of Lundyana to be collected, here is another one you never thought of.

Since our first visit to Lundy in 1990 we have stayed in the vast majority of properties on the island. We were initially restricted to 3-person properties to accommodate two adults and our youngest son. This meant we booked Square Cottage, Big St Johns or Castle Cottage which is now a 2-person cottage.

We have since stayed in many different sized properties from those accommodating just us two or staying with friends or family anything up to and including 12-person Millcombe and 14-person Barn. We have drawn the line at camping but have stayed in some of the non-bookable properties such as Bartons, the Dairy and the Lodge when undertaking various surveys.

During our stays, I noticed that some of the keys to the entrance doors had distinctive brass key fobs identifying which property they opened and began to brass rub them. My first was not until we stayed in Old House North in 2008. There are a few that I haven't recorded either through them not existing, for example the Vestry, or because we were staying in the property before I thought to record them. There are a few which I have not stayed in – Hammers, Old Light Upper, Old Light Cottage and Brambles West.

It is not until now that I thought to catalogue what I have. There are 24 properties on the island and I have only collected 12 of them. I still need to check half of them out! Below are those I have “collected” so far.



*February
2008*



*April
2011*



*June
2012*



*July
2012*



*April
2013*



*March
2014*



*May
2014*



*April
2016*



*September
2016*



*December
2017*



*April
2018*



*March
2018*

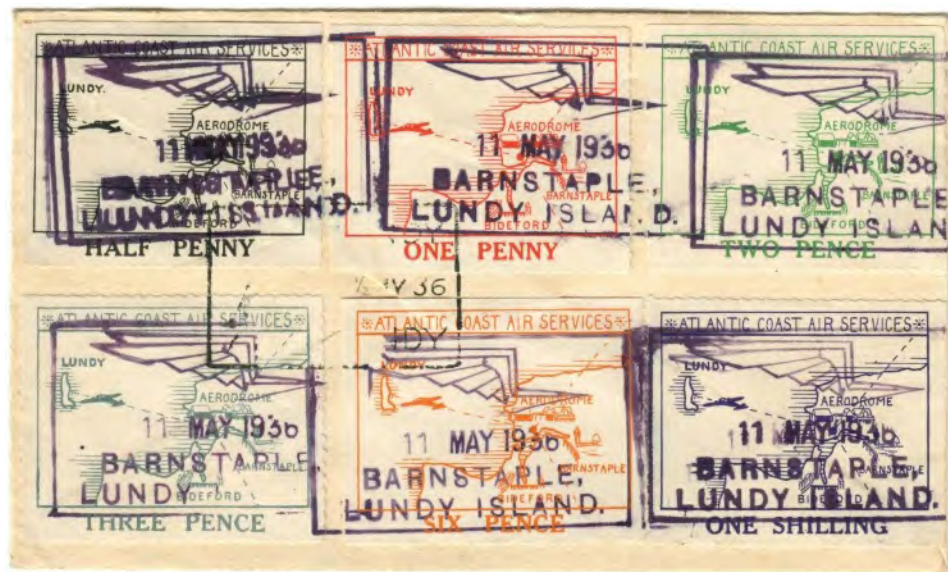
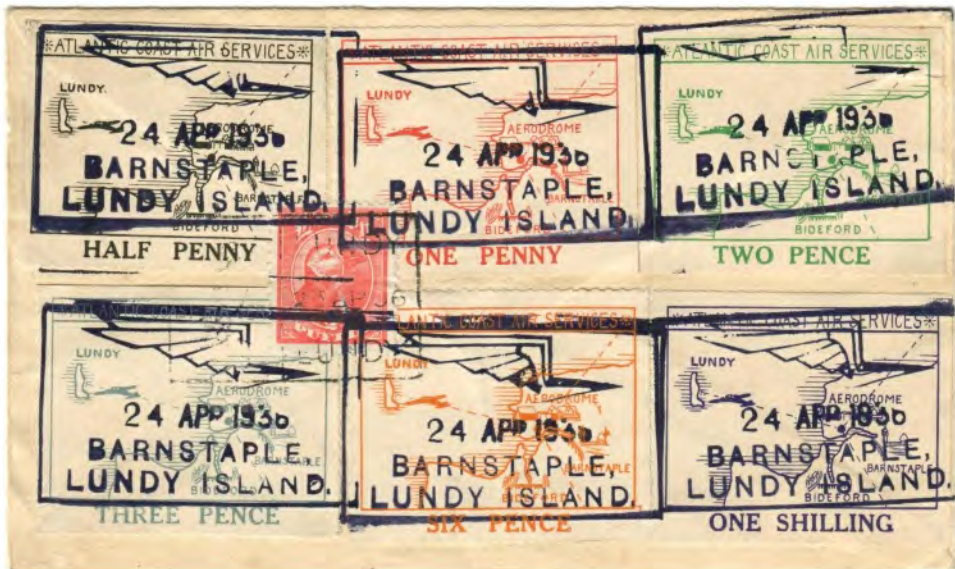
1936-38 'Winged Motif' Cancel – a Follow Up

Mark McShane

In the spring 2026 *Journal*, James Thomas' article on the A.C.A.S. 'Winged Motif' cancel asked if members could contribute further to the supposition that the type Cba cancel was a poorly inked example of the Cb cancel. To help support this inquiry I sent to James the cover with type Cb cancel dated cancelling a half penny and three penny large map labels. The three penny has been cancelled by type Cb and the half penny shows the missing winged motif. Both labelled cancelled on the same cover lends strong credibility to poor inking as the culprit for the missing winged motif and the recording of type Cba cancel.



It is worth looking at further examples of the type Cb cancel in use that can show its handling and construction of the rubber stamp are evident when multiples examples are shown on cover. From the examples on the facing page, the cover cancelled 24 April 1936 clearly shows poor strikes with partial winged motifs visible on multiple labels. The cover cancelled 11 May 1936 shows a progressive decline in the quality of the strikes, which required two double strikes to ensure a proper cancel of the half penny and one shilling labels.



Lundy Field Society Marks 80th Anniversary with Special Letterbox and Painted Village Postbox



The Lundy Field Society has marked its 80th anniversary with a commemorative project that is both modest in scale and deeply rooted in the character of Lundy: a special anniversary letterbox, accompanied by a newly stencilled village postbox. The Society, founded in 1946, has for eight decades supported the study of Lundy's history, natural history and archaeology, alongside the conservation of the island's wildlife and antiquities.

The anniversary year has been recognised more widely through the Society's 2026 programme, including a week of coordinated talks, walks, demonstrations and activities on the island under the Discover Lundy banner. The Society described 2026 as the 80th anniversary of its founding and planned special events to mark the occasion.

At the centre of the commemoration is the new **“Lundy Field Society 80th Anniversary”** letterbox, created in January 2026. The clue directs visitors to a mature oak tree just south of Quarterwall Copse on the Lower East Path, then to a nearby stone carrying a celebratory plaque. In keeping with Lundy's letterboxing tradition, the box contains a commemorative cachet for visitors to collect.

The cachet itself is especially fitting. Commissioned by the Lundy Field Society and designed by Alan Rowland, it shows an oak leaf bearing the number **“80”**, with **“LFS”** above and **“1946–2026”** below. The oak leaf was chosen because oak is traditionally associated with an 80th anniversary, symbolising endurance, steadfastness, deep roots and a solid foundation. As an emblem for the Society, it is particularly appropriate: the LFS has grown from post-war scientific enquiry into a long-standing charitable organisation dedicated to understanding and protecting Lundy.



The choice of a letterbox is also highly significant. Lundy letterboxing is an established island activity: the Landmark Trust describes the island's letterboxes as a treasure trail spread across Lundy, with each hidden box containing a unique rubber stamp for visitors to collect. The anniversary letterbox therefore does more than commemorate a date; it invites visitors to take part in the celebration by walking the island, following clues and engaging directly with Lundy's landscape.

The anniversary has also been made visible in the village itself. The Lundy village postbox has been specially painted with an **LFS 80th anniversary stencil**, turning a familiar island feature into a public marker of the Society's milestone year. This is particularly resonant on Lundy, where postal culture has a distinctive place in island life. Lundy's private postal service was established in 1929, and the island has issued hundreds of its own stamps; around 40,000 items of mail are sent from Lundy each year.

Together, the special letterbox and painted postbox form a thoughtful anniversary tribute. One is hidden in the landscape, to be found by those who follow the clues; the other stands openly in the village, visible to residents and visitors alike. Both draw on Lundy's traditions of exploration, recording and correspondence. In doing so, they celebrate not only 80 years of the Lundy Field Society, but also the island's enduring capacity to connect people with place, history and the natural world.



An addition to Alan Rowland's article on page 29. At the top is a rubbing from the plaque in the sitting room of Old House South which commemorates Felix Gade's legendary work on Lundy

Newspaper Wrappers from Southampton via Lundy

Mark McShane

In Roger Allen's article *John Dyke Newspaper Wrapper*, published in *The New Puffin Journal* of summer 2011, he described a newspaper wrapper addressed to John Dyke at Harbour View, Boscastle. It had been posted from Southampton; the British postage was represented by a Southampton "PAID" circular date stamp dated 15 August 1977. On the reverse was a 1977 Silver Jubilee 10 Puffin Lundy stamp, cancelled in red with a Lundy canceller dated the same day. The explanation was that the wrapper may never have travelled through the Lundy postal system at all. John Dyke might later have asked Felix Gade to place and cancel the Lundy stamp as a favour, possibly with the Lundy date altered. Thus, the article records the item but does not accept it as proven genuine commercial mail from Lundy via Southampton.

Two recent acquisitions add to this puzzling story, with more newspaper wrappers discovered, again cancelled at Southampton and Lundy on 15 August 1977, but with addressees in Romford and Royston. The names on these wrappers are as interesting as the items themselves; David Waters of Romford, was a founding member of the Cinderella Stamp Club (Member No. 1) and Brian Turnpenny of Royston was a former secretary for the British Private Post Study Group. These two prominent philatelists must have collaborated, perhaps along with some other Lundy/Cinderella collectors, to produce these Lundy franked curiosities. John Dyke may have facilitated the Lundy portion of the puzzle and perhaps another will turn up with the name of a known LCC member that will add further details to this story.



André Coutanche

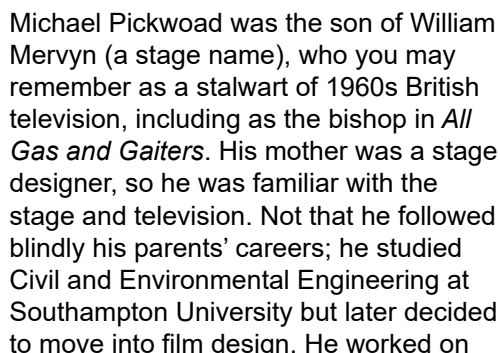


THE OLD LIGHT

From an island outcropping for fishermen and pirates
comes a powerful new
author: never mind that
this Oregon lighthouse
was once a castle!

• No time to read? • No dog required •
• Call for the price and we'll deliver •
• See us at the airport to get there first •

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From 2010 to 2017 he was the Production Designer on *Doctor Who*, during the eras of Matt Smith and Peter Capaldi, for a total of 71 episodes. In 2012 he redesigned the interior of the Tardis for the show's fiftieth anniversary. In 2018, Michael Pickwoad died at the sadly early age of 73, and Steven Moffat, the *Doctor Who* show runner 2010-2017, paid an affectionate and admiring tribute to him at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/blogs/doctorwho/entries/f6239164-b00e-48ea-824f-94ff6de67428>.

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New Lundy Postal Rates April 2026

Lars Liwendahl

In line with the new postal rates from Royal Mail, the Lundy Postal Service issued their revised new postal rates that came into force 4 April 2026. The revised postal rates are listed below.

UK Standard	1st Class		2nd Class	
	Franking	Puffin	Franking	Puffin
Letter				
0-100g	1.77	2.00	0.88	1.10
Large Letter				
0-100g	2.86	3.10	1.52	1.75
101-250g	3.28	3.50	1.81	2.00
251-500g	3.30	3.80	2.30	2.80
501-750g	3.30	3.80	2.50	3.00
Small Parcel				
0-2kg	5.45	6.20	4.25	5.00
Medium Parcel				
0-2kg	8.05	8.80	6.95	7.70
to 10kg	10.05	11.00	8.75	9.75
to 20kg				

International	Europe		World Zone 1		World Zone 2		World Zone 3	
	Franking	Puffin	Franking	Puffin	Franking	Puffin	Franking	Puffin
Letter								
0-100g	3.60	3.85	3.60	3.85	3.60	3.85	3.60	3.85
Large Letter								
0-100g	3.80	4.05	4.60	4.85	4.60	4.85	4.60	4.85
101-250g	6.15	6.40	8.15	8.40	9.55	9.80	8.50	8.75
251-500	7.65	8.15	11.45	11.95	13.90	14.40	12.40	12.90
501-750g	10.25	10.75	19.60	20.10	19.55	20.05	19.85	20.35

International Small Parcels		Europe Zone 1		Europe Zone 2		Europe Zone 3		World Zone 1		World Zone 2	
		Franking	Puffin	Franking	Puffin	Franking	Puffin	Franking	Puffin	Franking	Puffin
0-100g		9.80	10.05	9.80	10.05	12.25	12.50	15.25	15.50	16.25	16.50
101-250g		9.80	10.05	9.80	10.05	12.25	12.50	15.25	15.50	16.60	16.85
251-500g		12.05	12.55	13.60	14.10	15.05	15.55	22.50	23.00	22.85	23.35
501-750g		13.65	14.15	15.30	15.80	17.15	17.65	26.10	26.60	26.05	26.55
750g-1kg		14.90	15.65	16.35	17.10	19.05	19.80	30.15	30.90	29.45	30.20
1kg-1.25kg		15.65	16.40	16.90	17.65	19.40	20.15	33.65	34.40	32.90	33.65
1.25kg-1.5kg		15.65	16.40	16.90	17.65	19.40	20.15	35.85	36.60	35.65	36.40
1.5kg-2kg		16.35	17.10	18.45	19.20	20.95	21.70	36.85	37.60	37.60	38.35

Note: there is no International Small Parcels service to World Zone 3