

HON. SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 1992

Since its foundation, the Field Society has sought to further the study of Lundy, its history, natural history and archaeology; it has encouraged investigation in these fields and endeavoured to aid the conservation of antiquities and wildlife of the island. We welcome the setting up of the Friends of Lundy which has as its aim the formation of a link between the island and its supporters and are pleased to offer our active assistance to the group.

Over the past year the committee has devoted much time and thought to resolving a problem which had arisen between the Landmark Trust and the Field Society. Our Chairman wrote to Sir John Smith expressing regret at any offence which had been given and confirming our continued deep appreciation of the tremendous work done by the Trust in keeping Lundy open to all and in improving its infrastructure. A meeting was held with the Trust to seek means whereby such problems could be avoided in the future and a number of principles were established. Rather than ad hoc get-togethers, which had been the custom in the past, regular meetings will take place between the Landmark Trust and the Society. The Island Agent has been invited to attend all society committee meetings to give immediate attention to matters of mutual interest. Within its means the society will continue to make funds available to the Trust for appropriate endeavours and particularly to support the work of the Warden.

In 1992 grants have been made to Andrew Gibson, the warden, to Paul Smith for further work on the ship or black rat, and to John Schofield for his continuing archaeological investigation. Both regular and short-notice working parties have been organised and led by members and have also received our financial support.

After serving for many years as membership secretary, a post now superseded by the growth of our computerised database, Elizabeth Hubbard was warmly thanked for her work and elected as a full member of the committee. John Walkinshaw has taken over as sales manager for the society and we thank Liza Cole and Tony Langham who have each recently filled the post on a temporary basis.

P.B.F. COLE
APRIL 1993