

HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 2006

The Lundy Field Society proudly celebrated the 60th anniversary of its founding in 2006 and this was the main focus of the committee's activities for the year, with two major events taking place as part of the celebrations.

The first of these events was a week's stay on the Island that encompassed the anniversary date of 27 March. The week was attended by 35 members who enjoyed a full programme of activities. A set of cadastral maps of the Island from 1925 were displayed during the week, thanks to the kindness of Diana Keast. These have since been digitised to preserve them for the future in an alternative form. Hugh Boyd, the second Lundy Field Society warden on the Island, had hoped to be in attendance but was prevented from travelling due to ill health. He did, however, send a lively account of Island life in the 1940's that was presented to the group and has since been reproduced in the Society's newsletter.

The second major event undertaken by the Society during the year was a symposium held at the University of Exeter on 23 September. The symposium, entitled 'Lundy Studies', focused on recent studies of marine, freshwater and terrestrial ecology of Lundy and the archaeology and history of the Island. The event was attended by over 110 delegates, made up of both members and non-members of the Society, and was made possible thanks to a very generous donation from the Society's president, Sir Jack Hayward. This donation will also allow publication of the symposium proceedings, and these are currently in production with a view to publication in 2008.

During the year the Society made a grant of £100 to Tony Taylor to contribute towards the continuation of ringing studies of Manx shearwaters on the Island.

Work continued on improving the Society's library on the Island, with additional titles being added thanks to the kind donations of several members and from the Landmark Trust. Michael Williams has continued to act as Librarian and is now supported by Alan Rowland who was formally co-opted on to the committee as Archivist and Sales Officer.

The colouring book, produced during 2005, has been highly successful and was reprinted during 2006. Some of the drawings from this, kindly donated to the Society by Sharon Read, were used to illustrate an updated version of the membership leaflet which went into circulation in September 2006. It is hoped that this will attract new members and help to improve the profile of the Society.

FRANCES STUART
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