

HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 2008

Following the decision to divide the Annual Report into two publications and the introduction during 2007 of the new format shortened Annual Report, 2008 saw the publication of Volume 1 of the Journal of the Lundy Field Society. Edited by Professor Jennifer George, this first volume of the journal contained eight full papers, covering a diverse range of subjects, and three book reviews. It is hoped that the publication will help to raise the academic profile of the Society. It is envisaged that subsequent volumes will be produced on a two yearly basis with papers already being submitted for Volume 2.

Other LFS publications have continued to sell well, in particular the proceedings of the 2006 "Lundy Studies" symposium and Ann Allen's "Lundy Lichens", with sales through the Society's website and Island shop. Copies of the symposium volume have also been placed in each of the Island properties.

The first of a new series of free leaflets was produced during 2008 as part of an ongoing project to improve interpretation for visitors to the Island. As a member of the Lundy Management Forum, the Society participated in the consultation over the format of the leaflets. We are pleased that our logo is included on the final versions of the leaflets with those of other Forum members including Natural England, the National Trust, Landmark Trust and RSPB.

The Lundy Field Society made three small grants during 2008 to further the study of the Island. These were made to students from Southampton and Exeter Universities who carried out studies on the Pleistocene era deposits of the South West; pygmy shrew populations and puffins. Keith Hiscock was able to complete the fieldwork originally planned for September 2007 during which he re-surveyed the rocky shores originally studied in 1947 by Professor Leslie Harvey.

Work carried out on the Island included dismantling of the Quarter Wall Heligoland trap which had deteriorated beyond repair. The trap on the quarry terrace is still operational and there are plans for this to be refurbished and maintained.

Finally, on a personal note, I would like to express my thanks to Marion Trapnell who took on the role of Minutes Secretary for the committee in March and through doing so has greatly lightened the work load of the Hon. Secretary.

FRANCES STUART
June 2009