

HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT

More than two years in the planning the Discover Lundy week in May and June saw more than 50 members spending a week on Lundy learning about its history and natural history through a series of coordinated talks, walks, demonstrations and activities. After a choppy crossing and a delayed landing on MS *Oldenburg* members and visitors were able to immerse themselves in all aspects of Lundy ranging from archaeology to freshwater biology and including bird ringing, flora, fungi and film shows.

Two social gatherings were held: one in Government House to which islanders were invited and another in the form of a picnic in the beer garden to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. St Helen's Church was used to present the talks, and a film night saw 54 people swelling the pews. My thanks to all the specialists who led the activities and shared their knowledge so freely. Feedback was overwhelmingly positive and another Discover Lundy week is planned for September 2016.

Scientific data was recorded during Discover Lundy and to ensure the continued recording of species on Lundy, a poster was produced under the banner 'What did you see today?' to encourage visitors to encourage visitors to record their observations. With the cooperation of the Lundy Company a copy is on the Tavern notice board and in each of the property folders. Our natural history recorders Tim Davis and Tim Jones added a plants section to the LFS logbook to further encourage recording of flora.

In September, *Protecting Lundy's marine life: 40 years of science and conservation* was published. Profusely illustrated, it describes the major landmarks on the way to the establishment of the Lundy Marine Conservation Zone, and celebrates the success of all of those who have been involved in marine conservation at Lundy over the years. Authored by the two people who have most consistently contributed to the conservation of Lundy's marine life, Keith Hiscock and Robert Irving, it is a fascinating insight into the groundbreaking work that has taken place around Lundy during the past 40 years.

The third volume of the *Journal of the Lundy Field Society* was published in March containing a series of articles that reflect the many and varied studies made on and around Lundy. Work continues on the fungi guide and tremendous progress was made with a book describing the era when Lundy was owned by the Harman family and which will be published to celebrate a significant birthday for Diana Keast, former joint-owner of Lundy and Vice President of the Society.

Trevor Dobie continues to organise the Conservation Breaks on behalf of the Society. 2012 saw two separate breaks during which the groups undertook a huge variety of jobs, including fencing, drystone walling and the burning of rhododendron brash. The LFS volunteers even beat the islanders in a match of indoor bowls in the Lambing Shed!

Also in 2012 we welcomed Belinda Cox and Kevin Williams as the co-editors of the newly rebranded LFS Bulletin, *Discovering Lundy*, containing news and articles about our favourite island. While the Bulletin was printed in black and white, with a colour cover, a full-colour version was made available on the Society website for those with internet access.

Research into cetaceans in the waters around Lundy was partly funded by a Society grant made to Nathalie Squires and Katy Ball of the University of Plymouth, and Chris Rolfe received a grant to further his geological work on the Pleistocene sediments on Lundy.

The Society responded to the consultation on the proposal for a large, offshore wind farm to the north-east of Lundy, known as the Atlantic Array. We expressed particular concern about noise both above and below water level; about sediment disturbance and any siltation that might occur on rich seabed communities; about the uncertainties associated with effects on seabirds and mammals during the operational phase; and about visual amenity in particular. We will continue to engage in the consultation process as and when a formal planning application is made.

We continue to represent the Society, through our Chairman, at the Lundy Management Forum, and we are grateful to Robert Irving who continues to serve as Secretary of the Lundy Marine Conservation Zone Advisory Group.

At the 2012 AGM, we adopted a new constitution which reflects good governance and the requirements of the Charity Commission. We added a Vice Chairman to the officers and formally recognised the Honorary Membership Secretary as an officer. During the year, we held four committee meetings.

MICHAEL WILLIAMS
March 2013

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

I would like to thank members for continuing to pay their annual subscriptions, and also thank those who have sent donations to the Society in addition to their subscription payments. The Society appreciates all donations and is grateful for such kind gestures whether large or small. I would like to take this opportunity to remind Life and Honorary members that they may if they wish also give donations or pay an annual subscription to support the Society's finances.

Current subscription rates

Ordinary £15 Family £18

Subscription rates continue to remain unchanged, but I would be grateful if members would ensure they are paying the correct amount. Please note that the concessionary rate for pensioners and students was discontinued in March 2009 and consequently only members who were paying the concessionary rate before 2009 are entitled to pay the £10 rate. Many who are entitled to pay the concessionary rate do in fact pay the full £15 ordinary rate. My thanks to those members for their continued support.

A reminder that annual subscriptions are due in January. The Society prefers payments to be made by Standing Order and I can provide the necessary forms for anyone wishing to begin paying by that method. For members wishing to continue paying by cheque, please make your cheque payable to 'Lundy Field Society' and send it to me by post to the address given at the end of this report.

Subscription reminders

Forty-nine subscription reminders were sent out in July to members who had not paid their annual subscription. I am pleased to report that as a result 25 members paid their membership fees and remain members of the Society. Those who did not respond to the reminders have now been removed from the membership database and mailing list.