

He was an inveterate collector of books, postcards, ephemera and particularly Lundyana. His home housed his extensive collections about which he wrote prodigiously.

He married his devoted wife Eva, who brought two sons to the marriage, in 1988 and spent their honeymoon in Blue Bung, his watercolour record of which hangs on the wall nearby as I write this.

During his last few years, he was vigorously trying to complete publication of his works. His watercolours and Lundy postcard catalogue date from this period. He has contributed articles for our publications and acted as Honorary Examiner of the LFS annual accounts. I (and Michael Williams and André Coutanche) collaborated with him to publish his penultimate booklet *Lundy Guidebooks* which I was fortunate enough to hand to him in person at the Lundy Collectors Club meeting in Bideford the day before he passed away on 2 July.

We will remember him by the large amount of published articles and books. He leaves a great legacy.

ALAN ROWLAND

Photograph of Roger by Alan Rowland

OBITUARY

A REFLECTION ON THE LIFE OF MARY SQUIRE (né GADE) 1933–2019

We are indeed fortunate that much has been written of Mary's early life on Lundy, particularly by way of 'My Life of Lundy' by Felix, her father, which charts her life.

I first met Mary on the day of her father's funeral when she received great support from those in North Devon with whom her father had been associated and worked with in the latter days of his island life. At that time, the island, although under Landmark lease, still retained the feel and characteristics associated with Harman days. It was a privilege to visit their island, in their homes and to be treated as a friend.

Mary, I am sure, was the 'go to person' for the regularly changing agent and staff – she being once described, somewhat light heartedly, as Lundy's Anastasia. She had an amazing memory and could recall with humour, concern or pathos particular events in detail.



Mary was a strong personality who never lost her father's principle of the island's independence while the gradual increase of legislation resulting in ever reduced freedom was not easily accepted.

Her amusing recall of the Kaaksburg stranding, subsequent loss (fortunately without casualties) and eventual recovery of abandoned contents were well worth a complete volume of island history! Yet her compassion and feelings at the loss of an unknown member of a foreign fishing boat crew, who were ashore for just one evening, were there for all to see.

Her avian knowledge has often been remarked upon, the Society was indeed fortunate she acted as the LFS island representative when she gladly gave enthusiasm and encouragement to others. In the late 1970's, Mary had met Steve Wing on the island, together to become partners for the rest of her life.

The extensive works undertaken by Ernest Ireland under Landmark supervision during the winter of 1981-2 was a time for everyone to contribute and Mary became a surrogate mother to so many during the endeavours of the island staff, contractors and volunteers. A fitting tribute was erected by the entrance to Old House North recording their names, alas now gone and possibly forgotten.

The time came for Steve to leave the island in 1984 and Mary to follow in 1994, both eventually to take positions on Cape Clear, at the southern tip of Ireland. Steve became Warden at the Bird Observatory, most ably assisted by Mary. Mary's good and friendly nature resulted in both of them becoming rapidly involved in the everyday life of the Cape when many long lasting friendships were formed. No more so than an occasion of a surprise memorable birthday for Mary, when some of the Capers arranged a visit of the Irish with Steve and Mary to return to Lundy, ostensibly as both were island communities – a whirlwind three days including travel! The Cape could almost be said to be Lundy of old.

Towards the end of 2017, Mary felt unwell and after consulting a doctor was diagnosed with cancer. She maintained her cheerfulness though all the long trips from the Cape to hospital in Cork for treatment despite the gradual deterioration in her health. She and Steve returned to England where Mary sadly passed away with her family beside her on 20 May 2018. A very large gathering of family and friends attended a Remembrance and Celebration of her life in Barnstaple, where the service sheet held images of Lundy and Cape Clear, during which friends gave a short individual address from both islands.

It is fitting that we also remember at this time Mary's children, Peter, Jane and Annie, with Vince – her husband and the children's father – who passed away shortly afterwards in August.

ROGER CHAPPLE

Photograph of Mary by Steve Wing