

EDITORIAL

2018 was another successful year for Society members and visitors on Lundy making observations. But success has its challenges and the size (144 pages) of the 2017 report was a potential issue for packaging and a challenge for the postal franking machine. There is a temptation to list everything recorded in the logbook or from other sources. What we have tried to do this year is to briefly list the species that have continued to occur in much the same numbers and to catalogue those species that are unusual, special to Lundy or that are showing some trend or highlight in abundance or condition. There will be differences in the style of each section that reflect the type of observations that are made for a group of species: for instance, time of year first observed, abundance, mating behaviours etc. The most conspicuous change from previous reports is the way that colour images are now placed near to their relevant text.

'Harvesting' significant reports of Lundy's wildlife was greatly helped by your entries to the logbook held in the Tavern and removed at the end of each year to be photographed and those images made available to compilers of various sections. It is a continued frustration that possibly significant observations by divers get voiced only on their boat or in the pub ashore afterwards. Last year, I noted that Dean Jones had established a Facebook page (Lundy Marine Sightings) to accept those observations – a few posted observations (mainly the Lundy Conservation Team and Appledore Sub-Aqua Club) but many did not. Perhaps no-one is nudging them.

For the first time, I have used search facilities on iRecord and the National Biodiversity Network Atlas to look-up any records from 'Lundy' in 2018. Some did turn-up but validation procedures and backlogs mean that we are ahead of those entries appearing in time for the compilation of this report.

We didn't quite have time to squeeze-in a series of significant records (collected in 2017) to the Report for 2017 and they have been included in the article by Maxine Putnam in this report. There were 16 lichens recorded for the first time on Lundy.

Whatever you record, it is important to identify yourself including contact details – you may have found something very special!

Thanks to all who contribute reports that keep members up-to-date on the business of the Society and of significant developments on the island. Thanks to all who have recorded their observations, to the section compilers, to Tim Davis and Tim Jones for managing the Tavern logbook, to Dean Jones for extracting and listing many of the logbook records, to those who have written reports and articles. Thanks to the Lundy Shore Office team for undertaking the very significant task of franking and sending-out the report.

If you overhear someone speaking of a fascinating find, do ask them to make an entry in the logbook.

For those 'special' species or observations of behaviour, if you have good quality images that you would be willing to have used to illustrate future reports, please do send them.

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