
Seventy-Sixth Annual General Meeting

You are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting of the Society at The Boniface Centre, CREDITON, EX17 2AH on **Saturday 12th March 2022**. Doors open at 12.00 noon and the meeting starts at 1.00pm. We hope you will be able to join us to renew friendships and meet other members of the Society.

Agenda

Welcome from the Chairman

Obituary

- 1. Apologies for absence**
- 2. Minutes of last AGM**
- 3. Matters arising**
- 4. Officers' reports**
 - a. Honorary Secretary
 - b. Honorary Treasurer including Endowment Fund report
 - c. Honorary Membership Secretary
- 5. Election of Officers**
 - a. Chair
 - b. Vice Chair
 - c. Honorary Secretary
 - d. Honorary Treasurer
 - e. Honorary Membership Secretary
- 6. Election of Executive Committee members**
- 7. Election of Honorary Independent Examiner**
- 8. Lundy Marine Festival**
- 9. Date and venue of future AGMs**

Saturday 11th March 2023 in Crediton
- 10. Any other business**

The business meeting will be followed by the Bird Report, presented by Tim Jones, a talk about Plastic-free Lundy by Sue Waterfield, the Warden's Report, presented by Rosie Ellis and the Lundy General Manager's Report, presented by Derek Green. There will be a tea break during the afternoon.

Minutes of the 75th Annual General Meeting held online on the Zoom platform on Saturday 4th September 2021 from 3.30pm.

The meeting was attended by 70 members. It was chaired by Alan Rowland.

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting which had been rescheduled following the postponement of the meeting in May due to the coronavirus pandemic. He thanked the committee members for their hard work over the year.

The Honorary Secretary, Michael Williams, outlined how the meeting would work online and members were able to practise using the voting system.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from 22 members.

2. Minutes of the 2020 Annual General Meeting

There were no corrections and members voted to accept the minutes as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Reports

a. Honorary Secretary

The Honorary Secretary, Michael Williams, gave his report, reproduced below.

You might expect this to be a short report given the extraordinary international situation we experienced in 2020. In fact the LFS adapted remarkably well and although some of our core activities were affected by the pandemic, the Society has had a busy year and has achieved a lot.

The developing situation with the coronavirus pandemic resulted in some considerable discussion between the Chair and the Honorary Secretary before we took the decision to postpone the AGM in early March. In the end, the AGM took place online in September and went smoothly despite the internet connection dropping out during the Treasurer's report. Attendance was 93 people which compares favourably with recent in-person AGMs and feedback was overwhelmingly positive.

In response to the lockdown Michael organised a series of online webinars open to all. From late April to the first week of July a total of 12 talks and presentations took place ranging from lectures about Lundy's archaeology, birds, wildflowers and LFS conservation breaks to a photography workshop and a poetry recital. The series restarted in October with a talk from Andrew Cleave about moths and butterflies.

The Marisco Tavern online Christmas Quiz was a huge success with an estimated 120 people taking part. The post-quiz socialising on the Zoom call went on well into the evening in true Tavern style except that the electricity stayed on!

The LFS was promoted during each talk and we have attracted many new members. Thank you to all the speakers who have taken part and to Dave Richards who has hosted the

webinars and made the technical arrangements. We have had such a varied programme and everyone has given their time freely to talk to us. In the spring we typically had 250 people watching live each week and very many more catching up on YouTube afterwards. Collectively the talks have been watched over 10,000 times!

Roger Chapple retired as our Honorary Treasurer at the end of the 2019 financial year having served for six years and Chris Dee took on the role. Roger had previously been our Chair between 2002 and 2007 and in recognition of his contribution to the Society we were pleased that he was elected as a Vice President at the 2020 AGM. Roger continues as an active member of the committee and will maintain the role he has made his own as the AGM auctioneer!

The £500 grant given to Dr James Waggitt of Bangor University for research in July 2020 on the influence of tidal currents and weather patterns on Cetacean presence in Lundy waters, was deferred until June 2021.

A grant of £500 had been agreed for Jamie Dunning for a study of the role of social interactions in the life history of the House Sparrow, which is taking place during 2021. Jamie is the current Lundy Sparrows research student.

Financial assistance of £500 was given to the field studies activities relating to the St Helen's project enabling the Education Officer, Rosie Ellis, to purchase binoculars and equipment to support school visits.

During the summer it became apparent that the pandemic was causing real financial difficulties for Landmark and the Lundy Company, and an appeal was launched to raise funds to cover the shortfall. After much virtual discussion and consideration, your committee determined to donate £10,000 to the Lundy Appeal, ring-fenced to support conservation and education work on Lundy.

It is sad to report that no conservation breaks were able to take place during 2020 and we are exploring the possibility of increasing the number of working holidays we organise in the future. For the first time in over 25 years, the annual Lundy Cabbage count was not able to take place.

Bird ringing was significantly affected by the Covid pandemic, but it was still possible to carry out some valuable work. Before the first lockdown, necessary repairs were made to the shearwater nest boxes and seven of them were subsequently occupied. Lockdowns provided plenty of time for continuing digitisation of historic LFS ringing records, to make them more readily available for analysis.

Work on the long-term study of breeding Wheatears could not take place, and the absence of visiting ringers greatly reduced the number of migrants caught in spring. However, from July onwards, good numbers of birds were ringed. An annual total of almost 2000 birds was very pleasing under the circumstances.

In January the first steps were taken towards re-establishing Lundy as a recognised Bird Observatory. The rebuilding of the Terrace Heligoland Trap would contribute towards this process. Approval for carrying out the necessary work had been delayed by the pandemic and the work will now be done in October this year.

Bookings opened for the 75th anniversary celebratory Discover Lundy week that was due to take place in May 2021. Within ten days all 60 places had been reserved but with the ongoing pandemic situation more detailed organisation was paused as the event would have to respond to the restrictions in place at the time. In the end we had to cancel the week.

As part of our 75th anniversary celebrations, commemorative Lundy stamps will be issued.

Sue Waterfield who manages the Lundy General Stores has been appointed the new Island Representative as a successor to Grant Sherman and we look forward to working with Sue in the years ahead.

In February and early March, a working party convened twice in Marlborough to sort through the Harman family's archives that were in the possession of our President, Diana Keast. A very considerable amount of material relating to the Harmans' ownership of Lundy has been identified and was transferred to the North Devon Record Office and the philatelic archive will join the Lundy stamp collection at the British Library.

The website was enhanced with records of Lundy observations by taxonomic group in addition to publication in the Annual Report and submission online to iRecord. New members are now able to sign up on the website too.

Despite limited on island activities by the Society during the year, Belinda Cox was still able to edit and produce the excellent and entertaining annual bulletin, Discovering Lundy, that was distributed to members in early 2021.

Thank you for your continued support through these turbulent times.

b. Honorary Treasurer including endowment fund update

The Honorary Treasurer, Chris Dee, presented the accounts for the year ending 31st December 2020.

There were no questions and members voted to adopt the accounts.

Alan Rowland updated the meeting on future plans for the Endowment Fund as our late members, Ken and Pat Rodley, have very generously brought us nearer to realising our goal with a substantial legacy from their estate.

After discussions at committee, it was decided how we will handle such legacies towards meeting our objectives. Any donation or legacy over £1,000 is deemed as substantial and will be divided so that 80% will be invested in the long-term Endowment Fund and the remaining 20% directed to our short-term objectives. Any donation less than this amount will go directly into our short-term objective or projects fund, unless restricted by the donor.

Our long-term objective is to accumulate sufficient capital to generate enough interest from our Endowment Fund, to fund a warden on Lundy, give larger research grants and even to commission specific research.

We estimate that a sum of £250,000 will be sufficient to generate the required amount of interest. We will continue to invest substantial donations or legacies and reinvest interest earned until we reach that sum.

In 2019 we opened an Ethical Investment fund with £20,000. In February 2021 we added a further £6,500 from general funds. The Rodley bequest so far has enabled us to deposit a further £17,600 into the investment fund, and once their house is sold, we expect a further £40-45,000 which will be divided 80:20 between our long- and short-term funds.

Our short term or project fund will be an accumulation of smaller donations over and above our subscription income and stands at over £5,000. We have a list of projects and are currently applying these funds towards refurbishment of the Heligoland Trap on Lundy at a cost of £1,650.

Subscriptions will continue to fund our annual expenditure to service our membership, publish our Annual Report, Bulletin and Journal, subsidise working parties and fund our day-to-day expenditure.

c. Honorary Membership Secretary

The Honorary Membership Secretary, Sandra Rowland, gave her report: at the end of December there were 421 active memberships, equating to 555 members including family members. The webinars had resulted in the recruitment of 80 new members and our total membership is the highest ever recorded.

The names of members who had died and many new members were announced.

5. Election of Officers

The Honorary Secretary took chair and thanked Alan Rowland for his continued work as Chair and proposed Alan continue in this role. This was seconded and there being no other nominations he was declared elected. Alan returned to the Chair.

The remaining Officers were willing to be re-elected. It was proposed and seconded that they be re-elected en bloc. There were no other proposals so this was put to the vote and agreed.

6. Election of Executive Committee

Tom Dickins had resigned from the committee and Frances Stuart was standing down at the end of a three-year term. Andrew Cleave, André Coutanche, Trevor Dobie, Jenny George, Keith Hiscock, Chris Pawson and Chris Webster all reach the end of a three-year term and were willing to stand again. In addition, there are up to two vacancies.

It was proposed and seconded that the committee members wishing to stand again be re-elected en bloc. There were no other nominations for the committee, so the proposal was put to the vote, and they were declared elected.

Tom Dickins and Frances Stuart were thanked for their contributions to the Society's work.

The Chair invited anyone interested in joining the committee to get in touch with him or the Honorary Secretary.

7. Election of Honorary Independent Examiner

Bill Williams was proposed and seconded as Honorary Independent Examiner. There being no other nominations he was duly elected.

8. Date and venue of next AGM

The Honorary Secretary informed members that the meeting will revert to the Boniface Centre in Crediton on Saturday 12th March 2022.

9. Any other business

There was one space available on the forthcoming conservation break in early October and members were invited to get in touch with Trevor Dobie if they were interested in attending.

There was no other business.

The meeting closed at 4.25pm and there was a short break. Dean Jones, the Lundy Warden, presented the wildlife report. After a further break Derek Green, Lundy General Manager, presented the Lundy report.

It was noted that Dean Jones would be leaving Lundy in the next few weeks. The Chair thanked him for his significant contribution to the island, natural history observations, and leadership of the conservation work on Lundy. He wished Dean, and his partner Zoe, all the very best for their future back in Northern Ireland.

Michael Williams, Honorary Secretary

Lundy Field Society Treasurers Report and accounts

We were very fortunate this year to receive a substantial bequest from the estate of Patricia Rodley who, with her late husband and sister, were regular enthusiastic visitors to Lundy. The accounts presented here show a surplus for the year of £59,266 which includes £52,000 from that bequest. The remaining surplus of £7,266 is largely the result of increased membership, reduced funding to conservation breaks and the lack of expenditure on the biennial Journal.

To strike a balance between making immediate use of large donations and investing in the future of the society, the committee agreed that 20% of individual legacies or donations exceeding £1,000 would be allocated to a 'project fund' and the remainder invested. The additional investments amounted to £24,100 during the year. To ensure that the day-to-day operation of the society is covered by subscription income, other donations (excluding the regular Jennetts Trust income) is now also diverted to the 'project fund', which at the end of the year stood at £10,679. The committee would welcome ideas from the membership on suitable projects which could benefit from this fund.

Despite reduced access to the island, membership income has grown by 13% and donations have also increased. Included in the donations is a total of £223 from Amazon Smile and members are encouraged to nominate the LFS as their charity of choice when buying online from Amazon. We also continue to benefit from generous monthly donations from the Jennetts Trust, which the donor is happy for us to use to support general running costs, for which we are grateful. The 2020/21 Gift Aid claim was delayed beyond the end of the financial year due to complications in the change of Treasurer and will be included in the 2022 accounts.

The regrettable cancellation of the Discover Lundy 2021 event, due to COVID restrictions, after we had paid the balance on the property rentals, resulted in a lot of administration. We are very grateful to Landmark Trust for providing a full refund, including the deposits paid in 2019. There was no net income or expenditure in 2021 and the only cost to the society was that of printing booking forms in 2020.

Sales of *The Harman Family's Lundy* and *Protecting Lundy's Marine Life* in 2021 have been included in Sundry sales, along with sales of past Annual Reports and other donated publications and Lundy ephemera. We continue to sell *Lundy Fungi* through the website and Lundy General Stores, which is also our primary outlet for Colouring Books. The stock shown as assets includes the value at cost of these two publications at the end of the year.

Research grants were carried over from 2020, although the full amounts of the awards were not claimed. The committee agreed to contribute up to £1,650 towards the refurbishment of the terrace Heligoland trap, the first payment of which is shown as project expenditure. The cancellation of the spring Conservation Breaks meant that there was less expenditure attributed to supporting conservation work.

The Society continues to provide financial support to ornithological research on the island through bird ringing, by fully subsidising the cost of rings for Manx Shearwaters and Storm Petrels. Visiting members who are qualified bird ringers are also subsidised to an individual annual maximum of £25 and re-imburse the LFS for ring usage above that. We anticipate that the new assistant warden will soon be qualified to ring birds independently and have agreed to cover the costs of rings used by him, as we did for the previous warden. We are grateful for an award of £472 from Natural England towards the cost of seabird rings and were able to forestall a rise in ring costs by re-stocking in October. The net value of our contribution to bird ringing in 2021 was £248.

The 2021 expenditure shown for our regular publications – Bulletin, Annual Report and Journal – includes typesetting, printing and distribution costs. We are grateful to the Lundy Company and the Bideford Shore Office staff for handling the franking of the Annual Report, which reduced the distribution costs.

Chris W Dee, Honorary Treasurer

Income and Expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2021

Income	2021	2020
	£	£
Subscriptions	10,423	9,222
Donations	1,923	1,511
Jennetts Trust	2,040	2,040
Legacies	52,000	-
Gift Aid	-	1,345
Conservation break deposits	590	-
Book sales – <i>Lundy Fungi</i>	328	280
Book sales – <i>Colouring Book</i>	54	-
Sundry sales	679	452
Postage	17	68
Bird ringing	1,216	254
Sundries	-	45
Interest	3	116
Stock value increase	448	211
Total income	69,721	15,544
Deduct expenditure	10,455	20,528
Surplus / (deficit) for the year	59,266	(4,984)
Expenditure	2021	2020
	£	£
Bulletin	763	934
Report	3,106	3,031
Journal	-	3,847
Website	52	66
Publicity	201	-
Bird ringing	1,802	1,155
Grants	1,018	500
Conservation breaks	2,214	-
Projects	897	-
Donation to Landmark Lundy Appeal	-	10,000
AGM expenses	38	92
Committee expenses	-	109
Discover Lundy 2021	-	55
Postage	170	387
Stationery	93	64
LFS Library	-	116
Sundries	101	172
Total expenditure	10,455	20,528

Balance sheet as at 31 December 2021

	2021	2020
Current Assets	£	£
Stock -	3,348	3,702
Stock -	2,545	1,743
NS&I account	384	381
Current account	43,387	31,523
Reserve account (project fund)	10,679	9
Discover Lundy 2021 deposits with Landmark	-	5,608
Subtotal	60,343	42,966
Less		
Advance subscriptions	963	882
Advance conservation break deposits	610	450
Advance Discover Lundy 2021 receipts	-	18,030
Net current assets	58,770	23,604
Other assets		
LionTrust Sustainable Fund	44,100	20,000
Total assets	102,870	43,604
Reserves		
Brought forward	23,604	28,588
Transfer to specific reserve	-24,100	-
Surplus / (deficit) for the year	59,266	(4,984)
General Reserves	58,770	23,604
Specific reserve	44,100	20,000
Total reserves	102,870	43,604

Note: In 2019 an Ethical Fund was established as an endowment in which income and capital would be accumulated to meet the costs of future major projects. This is shown above as a specific reserve. At the balance sheet date the investment had a market value of £56,063.

Lundy Field Society Accounts Examination for 2021

'I have examined the accounts of the Lundy Field Society for the year 1 January to 31 December 2021, and can report that the figures presented to me by the Honorary Treasurer, in my opinion, represent fairly and accurately the overall financial situation of the Society for the financial year.'

R A Williams
Honorary Independent Examiner
16 February 2022