

Lundy at Stockholmia 2019

By André Dufresne

I had the pleasure to attend Stockholmia 2019, the World Philatelic Exhibition in honour of the Royal Philatelic Society London's 150th Anniversary and host to the 2nd World Cinderella Stamp Congress. It was held at the Waterfront Congress Centre in Stockholm under the patronage of his Majesty King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden. I am happy to report that Lundy Collectors Club members fared well: LCC member Jon Aitchison was awarded 3 medals in the Philatelic Literature Class: a Vermeil for "*British Parcel Carrier Stamps*" based on Francis Kiddle's collection, and two Silvers, one for his 6th edition of "*The Stamps and Postal History of Lundy*" and another one for "*The Story of the S.S. Ibex and the Mail Recovered from it*". Jon was also bestowed the honour of signing the Maurice William Roll of Notable Cinderella Philatelists. Lars Liwendahl, who is known for his part in Lundy stamp designing, was awarded a Vermeil for his book *DALARÖ - en post och kulturhistorisk vandring under fem sekler* (DALARÖ - a postal and cultural journey during five centuries). Congratulations to both!

Stockholmia was also peculiar in that only two postal administrations were present: Sweden and - lo and behold! - Lundy. The Lundy Post Office was located on the 5th floor at the booth of the Swedish Philatelic Federation. Visitors could purchase a Lundy postcard, have a 200 puffin "Birds of Lundy" stamp affixed (a special rate taking into account that the mail had to be redirected through Lundy) and drop it in the special mailbox to receive a specially designed official commemorative Lundy cancel created by Lars Liwendahl and Jan-Erik Wellerfors. Over 300 pieces of mail were posted during Stockholmia, most being postcards and about 20 to 30 being letters, so letters (as opposed to postcards) bearing the specially designed Lundy Stockholmia cancel will be decidedly rare! Additionally 300 postcards received the stamp and Stockholmia cancel to fill the needs of the Lundy clients who had ordered a copy directly from the Lundy Postal Service.

Having had the task of cancelling the stamps as temporary postmaster's assistant, I can confirm that the postcards were addressed to all parts of the world including China!

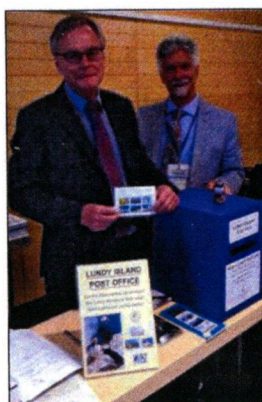
The 2nd World Cinderella Stamp Congress was held within Stockholmia on June 1st & 2nd on the second floor of the Waterfront Congress Centre, and Lundy stamps were on sale and postcards could be bought and mailed there as well. It was masterminded by LCC members Christer Brunström, Lars and myself with the help of members of the Bältespännarna (the Swedish Cinderella Stamp Club), and it was a success. Various presentations were made during the 2-day Congress, among which was a presentation by Jon Aitchison of his new Lundy Island catalogue. I had the pleasure of giving two lectures, one on the Local Post Catalogues of the World and one on Swiss Soldiers' Stamps.

As a finale to the Congress, Lars made a surprise presentation, where he on behalf of our island officially announced and revealed the designs of the next Lundy Stamp issue, a miniature sheet of six different stamps, honouring 50 years since The National Trust & The Landmark Trust took over Lundy. Lars had a special and original way to introduce the new stamps: after viewing a short film, showing the "in-flight" to Lundy from the helicopter, he showed the new stamps much enlarged on the wall, in the form of a 'PowerPoint' picture. The new miniature sheet had actually also just been ready from Cartor S.A., the printers, and Lars had got three copies of the yet unissued sheets on loan. These were not only shown, but they were circulated around the room and we were all able to do something that we had never done before: to see and hold them in our hands several months before their actual date of issue!

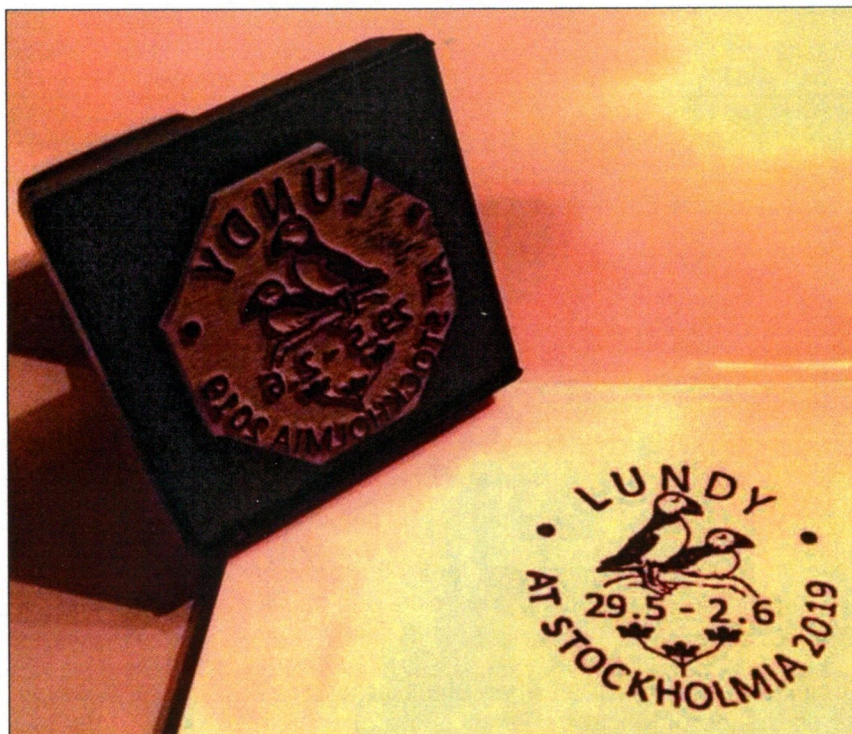
Summarising, Lundy held a place of honour at Stockholmia 2019, a well-deserved honour for our 90-year old Lady!



The Lundy Postbox



Lars Liwendahl (l), André Dufresne (r)



The Stockholmia 2019 Special Lundy Cancellor

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