

# *Lundy GPO Period: A New Find!*

By André Dufresne, RNCP

---

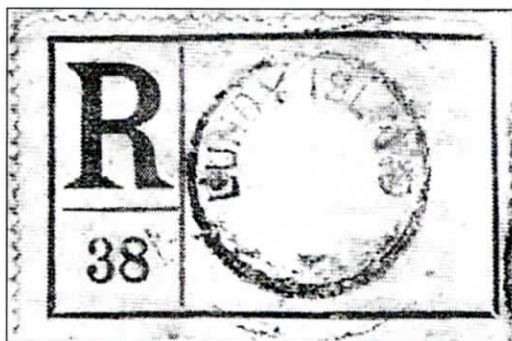
What greater pleasure for a philatelist than to discover a hitherto unknown philatelic item? It just happened to me: I came across the illustrated Mackay type A Lundy Island registration label (Fig 1).



*Fig 1*

It bears number 9, which appears to be consistent with the little volume of registered mail handled on Lundy during the G.P.O. years. My copy is perforated  $13\frac{1}{2}$  and it shows the faintest trace of a cancellation just below the right leg of the R and the left leg of the N in "No." but the date is illegible.

Until now only one type of registration label was known, the only two known copies being shown in Jon Aitchison's catalogue, 6th edition, on pages 202 and 203. They bear numbers 38 and 43 respectively. They are both Mackay type D labels (Fig 2 & 3, both illustrations from Jon's catalogue). Number 38 is on a cover mailed in 1911 and no. 43 is a loose, undated label.



*Fig 2*

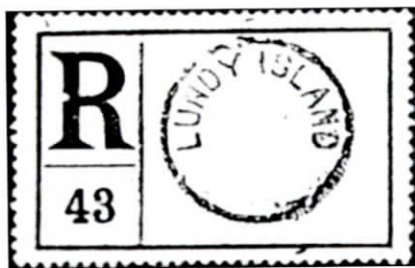


Fig 3

I showed my find to Jon who remarked that by coincidence, the only known registration label from Herm Island also bears number 9. It is on a cover addressed to South Africa in Jon's collection.

As Jon remarks in his catalogue: "As the Post Office on Lundy did not close until 1927 it is possible that other types of registered labels may have been used but no examples have yet been discovered." It amazes me that this one remained hidden for close to a century. Isn't it a shame that it was soaked off the cover by a previous owner? As predicted by Jon a new type of registration label has now surfaced and the hunt is on for more copies.

## *Puffins Promote Puffing*

By Christer Brunström

Many Lundy aficionados of the philatelic type also collect stamps and other items featuring puffins. Cigarette cards is one of the more popular categories. They are basically pictorial trading cards introduced by many tobacco manufacturers with the dual purpose of stiffening cigarette packaging and advertising cigarette brands. It all started in the USA way back in 1875 and these highly collectible cards were then printed until well into the 1940s.

The cards were often produced in sets of 25 or 50 or in some cases 100 different designs which the tobacco companies believed would be of interest to smokers. You obviously needed to buy a tremendous number of cigarettes to complete a set.

Many cigarette cards have depicted birds. In 1919 Gallaher's Cigarettes printed a set of 100 different cards. No. 67 in this Birds, Nests & Eggs series features a puffin with a brief text about the bird on the back of the card.