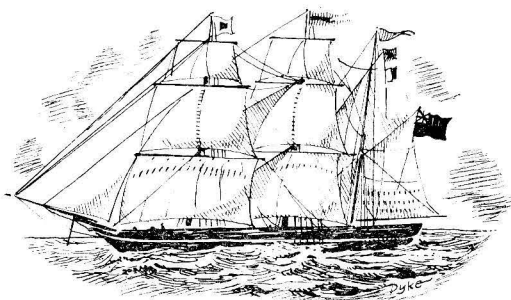|				
Herring Gull	GM19133	pull. 21.6.65	18.5.67	Nethershiels, Stow, Midlothian.
Herring Gull	GM19434	pull. 7.7.67	8.9.67	Between Swansea & Port Talbot, Glamorgan.
Kittiwake	EC95734	pull. 10.7.67	8.9.67	near Mizen Head, Cork.
Guillemot	GM78603	Ad. 30.7.67	5.8.67	Putsborough, Georgeham, Devon.
Blackbird	CV55060	1st W. 24.10.67	24.5.67	Wierden, Overijssel, Netherlands.
Whitethroat	AS85400	1st Y. 23.8.66	13.6.67	near Castlebar, Mayo
Spotted Flycatcher	AS85115	1st W. 19.8.65	8.9.67	Tudelilla, near El Villar, Logono, Spain.
Pied Flycatcher	AS85385	1st Y. 23.8.66	5.6.67	Moscow, U.S.S.R. (1st)

BIRDS CONTROLLED ON LUNDY

Chiffchaff	PA7454	PJ 6.5.67	Bardsey Island, Caernarvon
			17.5.67 Lundy.

Lundy
Shipwrecks

By
MICHAEL BOUQUET

The difficulty of compiling a list of Lundy shipwrecks, is in deciding what constitutes one. Should it be confined to vessels wrecked upon the island and its outlying rocks or can one include vessels which foundered within sight of the island? Does one count ships involved in collisions in the vicinity, in which case how near is "near Lundy"? It might be within 100 yards or ten miles. Is it correct to include ships which passed Lundy in distress to be lost miles away?

I have tried to make my list as comprehensive as possible, and to leave to the reader the job of deciding which are truly Lundy wrecks. Accordingly I have totted up more than eighty ships which have been wrecked on or near Lundy from 1796 to 1948, but there must be many more. I have as a rule omitted ships which foundered more than five miles from the island; this excludes several lost in the Lundy area in 1917-18 through enemy action.

Sources of much of my information are the Parliamentary *Wreck Registers*, published from 1850 to 1914, West country and particularly North Devon newspapers, Bristol newspapers, and Tony Langham's *Lundy*.

In considering Lundy shipwrecks, and the large numbers of ships involved, the following points should be remembered:-

(1) Lundy lies across a major shipping route used in the days of sail by very large numbers of ships. Chanter estimated a million annual passings; and while this may seem a somewhat inflated number, he quotes 300 ships in sight of the island at once, and 170 of good size anchored in Lundy Roads together.

(2) Homeward-bound ships were often at the end of a long ocean passage and unsure of their position. For example the *Hannah More*, bound for Cork, made her landfall at Lundy.
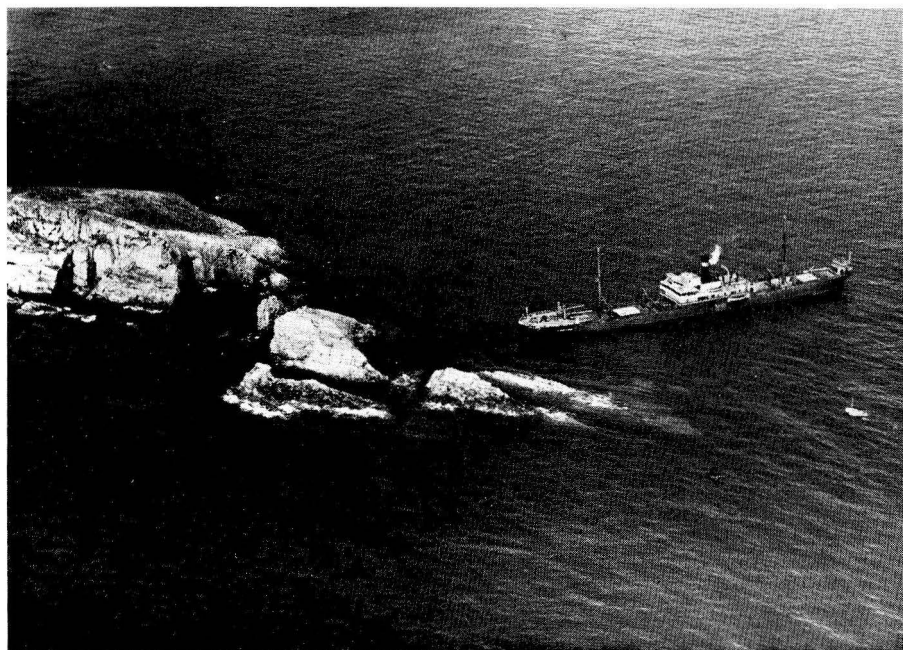
(3) Outward-bounders coming away for example from South Wales port, often with a crew half drunk and wholly unfamiliar with a new ship, found Lundy a formidable danger.

(4) The tidal races to the North and South of the island were fatal to small coasters and hazardous to larger ships.

(5) The sheltered anchorage in the Roads was itself a danger, should the wind shift suddenly to the eastward. A similar risk applied to vessels sheltering from an easterly gale under the West side.
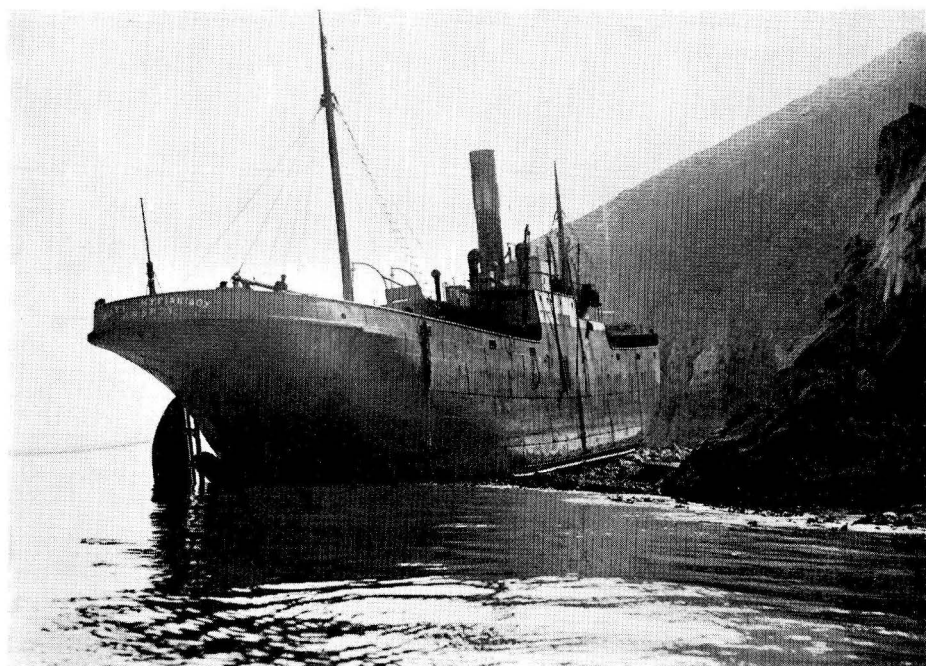
In the following list I have tried where possible to indicate the date, the rig, and port of registry of the ship concerned, her cargo and voyage, and the place and circumstance of her casualty. I am grateful to Tony Langham for transcriptions from the *Wreck Registers* and to Grahame Farr of Bristol for information from early nineteenth century Bristol newspapers.

1796 *Wye* of Chepstow, built there in 1796 and wrecked on Lundy in December. All hands lost.

1797 February 20. Ship *Jenny* of Bristol, cargo ivory and gold dust, from West Africa for Bristol, wrecked at a point now known as Jenny's Cove.

1811 Spanish *Estrella de Mar*, St. Ubes for Bristol, lost on Lundy, crew saved.

1819 January or February. Unknown foreign vessel foundered near Lundy, six lost, crew saved.
      May 1. Sloop *Unity*, Charlestown for Barry, foundered North of Lundy, crew saved.

1820 January 20/21. Schooner lost off Lundy. Three dead bodies and an oar marked *Lamb* washed up on the island.

1822 February 7. Cutter *Fame* of Bristol, from Bristol for Cork, wrecked on Lundy, crew saved.

1823 Brigantine *Morrison*, Cork for Newport, lost off Lundy, three lives lost.

1825 Unknown ship wrecked on Lundy. Several bodies interred in burial ground.

1827 April 10. Brigantine *I.O.* of Jersey, from Jersey for Cardiff. Foundered off Lundy after collision with unknown Brigantine. One life lost.

1829 March. *Francis Anne* struck on sunken rock three cables length South by West from East end of Rat Island.

1833 January 19. Sloop *Unity* of Barnstaple foundered near Lundy.

1836 April. Barque *Abbotsford* from Bristol for Boston. Put into Ilfracombe in sinking state, after being ashore on Lundy in charge of a pilot.

1838 "A ship belonging to Shields" dragged her anchors and went ashore on Landing Beach in Easterly gale.

1841 *Sarah* abandoned off Lundy.

1842 February 2. Brigantine, *Mary Ann*, from Whitehaven for Cardiff, iron ore, foundered ten miles North West of Lundy. Crew saved.
      March 19. Smack *Mariner* of Dartmouth lost in Lundy Roads.

1848 February. Schooner *Ann* of St. Ives, lost on South End, crew drowned trying to get ashore in own boat. Boy passenger saved.
      February 12. Barque *Sylphiden*, coal for Havannah, ashore on Lundy in dense fog. Total wreck, crew saved.

1849 November 7. United States ship *Archelaus* of New Orleans, from Cardiff for New York, sank in Lundy Roads. Crew of twenty-two saved by three Pill pilots. Cargo 700 tons railway iron salved by divers, 1850.

1850 January 2. Barque lost in Lundy Roads, four drowned.
      January 18. Brigantine lost on Lundy, eight lives lost.
      February 18. Wreck of trawler found on West point.
      May 29. Barque *Glenlyon*, from Londonderry for North America. Ashore on Lundy, later towed off.

1851 January 9. Schooner and French lugger lost on island.

1852 January 13. Fruit schooner *Wizard* of Guernsey, in ballast, wrecked in the Cove. Crew saved.

20

S.S. Carmine Filomena wrecked on Mouse Island. July 1st, 1937.   R. L. KNIGHT LT

S.S. Maria Kyrialcides aground on the East side. March 4th 1929   R. L. KNIGHT LTD.

1855 May 14. Ship *Joseph Van Votsam*, from Cardiff for New York, with iron and passengers, struck at midnight on the Hen and Chickens. Sixty-two crew and passengers took to the boats and were rescued by a pilot named Buck. Landed on Lundy and later taken to Cardiff.
Barque *Avon* from Cuba, with 560 tons of copper ore, wrecked on North West Lundy. A year later divers had raised two tons of copper ore.

1856 S.S. *Wesleyana*, wrecked on northern end of Island. Divers were attempting ing to raise her "valuable engines".
S.S. *Loire*, from Cardiff for Rouen with coal, wrecked on Lundy.

1858 March 13. Schooner *Charles* wrecked on West side in Force 8 gale, five lost, two saved.
April 15. Smack *Trident*, lost in Force 9 easterly gale, one lost.

1859 October 24/25. (The *Royal Charter* gale). A barque, a brigantine and a schooner lost on Lundy.

1861 May 23. Brigantine *Valentine*, from Waterford for Llanelly in ballast, wrecked in fog on West side near Lighthouse.

1862 March 19. Schooner *James* of St. Ives, sprang a leak after leaving Swansea. Crew made for Lundy in own boat, but capsized boat trying to land on the island. Four drowned, one saved.
June. Large brigantine lost between Hartland and the island.

1864 January. S.S. *Iona*, suspected Confederate blockade runner, Kingston for Madeira, "foundered near Lundy." Lost on East side.

1865 March 28. S.S. *Hector*, from Liverpool for Newport, in ballast. Ashore on Lundy and damaged. Ship refloated.

1866 Ship *Hannah More* of Liverpool, from Callao for Queenstown with guano, ashore on Rat Island. (See my article in *Sea Breezes* May 1963). Twenty drowned, six saved.

1867 Autumn. Barque *Columba* of Genoa lost on Landing Beach.
October 7. Barque *Alphonse* of St. Malo. Abandoned off Lundy after collision. Some of the crew saved from ship's boat by Ilfracombe pilots.

1868 January. S.S. *East Anglian* foundered off island.
October 8. Schooner *Swift* of Teignmouth foundered 1½ miles East of Lundy.
November 1. Schooner *Julia* of Penzance, sheltering in Roads, foundered one mile from island.

1869 January 30. Brigantine *Herminia* lost off Lundy. Six drowned, two saved.
March 20. Pilot cutter *Albion* of Bristol dragged ashore in Lundy Roads. Fishermen landed crew through breakers.
April 6. Brigantine *Belinda* of Weymouth, cargo copper ore, struck rock off Lundy. Crew pulled aboard smack *Argo* in Roads and landed on island. In May the Braunds of Buckish salved fifteen tons of ore from the wreck.
December 30. Smack *Eliza* lost with four men off Lundy.

1870 September. Brigantine *Mary* of Scilly, ashore on Lundy. Crew saved.

1871 February 14. Barque *Brenda* of Greenock, from Newport for New Orleans with iron rails, four passengers. Ashore at Brazen Ward, later lightened of cargo and towed off.

1872 May 7. Brigantine *Gertrude* sank in Bay after collision.

1874 September 30. Thirty ton smack *Fanny* of Bideford, lost on Landing Beach with cargo of island granite.

1876 January 15. French schooner *Jean & Robert* (or *Jeanne Robert*?) from Newport with coals, at anchor in Roads, close in. Wind blew strong gale dead in shore. Master slipped cables, but could not work out of Roads. Ashore on beach. Three lives lost.

1877 February 6. S.S. *Ethel* of Newcastle, loaded with iron, wrecked on Black Rock.

1879 February 20. S.S. *Ralph Creyke* of Goole, abandoned off Lundy.

1882 September 1. Barque *Paola Revello* of Genoa, ashore on Lundy. She was towed off and later became the *Claudine* of Barnstaple.

December. Barquentine *Heroine* of Newport, from Newport for Rosario with coal, ashore in fog at North End. Crew climbed ashore, and later returned by boat to wreck to save personal effects. Wreck slid off into deep water, drowning nine men.

In fog the same night, the Barque *Burnswark* of Bristol, from Bristol for West Africa, ashore a few hundred yards from Landing Beach. Later towed off.

1885   February 12. S.S. *Peer of the Realm* of Newcastle, ashore on East side, no lives lost.

1886   October 16. Ship *Inversnaid* of Glasgow, from Cardiff for Singapore with coal, foundered off the Hen & Chickens in Force 10 gale. Thirty lives lost. (See my article in Western Morning News, December 7, 1962.)

1888   January 30. S.S. *Elsie* of Whitby, ashore at Brazen Ward. Got off.

February 14. Bristol pilot cutter *New Prosperous* ashore at Landing Place.

May 9. Tug *Electric* of Gloucester ashore in fog at Pilot's Quay.

May 9. Screw steam tug *Radnor* of Cardiff, ashore on East side.

1889   December 16. Schooner *Eliza Jones* of Carnarvon lost with three lives.

1892   February 19. S.S. *Tunisee* of Bordeaux, wrecked on Sugar Loaf, twenty-one men rescued.

1893   December 1. Wooden brigantine *Ismyr* of North Shields, coal, ashore on Rat Island, two lives lost.

1896   January 22. Pilot cutter *Dyfed* lost in Force 10 northerly gale.

Note—J. R. W. Loyd alleges that early in June 1896 the S.V. *Kate* carrying building materials for the church, was wrecked while discharging. A prolonged search of North Devon papers for this year has failed to disclose any mention of this "wreck". The *Kate* which belonged to a firm of Ilfracombe builders engaged upon the construction of the church, was in fact lost in Bridgwater Bay in April 1908.

1897   March 23. S.S. *Salado* of London, cargo of brass rods, wrecked at Brazen Ward.

May 19. *Infanta* of Padstow wrecked North End.

April 1. Ketch *Millicent* of Padstow, cargo coal.

November 1. S.S. *Ballydoon* of Glasgow, in ballast, ashore on West side in Force 6 easterly gale.

1898   August 31. Wreck barge *Rover* moored to wreck of *Salado*, wrecked in Force 7 North-east gale.

November 28. Tug *Earl of Jersey* of Cardiff, struck submerged rock on West side, while sheltering in Force 7 North-east gale, and sank.

1904   May 6. Ketch *Fiona* of Cowes, coal, lost on East side of Quarter Wall.

1906   May 30. H.M.S. *Montagu* wrecked on Shutter (see A. E. Blackwell's article in Western Morning News, May 31, 1961).

1908   May 1. S.S. *Auricula* of London, aground near *Montagu* wreck, later refloated.

1918   S.S. *Enfield* wrecked below Quarries.

1929   March 25. S.S. *Maria Kyriakides* of Andros, 1,556 tons, ran aground off Quarries, crew of eighteen were saved, and eighteen months later the ship was towed off and taken to Ilfracombe. Note—the "*S.S. Andros*" mentioned in Langham's *Lundy*, p. 111, is in error for the port of registration of this steamer.

1931   March 28. S.S. *Taxiarchis* of Chios, 3445 tons, wrecked. Crew of twenty-four saved by rocket apparatus. Ship refloated and towed to Ilfracombe July 1933.

1936   May 18. Ketch *St. Austell* of Barnstaple abandoned four miles South-east of Lundy, while on passage from South Wales to Guernsey with coal. Ketch later picked up by Trinity tender *Warden* and towed into Swansea.

1937   July 1. S.S. *Carmine Filomena* of Genoa, from Swansea bound for Genoa with coal, struck on Mouse Island. Crew of twenty-four all saved. Ship a total wreck.

July 12. Belgian M.V. *Nellie*, 640 tons, loaded with scrap iron for Llanelly, struck and sank on the following day. Crew of ten saved by Liverpool S.S. *Ranger*.

1939   August 13. Motor yacht *Freckles* (ex R.N.L.I. lifeboat) stranded on wreck of *Carmine Filomena* and was herself broken up.

1940   January 27. S.S. *Halton* of Liverpool ran aground.

1941   March 28. Trawler *Kestrel* attacked by German plane North-east of North Light, beached and later broke up.

1942   October 9. M.V. *Atlas* of Groningen, from Hayle bound for Newport in ballast, lost near the Shutter in strong W.N.W. gale. Only the mate saved.

1948   July 18. Dutch M.V. *Amstelstroom* went ashore near the Battery. Crew saved.

A curious casualty near Lundy occurred on August 11, 1813, when ships bound from the West Indies to Bristol were attacked near Lundy by the U.S.S. *Argus*. The ship *Betsy* of Bristol was captured and sent to France with a prize crew, and just to the East of the island the ship *Mariner* of Bristol was captured and burned.

A "non-wreck" on the island is that of the bomb ketch *Explosion*, which according to James' *History of the French Wars*, Vol. IV, p. 466, was lost on Lundy in September 1807 "through the ignorance of the pilot". Examination of primary sources reveals that she was actually lost on Heligoland!

Since writing this, details of a dozen further wrecks—mostly early 19th century—have come to hand.

H.M.S. Montagu