

Route	Area	Cliff	Grade
Time Bomb	" " "	" " "	XS
Juggernaut	" " "	" " "	XS
Cable & Wireless	Shutter Rock Area	Montagu Buttress	HVS
Cable Way	" " "	" " "	VD
Sundance	" " "	" " "	S
Wodwo	" " "	Wierd Wall "	HVS
Navigator	" " "	" "	XS
Pony & Trap	" " "	" "	VS
Ember Wall	" " "	" "	VS
The Kiln	" " "	Devil's Limekiln	VS
Ulysses Factor	" " "	Focal Buttress	VS
Lucifer	" " "	" "	VS
Focal Face	" " "	" "	VS
The Bow	" " "	" "	HVS

GENERAL FIELD STUDIES COURSE. AUGUST 17th to 24th, 1974

PAUL N. MUNTON

This new course was devised to show as many aspects of the islands flora, fauna, archaeology and history as possible. Consequently the course very diverse and a great amount of physical and mental energy was expended by the participants. The course was designed so that certain amateur experts in specific aspects of Lundy culture could instruct course members for one day at a time.

Chronologically Based Description of Activities Undertaken

The first evening a walk around the south end was undertaken and the Devil's Lime Kiln was inspected. After supper there was an expedition in search of the Sika deer, *Cervus nippon*. Six deer were seen briefly by some members of the party and the difficulties of approaching and watching these deer for any period was amply demonstrated. Further intrepid attempts were made to watch the deer. On Monday morning the group was split into two parties: one party walked along the upper east side path and one along the lower path. However only three animals were seen by those on the upper path. In the evening a third attempt was made to observe the deer. This time individual members of the party were left alone, or in pairs at intervals along the rhododendron path at dusk. Unfortunately three deer were put up in the middle of the rhododendrons and no deer emerged for the next two hours. Nevertheless course participants appreciated the necessity for quietness, stealth and individual observation of these animals.

On Sunday the 18th a walk was taken to the north end. Seals were watched on the rocks. These were the Grey Seal *Halichoerus gryphus*. Soay sheep and feral goats were also seen. The meadow brown butterfly with its highly cryptic granite coloured underwing was noted. This variation seems to be peculiar to areas where there are granite outcrops. Two unusual animals were seen. The first, was a very large sunfish which was seen drifting around the north end of the island. Shortly afterwards an unusual caterpillar was found on the heather. This animal was 2 inches long and about the thickness of a pencil. It was deep apple green in colour and there were six yellow spots ringed in black arranged at regular intervals around each segment. The spiracles were ringed in orange. This caterpillar was later identified as the larvae of the Emperor moth which is found on heather moorland. It is good to know that this creature is extant on Lundy.

A female sparrow hawk was found on the airfield. This animal had apparently died whilst attempting to stoop on the starling remains of which were found close by. The starling had severe injuries to the back. These two birds were placed in deep freeze so that they could be taxidermied later. (They are now in the hands of Rowland Ward Ltd.)

On Tuesday, the 20th, Ann Westcott took the party to the North End to study the botany of the island. Special emphasis was laid on the recolonisation of the North end of the island after the fires of 1937 and the consequent partial denudation of the land surface. Suggestions were given on how to become a good amateur botanist.

On Wednesday Tony Langham led a general geographical and historical survey of the island basing it upon existing buildings. The construction and design of the castle, the workings and remains of the quarries were especially emphasised. The following day Keith Gardener dealt with the same artifacts from an archaeological point of view. The palimpsest of human occupation of the island was slowly revealed through out these two days. On the previous Tuesday evening, Keith Gardener had given a slide show of comparable celtic sites to pave the way for a detailed analysis of the celtic occupation, centred around the unusual graveyard on Beacon Hill.

On Thursday afternoon there was an expedition to the Widow's Tenement and an examination of the Mediaeval wall system surrounding this farm. The Royalist fortifications at the Braze Ward were also seen.

Later on the goats were watched for some time as they fed on the steep north side of The Devil's Slide. The herd was in rut and the males were actively pursuing females. Sexual behaviour was observed as well as butting and alarm behaviour. The total count of goats is 26, much reduced after the recent severe cull. There are now only 4 males aged 7 years, 3 years and 2 years and 1 year. These animals browsing habits were observed and discussed, especially their beneficial contribution to the ecological balance of the island. The goats neat footwork was beautifully displayed.

Friday was reserved for bird watching but the LFS committee member responsible for the ornithological part of the course did not appear on the island. Nevertheless Ornithology was dealt with in an ad hoc manner and we were fortunate enough to see two representatives of the most difficult species to identify; the small waders, and the warblers. A small wader which had been present on the island for some days was found by the pools at $\frac{1}{2}$ wall. This bird was very tame and could be approached to within a few feet. A description of this bird was compiled and photographs taken. This bird (thought by some to be a broad billed sandpiper was probably an immature dunlin.

The operation of the Heligoland trap was demonstrated and a Pied Flycatcher was captured and observed from a short distance away. A warbler was next captured. the identity of the warbler was not ascertained with certainty but may have been Savi's Warbler.

Throughout the week birds were continuously identified. Flocks of Linnet and starling were examined for vagrants or other birds of passage. The winds were from the North-east for the first four days and this was favourable for birds migrating south from North West Europe. The absence at this time of the promised avian expert can only be regretted.

Flowers were collected and identified and a small collection of pressed flowers was made.

Course participants were as follows: Lois Davis, Springside, Bydown, Swimbridge, Devon.

Margarate Bottoms, 46 Upper Belgrave Road, Bristol 8.

Geoffrey Hearnden, Carapitt Farm, Bridford, Exeter.

The Course Tutor was Paul N. Munton.

Special thanks is due to Mrs. Ann Gardner for her excellent cooking and caring.

List of Flowers seen on Tuesday 20th.

Tormental
Bog pimpernel
Jointed Rush
Bog Thistle
Marsh Pennywort
Lesser Spearwort

Bulbous Buttercup
Creeping Buttercup
Dwarf Willow
Skull Cap
Pearl wort
Marsh St. Johns Wort

Four Leaved allseed
Ground Ivy
English Stonecrop
Buckshorn Plantain
Heather *Calluna vulgaris*
Lings *Erica tetralix*
Erica cineraria

Thyme
Sea pink *Armeria maritima*
Yarrow
Sphagnum
Sundew
Hawkbit type
Grasses and Ferns (numerous)
Water

Course Members later observed flowers which they identified as follows:

Common Mallow
Yellow Pimpernel
Wayside Cudweed
Sheeps Bit
Pineapple Weed
Great Water Dock
Small Flowered Cranesbill
Common Birdsfoot Trefoil
Red Rock Spurrey
Self Heal
Rock Spurrey
Water Forget-me-Not
Water Figwort

Scarlet Pimpernel
Scentless Mayweed
Heath Bedstraw
Heath Bedstraw
Sea Beet
Sea Carrot
Hares Foot Clover
Kidney Vetch
Common Vetch
Rock Sapphire
Leafy Hawkweed?
Sea Campion
50 Species