

IAN LINN

1921 – 2007

Ian was a long standing and active member of the Lundy Field Society who served on the Committee from 1959 to 1967 and from 1970 to 1974. He was Chairman of the Society from 1975 to 1984. As a Vice-President of the Society since 1987, Ian has continued to contribute to Committee Meetings and to the Annual General Meeting until our Annual General Meeting in March 2006.

Ian's interest in islands and their faunas began while he was at Edinburgh University. He collected small mammal specimens, skins and skulls, from innumerable small Hebridean islands, and later from Lundy and other locations. Ian came to Devon in 1949 to take up a teaching post in the University College of the South West of England, later to become the University of Exeter, assisting Professor L.A. Harvey, one of the founders of the Lundy Field Society. Ian was immediately 'volunteered' to help with field work on the Island and he thoroughly enjoyed the challenging conditions of getting to Lundy and living on the Island, including the challenge of making the most of the dilapidated state of the accommodation in the Old Light which was used at that time as the headquarters of the Lundy Field Society on Lundy.

Although he did not publish prolifically on his Lundy work, Ian was an expert on the wild mammals of the Island and wrote the relevant chapter on this subject in the volume 'Island Studies' that was published to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Society.

Ian was cheerful, courteous, knowledgeable and a little mischievous.

He will be missed.