

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the 66th Annual Report of the Lundy Field Society. Several months later in the making than usual, I hope nevertheless that you find much to interest you from what was a memorable year in which we celebrated the Society's 70th anniversary.

Our Chairman Keith Hiscock opens proceedings with his view from the summit, after which follow the regular reports by the Society's officers, overviews by Derek Green and Beccy MacDonald of on- and off-island activities, and a summary by Robert Irving of another busy year for the Lundy Marine Protected Area Advisory Group.

During the course of the year we lost two of our longer-standing and most influential members in their given fields, archaeologist Charles Thomas who passed away in April, and ornithologist Hugh Boyd who died in July. Both were inspirational figures. Obituaries, penned by Henrietta Quinnell and Tim Jones and myself, reflect the depth and extent of their achievements, and their contributions both to the LFS itself and to the island more widely.

After the bird report for 2016, a round-up of the year's bird ringing activity and an exhaustive compilation of fauna and flora records from the LFS Logbook, we close with three articles. Helen Booker and Tony Taylor describe in words and pictures the making and installation of Manx Shearwater nestboxes in the Old Light shearwater colony. Helen and Mark Bolton consider how best to survey breeding Storm Petrels in different parts of the island following the first confirmed breeding record in 2014. And Alan Rowland closes this year's offerings with descriptions of two freshwater flatworms, both new records for Lundy.

Sixteen colour plates – sponsored for a seventh year running by our printer, Short Run Press of Exeter – bring colour to the report, with images of a range of species from differing Lundy habitats: open sea, rocky shores, cliffside, cave, freshwater pond, woodland and more. They include a stunning photograph by Richard Taylor of a *Convolvulus* hawk-moth resting on one of the granite marker stones along the main track and Sharon Reed's delightful picture of a Black oil beetle on a South Light step. My thanks to all the photographers.

Indeed my thanks to everyone – writers, photographers, proofreaders (this year especially Tony John) and contributors of records via emails and the LFS Logbook – who have helped to make the six Annual Reports that I have edited as full and informative as possible. Keith Hiscock takes over the helm for the 2017 report onwards. For me, preparation of the annual LFS Logbook, assisting where I can with the production of LFS publications, continuing as joint Lundy bird recorder, and not least spending as much time as possible on the island will ensure Lundy features as strongly as ever in my life.

May your own days on Lundy be as fulfilling.

TIM DAVIS
November 2017