

AUSTRALIAN NUMISMATIST



2011

Publication of the
NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA
(Incorporating the Numismatic Society of Victoria, founded 1914,
and the Association of Australian Numismatists (Melb.), 1939)

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Cover: Bielefeld City Savings Bank, 1 million mark, 11 August 1923

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MULLETS AND BARRE

By Len Henderson, NAV 409¹

These words “mullets” and “barre” are heraldic terms for what are usually called “stars and stripes”. This term is commonly used to refer to the flag of the United States of America and there is the well known marching music composed by John Sousa, however other flags and coats-of-arms also have stars and stripes. In this paper I will mainly concern myself to the USA.

It is generally assumed that the American Great Seal, the flag, and the coinage commemorate the original thirteen states with the number of stars and stripes (mullets and barre) on its insignia with extra stars being added when new states came into the Federation – later called the Union – this is not so.

Before George Washington became the “first” President, there were twelve others who occupied the position for one month each as “President of the Continental Congress”.

It is possible the American flag and coat-of-arms could have been adapted from the Washington family coat-of-arms which consist of a shield bearing of three mullets (stars) and eight pallets (vertical instead of horizontal stripes). This coat-of-arms is registered with the College of Heralds in England. It is also worth remembering that the first five Presidents (until the War of 1812) were all addressed as “His Majesty the President” and his wife as “Her Majesty, Mrs President”, and they lived in the Royal Palace, originally in Philadelphia before the building of the “Pink” House.

Other countries to have the stars and stripes on their flags are Cuba (one star and five stripes), Liberia (one star and eleven stripes), Malaysia (a crescent and star with fourteen stripes), Togo (one star and five stripes), Uruguay (one star and eleven stripes), and Zimbabwe (statue on a star and seven stripes). Cape Verde (ten star and five stripes of varying sizes), and Israel, North Korea, and Surinam (all with one star and five stripes of varying sizes) do not quite fit.

¹ This paper was presented at NAV meeting 982 on 19 August 2011.

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Even the name of the continent is controversial. It is usually said to come from Amerigo Vespucci, a Portuguese pirate who charted nearly all of Florida and some of the surrounding areas. There is also the strong possibility the land was named by Martin Frobisher to honour the Mayor of Bristol, John Americh.

Getting back to the mullets and barre. There were quite a number of early flags and coins of various colours and designs. Many of the coins had a head, or supposed head, of George Washington but were changed to an Indian, a horse head, a pine cone, a running fox, an eagle, and a serpent. Many of these coins were not even struck in America but were designed, and made, in Birmingham with dies cut by Thomas Wyon.



Figure 1 USA 1 dollar, 1796 with 15 stars

The Kentucky tokens of 1792-94 have fifteen stars; the George Washington pieces first came out between 1810 and 1820 but were restruck by Albert Collis as late as 1960(!) so be careful about buying them as original pieces. Some of the lower values had been intended as patterns for the half-dollars.

Half cents of 1828 have twelve stars. The silver three cent pieces of 1851-73 have only one star and only eight bars.

The half dime of 1797 has sixteen stars but reverted to thirteen the following year. The dimes, however, still had sixteen stars.

We find 1804 is a strange year in American coinage. The cents of this year were originally discarded but were re-struck and again re-struck about 1860 to satisfy the demands of collectors (and dealers) for this rare date. The dollars of that date were never issued except for about thirteen pieces for museums and Royal collections, however you can buy them by the bucketful in Indonesia for 15 dollars – these are made in China.

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Silver three cent pieces varied the stars from fifteen to sixteen and to thirteen. Half dimes of 1859 and 1860 were struck with dates and value, but the country of origin – United States of America – was completely left off; these were then declared to be “patterns”. The dimes of 1837-38 were a seated Liberty type and bore no stars at all.

Dimes of 1797 have either thirteen or sixteen stars. The “turban” type head from 1809 to 1837 generally had fourteen stars but the coins struck in Oregon had no stars at all.

With the half dollars as early as 1796 there were fifteen stars in the design but the following year this increased to sixteen.

With the silver dollars of 1797 the numbers of stars were both nine and ten which tells us the number had nothing to do with the “original” thirteen states. Only two years later there were fifteen stars.



Figure 2 USA 1 dollar, 1799 with 13 stars on both obverse and reverse

In the gold coin series the quarter eagle of 1804 has either thirteen or fourteen stars or none at all. In this series sometimes the motto was left off and even the Cap of Liberty was removed.

The short lived (two year) four dollar gold coin had one large star on the reverse.

On the half eagle of 1797 there can be fifteen or sixteen stars. The size and positioning of the stars can vary.

During the Civil War between the States, 500 genuine half dollars from the New Orleans mint were acquired by a private company – J W Geoff. The reverses were planned off and new reverses were stamped with the Confederate die. The shield has seven stars at the top and fifteen vertical stripes; they were dated 1861.

In the paper dollar series one of the earliest notes (1776) of Philadelphia does not have stars but an endless chain of thirteen loops and is for the strange sum of “one third of a dollar”!

The note was designed by Benjamin Franklin and as nearly all currency is tied in value to foreign currency for trade purposes the dollar must have been equated to English and Canadian money with the dollar worth four shillings and sixpence; if this is so, then one third of a dollar would have been worth eighteen pence².

When paper money first appeared in this series the money was depreciated by 22%. Just as with our own banknotes there was a claim that the paper could be changed to the equivocal amount in silver however the American notes stated that they could be exchanged at the rate of two dollars for nine shillings in silver “payable in London”!

Within a short time the notes were further devalued so that \$250 in paper was worth only one dollar in silver!

It is generally assumed that coins, if no date appears, can be “dated” by changes in the design. With the number of stars on United States coins changing up and down in number this is obviously not so.

Originally the American States were called the “Confederation of America” this being changed to the “Union”. This explains why in the Civil War the Southern States called themselves by that earlier name, “The Confederacy”. The present American flag has thirteen horizontal bars in red and white. The Confederate flag has fifteen blue and white bars with seven stars.

So far I have described stars of a varying number from seven to sixteen but the greatest number of stars, which appeared on a pattern, was ninety four. This appeared as a “field of stars” – not arranged in any constellation pattern. The Monroe Doctrine of December 1823 opposed any European intervention in the Americas. This proclaimed that the United States had a controlling interest in all of America; it was a doctrine that no-one else signed. It is worth recalling that five of the Presidents came to power on a partial platform of “the invasion of Canada”. The ninety four stars represented the then mainland states, the eleven provinces of Canada, the seven countries of Central America, all of South America (including British, French and Dutch colonies) and the colonial and independent areas of the West Indies including the Danish West Indies.

² ie one shilling and sixpence

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Figure 3 *USA 1 dollar, 1865 without any stars*



Figure 4 *USA 1 dollar, 1881 with 15 stars – 13 on the obverse and 2 on the reverse*



Figure 5 *USA 1 trade dollar, 1872 with 26 stars – 13 around the rim and 13 on the flag*



Figure 6 USA 1 dollar, 1906 with 13 stars on the reverse

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NOTGELD MILLIONS

By Frank Robinson, NAV #713¹

INTRODUCTION

Notgeld is a German word which may be translated literally as “emergency money”. In 1914, at the beginning of World War I (WWI), the value of silver increased, and later copper also increased in value; this led to the hoarding of imperial coins in Germany. As a result, notgeld was issued by municipalities, businesses, etc to alleviate the problems caused by insufficient legal currency.

These issues continued on and off throughout the war and again after the end of the war. The issues can be divided into a number of time periods²:

- 1914
 - issues from 452 localities (total of 5500 notes)
- 1916-22 small notes (< 1 mark)
 - issues from 3658 localities (total of 36 000 notes)
- 1918-21 large notes “Grossgeld” (greater than 1 mark)
 - issues from 579 localities (total of 5000 notes)
- 1922 inflation notes (100 – 1000 mark)
 - issues from 800 localities (total of 4000 notes)
- 1923 inflation notes (10 000 mark – 100 billion mark³)
 - issues from 5849 localities (total of 70 000 notes)
- 1923-24 constant value notes (goldmark system)
 - issues from 562 localities (total of 3660 notes)

Thus the total number of issues of notgeld is of the order of 130 000.

While some states attempted to ban or control the issues, particularly early on, other states had “tacit toleration” to issues by major cities.

By the time of the inflation notes of 1923, notgeld were being issued by municipalities, chambers of commerce, banks, large and small businesses, etc.

¹ This paper was presented at NAV meeting 981 on 15 July 2011.

² Coffing, p6

³ This is the European billion, ie 1 million million

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The denominations issued reflected the needs of the time – during WWI, small denominations (below 1 mark) were needed, and this was also the case immediately after WWI, with some higher denomination notes also being issued. However as the impact of the Treaty of Versailles hit home, the government started printing higher and higher values of paper money and inflation set in; thus 1922 saw issues from 100 to 1000 mark and 1923 saw the inflation issues.

This article looks at the many issues of just one denomination – one million mark. Most issues of denomination one million mark were during August 1923, although some were earlier or even later (Table 1).

Table 1
Issues of 1 000 000 Mark Notes by Month

Month	Issues
November 1922	1
June 1923	2
July 1923	25
August 1923	1271

Month	Issues
September 1923	55
October 1923	6
1923 *	5
undated	62

* year only shown on note

WEIMAR REPUBLIC

The German Revolution in November 1918 forced Kaiser Wilhelm II to abdicate and Germany to sign an Armistice with the Allies. Conflict erupted between moderates and pro-communist left wing factions, particularly in Berlin. Elections for a National Assembly were held in January 1919.

Due to the violence in Berlin, the National Assembly convened in Weimar where a new constitution was written and then adopted in August 1919. The Weimar Republic effectively ceased with the beginning of Hitler's Third Reich in early 1933.

TREATY OF VERSAILLES AND REPARATION PAYMENTS

The Treaty of Versailles effectively blamed Germany for WWI and demanded that Germany pay reparations to the countries that they

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occupied, particularly France. By the end of WWI, Germany's industry was almost at a standstill. Germany had lost its overseas colonies early in the war and now lost over 13% of its European territory, particularly Alsace-Lorraine to France and most of Posen and West Prussia to Poland. Saar was given to France until 1935.

The first reparation payment was due in July 1922 (at that time the exchange rate was 500 mark equal to 1 dollar US), the second payment was due in late October 1922 (exchange rate 4500 mark equals 1\$US). In January 1923, after Germany claimed it could not afford reparation payments, French and Belgian troops occupied the Ruhr (Germany's most productive industrial region) (exchange rate 10 200 mark equals 1\$US). In response, strikes were called and passive resistance encouraged; the strikes lasted for eight months.

Additional currency was printed by the Reichsbank to pay benefits for the striking workers. Germany had no goods to trade and the government printed more money to deal with the crisis; this allowed Germany to pay war loans and reparations with worthless money and industrialists to pay back loans. Both workers and businessmen received pay rises and the circulation of money rocketed.

In April 1923 hyperinflation commenced and money became worthless. As more currency of higher denominations was constantly being demanded, greater numbers of notgeld appeared alongside the official Reichsbank notes.⁴

Currency stabilization came in November/December 1923 with the appointment of Dr Schacht as Commissioner of National Currency. He first froze the inflation at the rate of 4.2 billion mark to 1 dollar US. On the black market the rate rose to 12 billion by the end of November, however speculators who wanted to keep the inflation roaring on were the losers. Dr Schacht then declared four percent of public lands, including the railroads, as backing for a new German monetary unit, the Rentenmark; by doing so, he exuded a sense of confidence and gave desperate Germans a straw to clutch at. Two enemies had to be defeated – the black market and the enormous amount of emergency money (ie notgeld) in circulation. For a short period only, inflation marks could be exchanged at 4.2 billion per US dollar or 4.2 Rentenmark; the black marketeers were then wiped out.

⁴ The small number of official issues of the Reichsbank are not covered in this article.

ISSUES OF ONE MILLION MARK

The Weimar Republic inherited the State structure of the former German Empire⁵, except for the loss of certain territories – mainly in the east and west. Prussia was, by far, the biggest State and consisted of a number of smaller Provinces.

The number of issues of notgeld notes of denomination 1 000 000 mark by State and Province were:

• Anhalt	5 notes	from	3 localities
• Baden	57 notes	from	30 localities
• Bavaria (Bayern) ⁶	145 notes	from	65 localities
▪ Pfalz	40 notes	from	20 localities
• Bremen (HC ⁷) [Weser]	18 notes	from	3 localities
• Brunswick (Braunschweig)	7 notes	from	3 localities
▪ Provinz Sachsen	67 notes	from	42 localities
• East Prussia (Oestpreußen)	8 notes	from	5 localities
• Hamburg (HC)	28 notes	from	3 localities
• Hesse (Hessen-Darmstadt)	13 notes	from	10 localities
• Lippe-Schaumburg	2 notes	from	1 locality
• Mecklenburg-Schwerin	1 note	from	1 locality
• Mecklenburg-Strelitz	1 note	from	1 locality
• Oldenburg-Birkenfeld ⁸	27 notes	from	9 localities
• Prussia (Preußen)			
▪ Brandenburg ⁹	43 notes	from	20 localities
▪ Hannover	100 notes	from	38 localities
▪ Hessen-Nassau	39 notes	from	22 localities
▪ Pommern	24 notes	from	10 localities
▪ Posen ¹⁰	4 notes	from	3 localities
▪ Rhineland (Rheinland)	252 notes	from	104 localities

⁵ The Empire consisted of 27 constituent territories, usually referred to as “States”, which were kingdoms, grand duchies, duchies, principalities, free Hanseatic cities and one imperial territory (“German Empire” in Wikipedia)

⁶ Anglicised name given first followed by German name in brackets

⁷ HC means Hanseatic City

⁸ Includes issues for Oldenburg (23 from 8 localities)

⁹ Includes issues for Berlin (9)

¹⁰ Includes issues for Grenzmark (2) and Westpreussen (1)

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▪ Schleswig-Holstein ¹¹	72 notes	from	34 localities
▪ Silesia (Schlesien) ¹²	42 notes	from	28 localities
▪ Westfalen	118 notes	from	58 localities
• Saxony (Sachsen)	194 notes	from	78 localities
• Schaumburg-Lippe	2 notes	from	1 locality
• Thuringia (Thüringen)	53 notes	from	31 localities
• Waldeck-Pyrmont	4 notes	from	1 locality
• Württemberg ¹³	61 notes	from	43 localities

This gives a total of 1427 issues of notgeld notes of denomination 1 000 000 mark! (I have about 60, ie 4%, of these!) From here on, all references to issues of notes refer only to denomination one million mark.

TYPES OF ISSUERS

There were many types of issuers. I have divided them into various groups as in the following list. Many of these groups I have further divided into sub-groups. These groupings are of my own making, are tentative and are subject to change (particularly in relation to my very limited understanding of the German language), particularly in relation to the allocation of some notes to these groupings; this in turn will affect the number of notes and issuers for each grouping. In a number of instances, the same note could be allocated to more than one grouping, eg should notes issued by city savings banks be included in the “Municipality” group or the “Bank” group? – I decided to include them in the “Municipality” group.

• Municipalities	545 notes	by	366 issuers
• Districts	34 notes	by	22 issuers
• Communities	131 notes	by	98 issuers
• Markets	9 notes	by	7 issuers
• Chambers of Commerce	9 notes	by	6 issuers
• Banks & Credit Institutions	171 notes	by	104 issuers
• Companies	208 notes	by	149 issuers
• Businesses	168 notes	by	111 issuers

¹¹ Includes issues for Lübeck (2)

¹² Includes issues for Oberschlesien (11 from 9 localities)

¹³ Includes issues for Hohenzollern (2)

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• Unions and Associations	81 notes	by 47 issuers
• Railways	22 notes	by 16 issuers
• State	21 notes	by 10 issuers
• Miscellaneous	28 notes	by 21 issuers

MUNICIPALITIES

I have divided the municipal issuers into nine main sub-groups as follows:

• City	388 notes	by 249 issuers
• City Council	21 notes	by 16 issuers
• City Treasury	29 notes	by 21 issuers
• City Savings Bank	30 notes	by 24 issuers
• City and Administrative Region	11 notes	by 4 issuers
• Administrative Region	13 notes	by 10 issuers
• Municipality	21 notes	by 19 issuers
• Magistrate	15 notes	by 10 issuers
• Others	17 notes	by 13 issuers

City



Figure 7 City of Cologne, 1 million mark, 4 August 1923 (156 x 102 mm)
*“Stadt Köln” at top of note; signatory is “der Oberbürgermeister” [the Lord Mayor]
 Conrad Adenauer, later the first Chancellor of West Germany*

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By far the largest sub-group are City (and town) issues consisting of 388 notes from 23 states; this is 26% of the notes issued. They have the word “**Stadt**” followed by the name of the city, usually in the title; they were issued in the majority of states. Other notes may have other information before the word “Stadt”, eg “**Notgeld der Stadt** Duisburg” [ie notgeld of the City of Duisburg] and “**Gutschein der Stadt** Liebau” [ie voucher of the City of Liebau]. Signatories are usually “**der Bürgermeister**” (the Mayor) or “**der Oberbürgermeister**” (the Lord Mayor), but may be signed by “**der Magistrat**” (the Magistrate(s)).



Figure 8 City of Liebau, 1 million mark, 10 August 1923 (208 x 75 mm)
title is “Gutschein der Stadt Liebau” [voucher of the City of Liebau]



Figure 9 City of Duisburg, 1 million mark, 10 August 1923 (170 x 105 mm)
title is “Notgeld der Stadt Duisburg” [notgeld of the City of Duisburg]

City Council

City Council issues will have the word “**Stadtrat**” followed by the name of the city, eg “**Stadtrat Staubing**” [Staubing City Council]. The 21 notes were issued in four states – Bavaria, Hesse, Rhineland, and Saxony.



Figure 10 City Council of Straubing, 1 million mark, 15 August 1923
(147 x 70 mm); “**Stadtrat Staubing**” at lower centre of note;
signatory is “**Der erste Bürgermeister**” [the first Mayor]

City Treasury

City Treasury issues will have the word “**Stadtkasse**” followed by the name of the city, eg “**Stadtkasse Fürth i/B**” [City Treasury of Fürth in Bavaria]. In this instance, the identifier is in the general text rather than in a heading and the three signatories are “**Stadtrat**” (ie City Councillors). Another example has “**Stadthauptkasse Nürnberg**” [Nürnberg Main Treasury].

Most of these 29 notes were issued in Saxony; a few were also issued in Brandenburg, Rhineland, Schleswig-Holstein, and Westfalen.

The three issues have the word “**Stadtkassenschein**” [City Treasury voucher] and were issued in Berlin, eg an overprinted Berlin note has as its title “**Stadtkassenschein**” and is signed by two “**Magistrat der Reichshauptstadt**” [Magistrates of the National Capital City].

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Figure 11 Berlin City Treasury voucher, 1 million mark overprinted on 500 mark (163 x 94 mm); title “Stadtkassenschein” at top; signatories are two “Magistrat der Reichshauptstadt” [Magistrates of the National Capital City]

City Savings Bank

City Savings Bank issues have the words “**Stadt Sparkasse**” or “**Städtische Sparkasse**” [City Savings Bank]. Two very different examples come from Bielefeld and Heldburg; the Bielefeld note has “Stadt–Sparkasse Bielefeld” as the title and is signed by a “Stadtrat” [City Councillor]. The Heldburg note has “Städtische Sparkasse in Heldburg” [Heldburg City Savings Bank] rubber stamped on both the front and back.



Figure 12 Bielefeld City Savings Bank, 1 million mark, 11 August 1923 (146 x 81 mm); title across the top [back shown here; front shown on cover] conversion rates to several currencies shown at the ends, and the costs of various products and rail services, around the border

Most of these 30 notes were issued in Rhineland while others were issued in Bavaria, Province of Saxony, Saxony, and Thüringen.



Figure 13 Heldburg City Savings Bank, 1 million mark, undated (111 x 80 mm) note that the denomination is handwritten (both numerals and words), and the rubber stamps on the front and back; “Nur zur Verrechnung” [only for account offset¹⁴]

City and Administrative Region



Figure 14 Aachen City and Administrative Region, 1 million mark, 20 July 1923 (145 x 91 mm); “Stadt= und Landkreis Aachen” [City and County of Aachen]

¹⁴ This usage would appear to be similar to “NOT NEGOTIABLE” on cheques in Australia

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Issues for a City and Administrative Region have the words “**Stadt und Landkreis**”, eg Stadt= und Landkreis Aachen [City and County of Aachen]. These 11 notes were only issued in Rhineland and Westfalen.

Administrative Region

Issues for an Administrative Region have the word “**Landkreis**” [District] or, in one instance, “**Landgemeinde**” [Rural Community]. Most of these 13 notes were mainly issued in Rhineland while others came from one issuer in each of Silesia, Schleswig-Holstein, Thüringen, and Westfalen.

Municipality

Issues for a Municipality have the word “**Stadtgemeinde**”. These 21 notes come from nine different states.

Magistrate

Some municipal notes have been issued by a Magistrate and have the word “**Magistrat**” on them. These 15 notes come from five different states.

Various other municipal notes have also been signed by one or more magistrates (as mentioned earlier); however I have not included them in this sub-group.

Others

This sub-group consists of various notes that do not appear to comfortably fit into any of the other sub-groups, eg a note issued by “Städtische Licht- und Wasserwerke” [Municipal Light and Water Works] in Neustettin. These 17 notes come from seven different states.

DISTRICT (BEZIRK)

The majority of these issues can be divided into two main sub-groups:

- District Savings Bank 11 notes by 8 issuers
- District Association 19 notes by 11 issuers
- Others 4 notes by 3 issuers

District Savings Bank

District Savings Banks will have the word “**Bezirkssparkasse**” on their notes.

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District Association

Notes issued by District Association of the Head Official Captaincy will have “**Bezirksverband der Amtshauptmannschaft**” on them.

Others

This sub-group consists of notes from four issuers which all have the word “Bezirk” in their title, but don’t fit into either of the other two sub-groups.

COMMUNITY (GEMEINDE, KREIS)

Community issues all have the word “**Gemeinde**” or “**Kreis**” in their title (or name of issuer). I have divided these into three main sub-groups.

- | | | |
|----------------------|----------|---------------|
| • Community | 31 notes | by 28 issuers |
| • District / Ward | 47 notes | by 31 issuers |
| • District Committee | 35 notes | by 23 issuers |
| • Other Community | 22 notes | by 17 issuers |

Community

This sub-group have the word “**Gemeinde**” [Community] without any qualifier. These 31 notes come from 11 different states.

District / Ward

This sub-group have the word “**Kreis**” [District / Ward]. These 43 notes come from ten different states. The context in which this is used indicates an electoral constituency.

District Committee

This sub-group have the word “**Kreisausschuss**” [District Committee]. These 35 notes come from eight different states.

Others

The remaining notes for this group have various wording indicating that they were issued by some sort of community. These 22 notes come from 11 different states.

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Figure 15 Pfalz District Community, 1 million mark, undated (1923)
(150 x 90 mm); top line “Notgeldschein der Kriesgemeinde Pfalz”
[Emergency money of the District Community of Pfalz]

MARKET (MARKT)

This is a small group of nine notes from only seven issuers, all in Bavaria.

- Market 3 notes by 2 issuers
- Community Market 4 notes by 4 issuers
- Market Treasury 2 notes by 1 issuer

Notes issued by a Market have the word “**Markt**”, eg a note issued by Berchtesgaden Market has “Markt Berchtesgaden” in the title.



Figure 16 Langquaid Market Treasury, 1 million mark, 5 September 1923
(165 x 80 mm); “Marktparkasse Langquaid” above the seal

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The notes issued by a Community Market have the word “**Marktgemeinde**”, eg a note from Dirlewang has the title “Markt-Gemeindekasse” above one of the signatures.

Notes issued by a Market Treasury have the word “**Marktparkasse**”, eg a note issued by Langquaid Market Treasury has “Marktparkasse Langquaid” above the seal.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (HANDELSKAMMER)

Chamber of Commerce issues all have the word “**Handelskammer**” in their title. This small group of notes come from three states – Hannover, Oldenburg-Birkenfeld, and Rhineland.

- Chamber of Commerce 9 notes by 6 issuers



Figure 17 Aachen Chamber of Commerce, 1 million mark, 18 August 1923
(145 x 84 mm); title (at top of note is "Handelskammer Aachen"

BANKS AND CREDIT INSTITUTIONS

I have divided this large group into seven main sub-groups of banks plus one credit institution. However I have not included City Savings Banks (which are listed under “Municipalities”) nor Union Banks (listed under “Unions and Associations”):

- Regional Banks 20 notes by 11 issuers
- Savings Banks 29 notes by 21 issuers
- Commercial Banks 12 notes by 9 issuers
- Business Banks 8 notes by 6 issuers
- Private Banks 39 notes by 18 issuers

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- | | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------|----|------------|
| • Deutsche Bank | 7 notes | by | 3 issuers |
| • Dresdner Bank | 9 notes | by | 5 issuers |
| • Other Banks | 25 notes | by | 19 issuers |
| • ADCA | 17 notes | by | 9 issuers |
| • Other Credit Institutions | 5 notes | by | 3 issuers |

Regional Banks

I have included under this heading notes from the following banks:

- regional banks as listed in the *Standard Catalog of World Paper Money – Specialised Issues* (which only included those four banks that had a history of note issues over many years);
- banks that describe themselves as “**Staatsbank**”; and
- banks that describe themselves as “**Landesbank**”.

The first four banks are “Badische Bank” [Bank of Baden], “Bayerische Notenbank” [Bavarian Note Issuing Bank], “Sächsische Bank” [Bank of Saxony], and “Württembergische Notenbank” [Württemberg Note Issuing Bank].



Figure 18 Bank of Saxony, 1 million mark, 18 August 1923 (156 x 94 mm)
 “Die Sächsische Bank zu Dresden” [The Bank of Saxony of Dresden]

Three banks describe themselves as “**Staatsbank**”, [literally State Bank¹⁵]. They are “Bayerische Staatsbank” [Bavarian State Bank],

¹⁵ Do not confuse “Staat” [state or region] with “Stadt” [city or town]

“Braunschweigische Staatsbank” [Brunswick State Bank], and “Sächsische Staatsbank” [Saxony State Bank].

Four banks name themselves as “**Landesbank**”, [Regional Bank]; they are located in Hannover, Lippe-Schaumburg, Rhineland, and Westfalen.



Figure 19 Bavarian State Bank, 1 million mark, 1 August 1923 (163 x 92 mm)
"Bayerische Staatsbank" in centre of note

Savings Banks

This sub-group is the second largest with 29 issues from 21 banks; they all have the word “**Sparkasse**” [Savings Bank or Treasury] in their name. Some are named “**Gemeindesparkasse**” (Community Savings Bank). I have also included two organisations named as “**Spar- u. Darlehnskasse**” (savings and loan fund), one named as “**Spar- und Darlehnsverein**” (savings and loan association), and one named as “**Spar- und Leihkasse**” (savings and lending bank). These savings bank issues come from nine states with the majority of issues being from Hannover and Württemberg.

Commercial Banks

Nine commercial banks (**Gewerbebank**), in four different states, issued notes.

Business Banks

Six banks, five from different towns in Bavaria and one from Brandenburg, describe themselves as “**Bankgeschäft**” [Banking] ie a business bank. There were eight issues of notes.

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Private Banks

This, the largest sub-group comprises 39 issues from 18 different banks in six states. Twenty issues are named as “**Commerz- u. Privatbank**” [Private Bank of Commerce], or have that as part of their name; all except one of these come from Saxony (the exception is from Province Saxony).

I have also included 13 issues from three banking houses (“**Bankhaus**”) and one issue from a banking firm (“**Bankfirma**”) as private banks; these were from Bavaria, Württemberg, and Thüringen.

Deutsche Bank

Three branch offices of the “**Deutsche Bank**” [German Bank] issued notes; two of these were in Rhineland and one in Saxony.

Dresdner Bank

Five branch offices of the “**Dresdner Bank**” issued notes; two each of these were in Rhineland and Saxony and the other was in Bavaria.



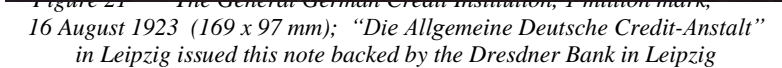
Figure 20 *Dresdner Bank, Nürnberg Branch, 1 million mark,
17 August 1923; (120 x 76 mm)*

Other Banks

The remaining 25 notes come from a variety of types of issuers in eight states; some may possibly belong to other sub-groups (or even other groups).

General German Credit Institution

“**Die Allgemeine Deutsche Credit-Anstalt**” or ADCA [The General German Credit Institution] issued notes from eight different localities in Saxony and one locality in Province Saxony.



Five notes from three other credit institutions were also issued; three of these notes being from Schleswig-Holstein and one each from Oldenburg and Rhineland.

Generally, companies will have one of the following in their name (usually at the end); in most cases this is as the abbreviation but sometimes with one or more of the words:

- A number of companies have the word “**Gesellschaft**” as part of their name, but without the rest of the term; I have listed these under “Other Companies”. I have not included here those companies which are banks – these are included with the banks.

- 28 -

NOTGELD MILLIONS

- e.G.m.b.H. 6 notes by 5 issuers
- Other Companies 20 notes by 14 issuers



Figure 22 Brown Coal Works Borna Joint Stock Company, 1 million mark, undated (1923) (140 x 100 mm); note the word “Aktiengesellschaft” under the company name and above the signature



Figure 23 Ostelbische Brown Coal Syndicate Ltd, 1 million mark, August 1923 (134 x 84 mm); note the letters “G.m.b.H.” at the end of the company name

BUSINESSES

The issuers I am including as “businesses” are those which do not appear to be companies; they appear to be trading names or individuals (or a group of individuals) carrying on a business. I have divided them into two

AUSTRALIAN NUMISMATIST 2011

sub-groups; the first sub-group have “& Co” in their name – this appears to indicate that they are a group of individuals carrying on a business.

- Business (“& Co”) 17 notes by 9 issuers
- Other Business 151 notes by 102 issuers



Figure 24 Pegau's Felt Goods Factory of Ferdinand Filcher, Pegau, 1 million mark, 1923 (169 x 112 mm)



Figure 25 Francke Works, Bremen, 1 million mark, 29.8.1923 (135 x 86 mm); note the title “Die Geschäftsinhaber” [the Business Owner(s)] above the signatures

NOTGELD MILLIONS

UNIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS

Nine trade unions (“**Gewerkschaft**”) from six different states issued 13 notes. Eleven union banks (“**Vereinsbank**” or “**Bankverein**”) in eight states issued notes.

The 30 notes (from six states) that I have listed as issued by “Associations” include notes with “**Verein**” [Association / Organisation / Union], “**Amtsverband**” [Association of Officials] (plural is “**Amtsverbände**”), “**Amtskörperschaft**” [Official Body], “**Arbeitgeberverband**” [Employers], “**Darlehnskassenverein**” [Loan Organisation].

The remaining nine notes listed under “Other Unions or Associations” are ones that I am uncertain which sub-group to include them in.

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------|---------------|
| • Trade Unions | 13 notes | by 9 issuers |
| • Union Banks | 29 notes | by 11 issuers |
| • Associations | 30 notes | by 18 issuers |
| • Other Unions or Associations | 9 notes | by 5 issuers |



*Figure 26 Association of Lower Saxony Chamber of Commerce, Hannover,
1 million mark, 15.8.1923 (122 x 79 mm)*

“Vereinigung Niedersächsischer Handelskammern” above the three signatures at lower left; this note has five groups of signatories and 14 localities

RAILWAYS

These issues are all listed in the *Standard Catalog of World Paper Money – Specialised Issues*.

- | | | |
|-------------------------|----------|---------------|
| • Ministry of Transport | 1 note | by 1 issuer |
| • Regional Railroads | 21 notes | by 15 issuers |

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The Ministry of Transport note was issued by “**Deutsche Reichsbahn**” [German National Railway] and signed by “**Der Reichsverkehrsminister**” [The German Minister of Transport]. This note has the Deutsche Reichsbahn emblem of a winged wheel.



Figure 27 German State Railway, 1 million mark, 12.8.1923 (128 x 74 mm)
title “Deutsche Reichsbahn” either side of the winged wheel emblem

The “**Reichsbahn – Direktion**” [Federal Railway Directors] issued notes from 13 different offices in 11 states.

STATES

The State issues have the word “**Staat**” or “**Land**” as part of their name.

- States 21 notes by 10 issuers



Figure 28 State Government of Thüringen (in Weimar), 1 million mark, 9.8.1923
(140 x 71 mm); “Die Landesregierung” [The Regional Government];
this is the city that gave its name to the Weimar Republic

These ten issuers include State Finance Ministries / Treasuries, State Ministries, Governments of Federal States, and a State Cultural Council.

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MISCELLANEOUS

That leaves 28 notes from 21 various issuers. The diversity of these issuers, and the small groups that they form, has resulted in my decision to group them together here. This “group” consist of the following:

- Industry 3 notes by 3 issuers
- Others 21 notes by 17 issuers

The three industry notes have the word “**Industrie**” in their name. The three industries that issued notes are the wood industry (in Bremen), hard stone industry (from Frankfurt on Main in Hessen-Nassau), and the steel industry (from Remscheid in Rhineland).

The “others” notes include “**Amtskörperschaft**” [Official Body], “**Postamt**” [Post Office], “**Handwerkskammer**” [Chamber of Trade], and “**Messamt für die Mustermessen**” [Office of the Measurement Standards for Trade Fairs] amongst others.



Figure 29 Office of the Measurement Standards for Trade Fairs, Leipzig,
1 million mark, August 1923 (125 x 81 mm);
“Messamt für die Mustermessen” above signatures

CONCLUDING COMMENTS

The hyperinflation in Germany caused a lot of suffering with large numbers of people being ruined. While the Treaty of Versailles must take much of the blame for the inflation, black marketeers in Germany encouraged the inflationary spiral. It was only when Dr Schacht (Commissioner of National Currency) froze the inflation and then declared four percent of public lands as backing for a new German monetary unit, the Rentenmark,

that the twin enemies, of the black market and the enormous amount of Notgeld, could be defeated.

However this vast quantity of Notgeld, issued by so many people, organisations, etc from so many localities and in such a wide range of denominations, has given numismatists an enormous range of notes to collect. I don't think anyone has ever assembled a complete collection of Notgeld and thus some sort of theme is necessary. Even then a collection of notes of just this one denomination (of one million mark) is a challenge.

Notes of one million mark, issued mainly during just one month (August 1923) come from such a wide variety of issuers that they are representative of all the other Notgeld issued that year.

While many of the notes are well produced and are colourful, there are many that are printed on one side only or are little more than cheques. Some are very poor quality and appear to have been produced in a hurry, possibly to get them into circulation before they became worthless.

After all that, "who wants to be a millionaire?"

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

In addition to the sources listed below, my thanks go to Oliver Ventur, my son-in-law, and to his father, Erwin Ventur, for their assistance in checking and correcting my translations from German into English.

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Collins German Dictionary, HarperCollins Publishers, Glasgow, 7th edn, 2003

Standard Catalog of World Paper Money – Specialised Issues

www.tieste.de/papiergeld/papier.htm¹⁶

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/German_Empire



¹⁶ Since extracting information from this website several years ago, it has been restructured

A NUMISMATIC AUTOBIOGRAPHY

By Darren Burgess, NAV 1146¹

I grew up in a small market town in Shropshire, England in the 1970s. Our family holidays would frequently end up being long (and very often damp) weekends in North Wales. These would mainly consist of eating fish & chips in our grandparent's car, while the windows slowly misted up as we watched the Irish Sea from a safe distance. I didn't realise what a proper beach should look like until 30 years later, when I would experience the joys of the Australian coast for the first time.

As a family we could never really afford to travel overseas, so when friends and family returned from their foreign travels I was intrigued with their left over change. Born in the year of decimalisation (1971 in the UK), pre-decimal coins also held a fascination for me, even though some of them still circulated². My brother and I would also be given a commemorative crown whenever they were issued. I particularly remember the 1973 issue emblazoned with the letters E and P to celebrate the Queen and Prince Phillip's 25th wedding anniversary and the 1977 crown to celebrate the Queen's silver jubilee.

As well as the crowns, there are other coins I remember vividly from my early collecting days; the square cents of the Straits Settlements and Malaya; the holed coins of Africa and most vividly of all an 1875 French 5 Francs piece.

THE LABOURS OF HERCULES

An example of the neo-classical style, the obverse of this large silver coin depicts three figures, one male (who at the time I thought was Jesus) with two women on either side. The male figure is actually Hercules, used as a symbol of strength, courage and endurance. What better model to represent the core republican value of fraternity? He is seen draped in the skin of the

¹ Darren presented this paper at NAV meeting No 983 on 16 September 2011; this is effectively a continuation of his paper "Bridgnorth: A Numismatic Introduction" published in the *Australian Numismatist*, 2010; pp 13-38.

² Shillings and Florins continuing to be used as 5 and 10 pence pieces respectively up until the 1990's when smaller coins were introduced for each denomination.

Nemean Lion which, according to Greek mythology, was slain during the first of Hercules' labours. As it was impenetrable, the pelt made Hercules invulnerable as he continued on his legendary journey.



Figure 30 France 1875, 5 francs (dia 37 mm)

He is flanked on either side by the female figures of Liberty and Equality. On the coin I remember Liberty, on the left, is shown holding a spear topped by the hand of Justice. On Hercules' other side stands Equality, holding a builder's level, representing balance. The female figures are depicted clasping each others hands and Hercules rests his hands upon their shoulders, bonding the three elements of liberty, equality and fraternity reflecting the legend on the obverse.

In the exergue is the signature, Dupré. The piece was designed by Augustin Dupré (1748 – 1833) who was a student of the sculptor David and a leading medallist before the revolution. He engraved the dies for *Libertas Americana* from sketches by Esprit-Antoine Giblein and was engraver general of the Paris mint from 1791 to 1803.

On the reverse are the words “REPUBLIQUE FRANCAISE” (the French Republic) within which is a ribbon tied wreath of laurel (a symbol of glory) and oak (symbolising long life) and within this is displayed the value (5 Francs) and the date. Mint and privy marks are displayed in the exergue and mine was from Paris (depicted by the letter A). An edge inscription reads “DIEU PROTEGE LA FRANCE” (God Protect France).

The Hercules design was first struck as a 37mm silver 5 Francs piece in Year 4 of the First Republic and continued through to 1799 with the reverse legend “UNION ET FORCE” (Union and Strength) and an edge inscription “GARANTIE NATIONALE”. The Obverse image shows the same three figures as the 1875 example, however it's worth noting that originally Liberty's spear was topped by a Phrygian Cap.

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The design was resurrected in 1848 following the Paris Insurrection. Changes include replacing the Phrygian cap on top of Liberty's spear with the Hand of Justice by Engraver General Jean-Jaques Barre and the change in legend from "UNION ET FORCE" to "LIBERTÉ ÉGALITÉ FRATERNITÉ".

During the rebellion of the Paris Commune in the winter of 1870-1, the Paris mint fell under the control of insurrectionists and Zephyrenne Camélinat, a worker in bronze, organised the striking of 5 Franc pieces bearing the Dupré design with Camélinat's privy mark of a trident. Although a mintage of 256 410 pieces was recorded, most of these coins were melted down after the fall of the Commune and as such are considered rare.

During the third republic the coin was struck annually from 1870 until 1878 in Paris (A) and Bordeaux (K). There were 20 Proof examples issued in 1889, which today can fetch over \$11 000 at auction. The design then resurfaced almost a century later in 1964 in the form of a silver 10 Francs Piece. It's worth noting that this time the Phrygian Cap was back in vogue.



Figure 31 France 1976, 50 francs (dia 41 mm)

The design continued to appear on French coinage throughout the 20th century, on a silver 50 Franc piece from 1974 to 1980 and in 1996 on a 29 mm 5 Franc cupronickel coin commemorating 200 years of the design. Most recently it appeared in a modified form on a 100 Euro silver piece. This modern release is an interpretation of Dupré's design modernised by Joaquin Jimenez (initials in the right of the exergue). The mintage of 50 000 was released as part of a programme that enabled French buyers to purchase the coins at face value. Previous coins in this series included several different versions of the La Semeuse (The Sower) design of Oscar Roty, which originally appeared on the obverse of the 50 Centime

piece at the start of the 3rd Republic in 1897. A 1000 Euro gold coin of similar design was also released and naturally in these times its mintage of 10 000 was sold out almost immediately.



Figure 32 France 2011, 100 euro (dia 47 mm)

A COLLECTOR IS BORN

Over time this accumulation of foreign coins and crowns became a collection and it needed somewhere to be housed. To help with this my ever resourceful grandad took the remains of our old leatherette sofa (it was the 70's after all) and fashioned it in to a coin box that held my growing collection. I also remember spending an inordinate amount of time typing up lists of my collection on my mother's manual type writer. Thank goodness that I can now use my computer to keep track of my collection!

I also remember getting copies of the Coin Year Book (still published by Token Publications today), where I would look longingly at older British coins such as the Gothic Crown and learnt all about the different terminology applied to coins such as "proof" and "piefort".

In 1982 the next step on my numismatic journey started when I actually paid money for coins, with the Royal Mint's decimal mint set of UK circulating coins. This set was the first of its type to be issued by the mint and saw the introduction of the popular 20p piece and, 11 years after decimalisation, the dropping of the term "New Penny". The following years would see the introduction of the £1 Coin (1983), the last ½ Penny (1984 mint set) and the introduction of a new portrait of the Queen by Raphael David Maklouf (1985).



Figure 33 UK Uncirculated Coin Collection, 1982

It was around this time that I started to add to my pre-decimal coins by collecting Farthings, mainly because they were affordable. I would send away for a list from a specialist dealer and save my money to buy the best examples I could afford. I ended up with a complete set of George VI and Elizabeth II in uncirculated condition.

In 1986 I purchased my first silver coin, which was a silver £2 issued to celebrate the Edinburgh Commonwealth Games, a collectors version of the first base metal £2 to be issued. The reverse design is a thistle encircled by a laurel wreath, superimposed on the cross of Saint Andrew. Designed by Norman Sillman it was the first British coin issued to commemorate a sporting event. The edge is milled, and has an incuse inscription: "XIII COMMONWEALTH GAMES SCOTLAND 1986".

PAUSE FOR THOUGHT

From 1989 my collecting habits took a break as I spent the next three years in Cardiff studying Astrophysics. Why Astrophysics? Well I had an aptitude for Maths and Physics and a passion for astronomy. Always being inquisitive from an early age I basically wanted to know how the universe worked. To this day there are a number of items in my collection that reflect my ongoing interest in my chosen field of study including a token featuring that most prominent of physicists, Sir Isaac Newton. There are of course other numismatic connections to Newton, as he was warden of the Royal Mint in 1696 and latterly Master of the Mint from 1699 to his death in 1727.



*Figure 34 Middlesex token halfpenny with Sir Isaac Newton, 1793 (dia 28 mm)
[Dalton & Hamer reference for this piece is 1034]*

This English token from Middlesex dated 1793 shows Sir Isaac Newton facing left on the obverse.

Reverse: A caduceus, olive branch, and cornucopia, symbols of commerce & negotiation, peace and prosperity “HALFPENNY” and “1793”.

Edge: “PAYABLE IN LONDON BRISTOL & LANCASTER”

There was also a farthing issued of around the same time with a number of reverses including beehives representing industry and the ubiquitous Britannia. Of course Newton also appeared on the reverse of the first decimal pound note.

Newton is also quoted on the edge inscription of my favourite circulating British coin, the £2. This was the first bi-metallic coin to be produced for

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circulation in Britain since 1692³. The coin consists of an outer yellow metal nickel-brass ring and an inner cupro-nickel disc. Because of technical difficulties, the 1997 dated coins, which bear the effigy of Queen Elizabeth II by Raphael Maklouf, were not released to circulation until June 1998 (the same time as the 1998 dated coins). 1998 and later dated coins bear the effigy of the Queen by Ian Rank-Broadley.

A new design was required for the reverse and it was decided to proceed by way of a competition open to members of the general public. The winning artist, Bruce Rushin, an art teacher from Norfolk, based his design on a series of concentric circles telling the story, through symbolic devices, of technological development from the Iron Age to the Industrial Revolution and from the Computer Age to the Internet. It's this reverse and the use of simple symbology representing the entire history of a nation that really appeals to me.

An appropriate edge inscription had to be chosen and it reads "STANDING ON THE SHOULDERS OF GIANTS".

This quote is taken from a letter written in 1676 by Isaac Newton to his fellow scientist Robert Hooke, acknowledging the debt he owed to his predecessors, 'if I have seen further it is by standing on the shoulders of giants'.⁴



Figure 35 Canadian Municipal Trade Tokens from the town of Vulcan
(sizes: 40 mm dia (left), 48 x 25 mm (right))

Having always been a fan of science fiction also added to the desire to explore the final frontier and this has translated in to a couple of additions

³ Between 1684 and 1692, English farthings and halfpennies were struck from tin blanks with a central copper plug, thus they were bi-metallic (ie two metals) – Ed

⁴ Turnbull, H W (ed), *The Correspondence of Isaac Newton*, Vol 1, 1959

to the collection over time too, including these Canadian Municipal Trade Tokens from the town of Vulcan in Alberta.

A TRULY REMARKABLE PROOF

After graduating university I took a couple of jobs until I ended up working in North London. After some time I finally started to get some disposable income, which happened to coincide with the introduction of eBay. Now there are many things said about eBay, but I have to say I've never had any issues with any purchases I've made through it. I've always been cautious though, with making sure the seller has a good feedback (nothing under 99% approval rating) and has a reasonable history of selling similar items.

A large percentage of my collection has been acquired this way and it's certainly made items more accessible globally. It was through eBay that I accrued a collection of British decimal proof sets, finally realising the dreams of that small boy to admire the workmanship of these collectors' coins. To this day I purchase a British proof set every year.

After a brief return to the midlands, 1997 saw a move to South London and eventually Maidstone in Kent for a new job. Maidstone is a town with a long history and there are a number of 17th Century tokens that were issued there, a couple of which have been added to my collection over the years.

In 1998 work sent me to New Zealand for a year and I took the opportunity of adding New Zealand proof sets to the collection. The silver crowns in the earlier sets certainly appealed to me. This began a habit of collecting coins from places I visited.

While on holiday in Iceland, while more adventurous friends were off scaling waterfalls I managed to find a coin shop in Reykjavik. I spent a wonderful afternoon chatting with the owner and took the opportunity to purchase a two coin silver set commemorating 1100 years of settlement of Iceland.

The reverses of the two coins depict how Icelandic settlers claimed land. Women could claim the land they could walk a cow around in a single day, and this is depicted on the 500 Kronur piece. Men claimed land by building a bonfire and the distance from which it could be seen became the borders of their land, and this is depicted on the 100 Kronur.

The obverse shows the four protectors of Iceland, known as the *landvættir* or "land wights" of Iceland. The bull (Gríðungur) is the protector the

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southwestern part of Iceland, the griffin (Gammur) protects northwest, the dragon (Dreki) the northeast and the Rock-giant (Bergrisi) is the protector of southeastern Iceland.

Great respect was given to these creatures of Iceland, so much so that there was a law during the early settlement that no ship should bear grimacing symbols (most often dragonheads on the bow of Viking ships) when approaching Iceland. This was so the protectors would not be provoked in to action unnecessarily.

AUSTRALIA FAIR

So how did I end up in Australia? Well after visiting on a number of occasions, including catching up with members of the family that came out as “Ten Pound Poms”, it was work again that gave me the opportunity to move here and so I arrived in May of 2005 ready to start the next chapter of my life.

This happened to coincide with Commonwealth Games being held in Melbourne (in 2006) and of course the Royal Australian Mint was ready with an extensive coin programme for the event, hoping for a similar success to that of the popular Sydney Olympics programme.



Figure 36 “Australia on the Map”, coloured silver proof, 2006, 1 dollar (dia 40.6 mm)

One of the first Perth Mint coins that made it in to my collection was one that featured the Duyfkin (Dutch for little dove), which was the first European vessel to map Australia’s coast. This coin is particularly precious to me, not for its rarity or even design, but because it was the first gift given to me by my then wife to be. Australia, for me at least, was the lucky country. This coin was also the impetus for an interest in Australian history, especially maritime history.

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Whatever your opinion of NCLT (Non Circulating Legal Tender) coins, there are some that are truly beautiful and this “Kangaroo at Sunset” is probably my favourite. It started life as a \$25 1/5 oz gold coin that was first minted by the RAM in 2007. With only 1000 minted each year they are highly sought after. Designed by Wojciech Pietranik, he says that the inspiration for this particular design was taken from the drive home after work, with kangaroos by the side of the road casting long shadows from the low late afternoon sun.



Figure 37 Australia “Kangaroo at Sunset”, gold proof, 2008, 25 dollar (dia 21.7 mm)

Having previously collected silver crowns over the years I found that both the Royal Australian Mint and the Perth Mint were issuing plenty to keep me occupied. In fact I couldn't keep up and realised that I had to have more of a focus for my collection. This came following my purchase of my first Australian Pre-Decimal coin.



Figure 38 Australia, Canberra florin, 1927 (dia 28.5 mm)

My grandad, Gerald Royston Baglin, who made me that coin box all those years ago, passed away in 2009. We were never a wealthy family and I was fortunate enough to receive around \$100 from the estate. I wanted to purchase something as a remembrance of him and while scanning the

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cabinet of a coin dealer I noticed a beautiful coin with the year of his birth, 1927. I thought that this numismatic work of art was a suitably fitting reminder of grandad, so I purchased what I still believe to be the best circulating coin Australia has produced, the Parliament Florin.

Designed by George Edward Kruger (1880-1943) this coin made me search out other works by him. As a young man he studied at the Royal College of Art, London and during the First World War he served as a soldier. In 1918 he married Audrey Gray and in an unusual step added her surname to his own. His early works included portrait & landscape paintings, stained glass and even posters for the London Underground.

Kruger Gray went on to design and engrave an extensive array of coins and medals, predominantly for the Royal Mint. Countries that had coins with those familiar initials, “KG” on them, in addition to Australia’s post 1937 coinage, include Great Britain, New Zealand, Mauritius, South Africa, Southern Rhodesia, New Guinea, Canada and Cyprus.



Figure 39 Some coins designed by Kruger Gray:

*Australia, 1 crown, 1937 (dia 38 mm); Mauritius, ½ rupee, 1971 (dia 23.7 mm)
Southern Rhodesia, 1 shilling, 1937 (dia 23.5 mm) Cyprus, 18 piastres, 1938 (dia 30 mm)*

A NUMISMATIST IN TRAINING

Since joining the NAV my collecting habits have gone through an enormous change. Just the process of researching and writing my previous article on my home town has given me a broader canvas to work on. Until then I had very little idea about tokens or medals, a number of which have since entered my collection.

The works of individual designers whose work appeals to me, such as Kruger Gray or Augustin Dupré, will continue to be a focus, and I'm very much looking forward to a forthcoming trip to Paris where I hope to see some more of Dupré's work up close.

Joining a society, such as the NAV, has provided me with so much knowledge and insight from other members and it was somewhat overwhelming at first. Ultimately it has been an enormously beneficial, not to mention enjoyable, experience. What I have learnt is that I may be in my fourth decade as a collector, but in some ways I feel as if my numismatic journey has only just begun.



A ‘COINED’ CLASSIC POSTAGE STAMP

By Bill Xynos, NAV 1112¹

INTRODUCTION

Writing about a subject beyond your knowledge is difficult but achievable. This article is certainly the result of such a leap of faith or a step into the unknown, especially for a numismatist. The genesis of the article was this year’s anniversary of a European classic postage stamp, but my study on the subject opened some interesting details worth sharing with you.

HOW IT ALL STARTED...

In December 2003, I had the opportunity to meet my relatives abroad after an absence of many years. Already known for my collecting personality, my aunty entrusted me to sort my uncle’s stamp collection of postage stamps into a meaningful order and to work out a realistic market value for possible future sale.

Only once before and many years ago, my uncle swore me to secrecy about his collection of Greek stamps. After a long time, viewing this collection for the first time was real, and despite being apprehensive about the task, I agreed to do so out of respect for my late uncle. This has also presented me with my only chance to understand about “Greek postage stamps” in detail. Assisted by stamp albums, specialised catalogues, a magnifying glass and a pair of tweezers, this work was completed within 12 long days. Of course, constant supply of refreshments and sweets were welcomed and following my regular and detailed report on the collection, my aunty praised me and certified me as a ‘crazy stampie’. I was simply delighted!

The implications of this work were profound. While the collection was proven to be almost complete, my understanding of the philatelic issues repositioned my appreciation about the Greek history and culture advertised and presented through its postage stamps. The collection had some gaps in the first postage issue – the famously colourful and elegant Hermes Heads

¹ This paper is based on a talk titled “The Frenchman and the First Greek Stamp” that Bill gave at NAV meeting 932 on 16 February 2007.

stamps, of which only 15 examples of used stamps were located and identified in the collection.



*Figure 1 – Was this postage stamp the source of all numismatic evil?
The Large Hermes Heads imperforate postage stamp from Greece, 10 Lepta,
orange colour on blue paper, Athens printing (circa.1863) [SG no.5]*

As we can observe in Figure 1, this innocent small piece of paper (measuring 23 by 18.5 mm) has a classic ‘Greek key’ border, a lightly waved and dotted background design, and at its centre, a medal-like adoption of Hermes. Known also as Mercury, Hermes was the son of Zeus (Jupiter) and Maia, and is represented in the Greek mythology as the messenger of the gods and protector of travellers.

In my humble view, it was a very appropriate choice for the Greek government to adopt² this portrait. The design overall is a testament of the Greek influence in Western and European civilization, an admiration that still stands today worldwide.

For this series of stamps³, the printing results range from coarse to fine, as with the thickness of the paper used, but the printings were well executed, especially the early ones. Their colours vary depending on the inscribed value. It’s the wide range of colours used during the printings of these ‘large heads⁴’ that impressed me. So much so, that I’ve decided to abandon my basic and small Greek collection, in favour of this classic stamp.

² By decree dated 10 June 1860.

³ This series of postage stamps commenced on 1 October 1861 and continued until late February 1886.

⁴ In Greek philately, the term *large heads* implies exactly that. The second series of postage stamps started in March 1886 and adopted a similar design but with a smaller head.

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And so, by early January 2004, I was an awakened philatelist! Back at home; my attempts to locate such stamps resulted in an accumulation of 37 stamps so far. Still, I consider this collecting avenue as a long-term adventure.

POST-LIBERATION POSTAL SERVICES

Following the War for Independence, the liberated Greek territory was secured under the Treaty of Paris in 1826 under the supervision of the Great Powers (France, Great Britain and Russia). The Provisional Government appointed Conte I. Capodistrias as the first Governor.

Postal services were vital for commerce, trade and communications. Capodistrias signed the decree (24-9-1828) founding the Hellenic Postal Services and, under King Otto's reign, these were expanded. As full postal services were firmly established in Great Britain (1840) and later in France, other countries were eager to adopt it. But with the Greek Kingdom, it was not until 1853 that a law allowed affixing adhesive stamps on prepaid letters. For some reason or another nothing more was done.

NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE STAMP PRODUCTION

Thanks to some early research⁵ done by serious philatelists in the early 20th century, original documents kept at a European museum have revealed the details of the order placed by the Greek government for the postage

⁵ Research sources:

- (a) 'Le classement de timbres grecs' published by Georges Brunel in Paris in 1929
- (b) 'Etude sur les timbres-poste de Grèce' edited by late Tryphon Constantinides and published by the Hellenic Philatelic Society in 1933 in Athens
- (c) research by Dr. Pierre Bouvet presented at a meeting of the Academy of Philately (France) in January 1937 and published in *Echo de la Timbrologie* (April 1937)
- (d) 'La commande à la monnaie de Paris des timbres grecs à tête de Mercure' published in Paris by Dr. Pierre Bouvet in 1937
- (e) a series of articles in *Le Monde des Philatélistes* in March and April 1989 written by Ulysse Bellas
- (f) Louis Basel's internet site <http://hermesheads.home.comcast.net>.
- (g) 'Large Hermes head Paris printing: The exact quantities ordered and shipped to Athens' by Louis Fanchini
- (h) archives of the Albert Barre heirs

stamps and the difficulties encountered in accomplishing it and launch its Greek Postal Services on 1 October 1861.



Figure 2 – Monnaie de Paris (Paris Mint), a French governmental administration charged with issuing coins, producing medals and other similar items. Created in 864, it is the oldest French institution. [Source: PHGCOM (2009), Wikimedia Commons / Wikipedia]



Dimitri Kallergis
(1803 - 1867)



Théophile-Jules Pelouze
(1807 - 1867)

Figure 3 – The protagonists for the production of the first Greek postage stamp

While negotiations with Great Britain on the production of the postage stamps were failing, government representatives approached France for assistance. In a letter dated 17 July 1860, the Minister Plenipotentiary of Greece in Paris (Kallergis) wrote to the President of the Authority of Coinage and Medals of France (Pelouze) regarding the matter.

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The letter reveals the progress of the negotiations for the order of 510 000 postage stamps, as well as detailed information such as their classes (values) and dimensions. This is an insight to the influence of the French postage stamps on the proposed Greek postage stamps.

Nine days later, Pelouze informed his supervisor (Achille Fould, Minister of Finances) of the request and asked for approval to proceed with the new order, emphasising of no adverse impact to the productions of the French postage stamps, according to the Director of the Posts (Stourm). Hulot would be assigned with the manufacture of the plates. Pelouze, certain of the affirmative decision, responded to the Greek Minister (27 July) indicating the Mint’s acceptance, but with three conditions: [a] due to the ordered numbers, the number of classes must be reduced, [b] the Mint will have the flexibility in adopting the colours or shades that would give the best impression, preservation and duration of the printing, and [c] it would be advantageous to increase the ordered numbers printed in Paris for satisfying a year’s supply without the inconvenience of delays in supply, service and operations, and any increase in costs.

Importantly, the letter confirms the submission of the design and details the costs of the production, time estimates of the engraving work (two to three months) and of the plate fabrication (about three to four months later), and the date of commencing the printing works (January 1861).



Désiré-Albert Barre
(1808 -1878)

Figure 4 – Désiré-Albert Barre – Engraver General of the Paris Mint

Four days later, Kallergis responded to Pelouze’s letter by thanking the Mint. In declining on the reduction of the classes, Kallergis yielded on the remaining points and asked for the necessary orders to be given for engraving the die as soon as possible. On 1 August, Pelouze asked the

Engraver General of the Mint (Désiré-Albert Barre) to proceed with the engraving of a die as per the submitted model without delay.

Barre indicated that it would take six months to engrave the die, double of the estimated period. A letter dated 1 February 1861 proves that the die was delivered to the Controller of the Manufacture of Postage Stamp (Barthe) and asking the Director (Hulot) to proceed with the fabrication of the plates without delay.

THE STAMP THAT ALMOST DIDN'T MAKE IT

By late March 1861, the Greek Minister had not received a positive answer and on 2 April, he sent the Secretary to obtain from Hulot a formal agreement and a written explanation of the delay in delivering the plates. The details of the meeting were put in a letter from Kallergis to Pelouze dated 3 April, in which Mr Hulot was unable to take the assignment in writing for delivering the stamps in two months from 1 April. Hulot stated that the work was still far from finished and could not promise its completion even in three months, and that he could not take an assignment in writing. Kallergis requested for the die to be returned so that he take the necessary measures in completing the assignment.

On the following day, Hulot's letter of response to Pelouze deflected the blame on himself by stating that the order was well before August 1860 and as he was in possession of the die for only two months, during which the multiplication work was very advanced. Hulot was unable to deliver the seven plates (seven classes or values) required, but perhaps three or four. Based on the practice in England and France, he proposed for the delivery of the plates for the more common stamps to be placed into circulation, and the last plates to be supplied in the fourth and fifth month. Interestingly, Hulot claimed that no other person could accomplish this work better and in a lesser timeframe.

In an attempt to rescue the agreement and rely on Hulot's expertise, the Greek Minister responded three days later by requesting from Hulot four plates with the corresponding number of printed stamps by 15 June at the latest, and the remaining work by 15 July, with an indemnity of 500 francs for each day he is late. Obviously, Hulot's proposal was quite unacceptable to Kallergis.

It was at this critical point when Barre came to the rescue and eagerly accepted this challenge. On 11 April, he wrote to Pelouze acknowledging

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the receipt of the die (as ordered by the latter) and certifying his moral commitment to deliver four half plates three months after the receipt of the die (before 12 July) and the three others before 12 August. Kallergis accepted this solution on 19 April and, on 8 May, Barre requested the permission to strike in the coining press the clichés to be used in fabricating the plates. Pelouze gave his permission on 13 May.

A following letter from the Greek Minister to the President on 26 September indicates that the printing production became a private affair between Barre and the Greek government. It confirms that Barre completed the order and delivered to him the die, the plates and the printed sheets of the stamps. The letter also confirms the government's remittance of the evaluation price based on the President's letter of 27 July. Finally, it praises Mr Barre for executing all this work with complete success. This probably implies that the delivery dates were honoured.

The material was sent to Athens on 10 August and 11 September based on correspondence between Kallergis and Barre. Surprisingly, the quantities printed were doubled for most values, and for the 5 and 10 lepta, at least triple of the original proposal. Records show that the government was invoiced for 1867.50 francs, or about 2086.60 drachmas, for 1 245 000 stamps. However, with some additional trial printings, the total quantity printed was 1 345 000, a further praise to Barre's efforts for completing the task in time.

The stamp sheets were printed at the establishment of Ernest Meyer, located at 22 rue de Verneuil. This was a logical choice to Hulot, the printer of the Paris Mint. It was a miracle that the printing works were completed by Barre in time, and all stock with associated tools, plates and specialised personnel relocated from Paris to Athens before the official launch of the postal services.

The postal service was officially launched on 1 October 1861, serving a population of 1 096 810. The postal network consisted of 92 post offices across the Kingdom, with a further 11 offices abroad (seven in Turkey, three in the Danubian Principalities and one in Egypt).

DESIGN ORIGINS OF THE GREEK POSTAGE STAMP

As part of a series of articles on all the stamps of the world known at that time, released from April 1862 to November 1866, the discovery of an

article by N Rondot (French journal *Magasin Pittoresque*, July 1864) was enlightening to say the least for the study of the 'Large Hermes Heads'.

The article that relates to the Greek stamps includes statistical information from a "memoir" of the then Director-General of the Posts in Greece (Th. Leonardos), written less than three years after the introduction of the first stamps. It includes a long list of the colour proofs of the Large Heads, examples of which were contained in two French collections of that period.

Mr Natalis Rondot was a friend of Albert Barre, the engraver of the dies and manufacturer of the plates. An essay of the Large Hermes Head that Barre presented to Rondot is a significant and unique evidence of the origin of the design: (*in French*) "To Mr Natalis Rondot / Affectionate respects of the designer / 1861-1864 / (signed) Albert Barre".



Figure 5 – The proof of the Large Hermes Heads postage stamp adopted from the French postage stamp.

The discoverer of this philatelic item was Mr N S Nicolaides, who in his book *Histoire de la Creation de Timbre Grec et Description Complete de Toutes les Emissions* wrote as follows:

"If one examines this piece with a strong magnifying glass, he will notice the details that we are going to describe below. The artist, Mr Albert Barre, used an essay made by his father. This essay, very rare in the collection of French essays, is the 20 centimes black Empire of 1853 on animal skin. After having glued it on white cardboard, the artist removed the head of Napoleon III and, in its place, drew in India ink the head of Mercury, whose execution was marvellous. Then, with the same ink, he crossed out the inscriptions 'EMPIRE

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FRANC.’ and ’20 c. POSTES 20 c.’ from the top and the bottom. To the right of the essay, he placed the following inscriptions that would replace the preceding ones – ‘ΕΛΛ. ΓΡΑΜΜ.’⁶ for the top. For the bottom leaving on each side a space where the values and ‘ΛΕΙΤΤ’ would be inscribed”.⁷

All these details are seen very clearly in the original. There can be no doubt that the first stamps of Greece are indeed relatives of the early French stamps. It is also believed that Barre used this first essay to obtain design approval from the Greek Government.

In manufacturing the stamps, seven printing plates were produced, each composed of 150 copper clichés coined individually in a minting machine from a tempered steel die. Then, they were positioned and soldered onto a copper plate. This method of reproduction of an engraved printing die by cold percussion is basically the process used toward the end of the 19th century for the production of multiple copies of plates used for printing paper currency. The resulted printing plates were perfectly identical and which had a superior resistance to wear than electrochemical clichés.

The stamps were printed in colour on coloured paper sheets with no perforations. The head of Hermes (Mercury) is turned toward the right and printed as a small medal, surrounded by 88 beads.

The Greek stamps were printed at two locations. The first printing in Paris was supervised by A Barre and is remarked for the excellent execution. Barre was also responsible for having an additional printing on the back of the 10 lepta stamp – its value of the same colour and in large digits, an idea that was adopted by the Greek Government. The classes used were the 1 lepton, followed by the 2, 5, 10, 20, 40 and 80 lepta.

Upon arrival of the plates, stamps and printing material in Athens, progressive printings took place there as demand increased. The printing of the value was repeated on the back of the stamps, except for the 1 lepton and the 2 lepta. This time, the digits used for the 10 lepta were smaller than

⁶ The abbreviated words are ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟΝ ΓΡΑΜΜΑΤΟΣΗΜΟΝ, which means GREEK STAMP.

⁷ Quoted in the article “AN EARLY DESCRIPTION OF THE LARGE HERMES HEAD STAMPS” on *hermesheads* website with the notation: “Note: This article is adapted from an article that was published in the June 1987 issue of The Report journal of the Hellenic Philatelic Society of Chicago.”

those of the Paris printing. Interestingly, the Athens printings show excessive pressure in the printing press.

In 1876, the U.P.U.⁸ applied to its member countries (including the Kingdom of Greece) the revaluation of the letter rates for basic and registered international mail. In his letter of 11 October 1875, N Delyannis (Chargé d’Affaires of the Greek Embassy in Paris) invited Albert Barre to produce two new rates, the 30 and 60 lepta.

To reproduce exactly the same effigy and design as those produced in 1861, Barre requested the return of the printing plates. This time, Barre fabricated the new plates by the electrochemical method (galvanoplasty), the same method used for the French stamps of the 19th century. By this way, time and money were saved. The printing was done by J Claye & Cie, located at rue Saint Benoît no 7 in Paris. This was the second time the ‘Large Heads’ issue was printed in Paris.

Finally, with the continuing issuance of this stamp over 25 years, philatelic experts came to the present conclusion that there were 12 main printing periods.

THE BARRE FAMILY

Jean-Jacques Barre (born 3 August 1793 in Paris – died 10 June 1855 in Paris) was the general engraver at the Monnaie de Paris between 1842 and 1855. In this position, he engraved and designed French medals, the Great Seal of France, bank notes and postage stamps. He is named Jean-Jacques Barre in numismatic publications and Jacques-Jean Barre in philatelic ones.

He was an apprentice to Thiolier at the age of seventeen and made such rapid progress that scarcely a year elapsed without some of his work appearing at the annual Fine Art Exhibitions at Paris.

From the late 1840s until 1855, he created the first two French postage stamp designs: the Ceres series and Napoleon III series. His two sons, artists themselves, succeeded him at the post of general engraver: Albert Désiré Barre and Jean-Auguste Barre (only during one year).

⁸ On 1 July 1875, Greece joined the U.G.P. (Union Générale des Postes), which became the U.P.U. (Union Postale Universelle) on 1 May 1878.

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Albert-Désiré Barre (born 1818 – died 1878) was the son of Jean Jacques Barre whom he succeeded as Graveur General at the Paris Mint in 1855. He was created Knight of the Legion of Honor in 1846.

Jean-Auguste Barre (born 1811 – died 1896) was a French sculptor and medallist. Born in Paris, he was trained by his father. He studied at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris under Jean-Pierre Cortot, and he is mainly known as a portrait sculptor. Exhibiting at the French Salon from 1831 to 1886, his first showings were of medallions and medals.

Barre is known to be one of the first sculptors to make miniatures of famous contemporaries, such as Napoleon III, Queen Victoria and others. His bronze works are on display in such places as the Louvre Museum. One of his stone works is found in the cemetery of Père Lachaise Cemetery, where he did a bust for the tomb of his friend Alfred de Musset. He died in Paris in 1896.

NUMISMATIC EXAMPLES



*Figure 6 – Engraving work by Albert-Désiré Barre:
(Français) Médaille de l'expédition de Chine, 1860*

[Source: Denis Gomez (22-2-2010), Wikimedia Commons / Wikipedia]

Numismatic and medallic examples made by the Barre family are many and this article will show only a few examples. The first one is a campaign

medal awarded by France for the Anglo-French expedition to China. This was established on 23 January 1861 and 8000 were awarded (Figure 6).

NAPOLÉON III

The next example (Figure 7) is the famous and common coinage of France dated from the middle of the 19th century, with Napoleon III's effigy. This series of coins commenced in 1852 and continued (with minor design variation) until 1870.

The following table shows a summary of the engravers initials for each denomination of the French Napoleon III coinage. Please note that the obverse of the coin shows the head of the country whereas the reverse shows the inscribed value of the coin.

Denomination	Napoleon III Without Laurel	Napoleon III With Laurel
<i>BRONZE COINS</i>		
1 Centime	1853 to 1857 (J-J)	1861 to 1870 Obv (A-D), Rev (J-J)
2 Centimes	1853 to 1857 (J-J)	1861 to 1868 Obv (A-D), Rev (J-J)
5 Centimes	1853 to 1857 (J-J)	1861 to 1868 Obv (A-D), Rev (J-J)
10 Centimes	1852 to 1857 (J-J)	1861 to 1868 Obv (A-D), Rev (J-J)
<i>SILVER COINS</i>		
20 Centimes	1853 to 1863 (J-J)	1864 to 1868 (A-D)
50 Centimes	1852 to 1863 (J-J)	1864 to 1869 (A-D)
1 Franc	1852 to 1863 (J-J)	1866 to 1870 (A-D)
2 Francs	1853 to 1859 (J-J)	1866 to 1870 (A-D)
5 Francs	1852 (J-J)	1861 to 1870 (A-D)
10 Francs	1852 to 1863 (J-J)	1864 to 1869 (A-D)
<i>GOLD COINS</i>		
5 Francs	1854 to 1860 (J-J)	1862 to 1868 Obv (A-D), Rev (J-J)
10 Francs	1854 to 1860 (J-J)	1862 to 1868 Obv (A-D), Rev (J-J)

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Denomination	Napoleon III Without Laurel	Napoleon III With Laurel
20 Francs	1852 to 1860 (J-J)	1861 to 1870 (A-D)
50 Francs	1855 to 1859 (J-J)	1862 to 1868 (A-D)
100 Francs	1855 to 1859 (J-J)	1862 to 1870 (A-D)

Notes: J-J : Jean-Jacques Barre
A-D : Albert- Désiré Barre



*Figure 7 – Jean-Jacques Barre’s engraving on the French 10 Centimes of 1855,
Mintmark B [Source: eBay] (dia 30 mm)*

This is a wonderful example of Jean-Jacques Barre’s work on both sides of this French 10 Centimes coin – the images just speak for themselves.

Napoleon III was keen to claim the throne since the death of the only son of Napoleon I (in 1832). His initial political attempts failed and he was exiled to the United States and later, to England. Returning to France in 1840, he was imprisoned but escaped to England in 1846. The outbreak of the February 1848 Revolution was a chance for his return and he was elected in some departments. Fuelled by the return of ‘Bonapartism’ and the economic conditions, Napoleon III achieved his aim and was elected to the office of the Presidency of the Republic on 20 December 1848.

By late 1851, his applied political skills and increasing popularity for a re-election were becoming fruitless as the constitution disallowed his re-election after the expiration of the four-year term. When he realized that he could not obtain the three-fourths majority necessary for a revision of the constitution, he carried out a coup d’état on 2 December 1851. The Legislative Assembly was dissolved, a new Constitution was decreed and following his success at the plebiscite of November 1852, Louis-Napoleon was confirmed as Emperor of France, after the resolution of the Senate

concerning the restitution of the empire. His reign commenced on 2 December 1852 and ended on 4 September 1870, two days after his capture at the Battle of Sedan.

As part of a secret treaty for helping towards the unification of Italy under the House of Savoy in return for annexing some territories, the Second War of Italian Independence saw France aligned with the Kingdom of Piedmont-Sardinia against the Austrian Empire in 1859. This alliance was dependent of the Austrians attacking first, and to achieve this, the Sardinians conducted military manoeuvres near the border with Austria. The Austrian ultimatum for a complete Sardinian army demobilization (23-4-1859) was rejected and the Austrians started the war on the 29th.

The French used about 130 000 infantry, 2000 cavalry and 300 guns, against Austria's 220 000 infantry, 22 000 cavalry and more than 800 guns. Sardinia assisted with 70 000 infantry, 4000 cavalry and 90 guns under Victor Emmanuel II, but the Austrians were superior in cavalry and guns. The Austrian delays in army movements and the heavy rains disadvantaged them, but their superior numbers could not overcome the successful French tactics. Eventually, Napoleon III was victorious at Magenta and Solferino and withdrew from the war in fear of Prussian intervention. Under the Sardinian secret treaty, France was rewarded with the annexation of Savoy and Nice, as agreed in the secret treaty.



Figure 8 – Albert-Désiré Barre's engraving on the French 5 Centimes of 1862 with a revised portrait of Emperor Napoleon III [Source: eBay] (dia 25 mm)

The design of the coinage was necessary to reflect the political changes and the French victory following the war. Albert-Désiré was assigned for this task and he changed the king's head with a revised one showing his laurel, as we can see below in Figure 8.

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FRENCH INDOCHINA

Another impressive example of the superb engraving and design skills can be seen on the coinage for French Indochina, featuring a seated Lady representing Liberty, Commerce and Abundance. Struck in silver, this Piastre coin, as shown in Figure 9, is perhaps the best coin ever prepared for the colony. The series of these coins commenced in 1885 and for some denominations, the design continued to be used until 1937.



Figure 9 – Barre’s engraving work on the French Indochina’s Piastre coin, a design that continued to be used until 1937. Mintmark A (Paris) [Source: eBay] (dia 39 mm)

GREECE



Figure 10 – Barre’s engraving on the Greek 10 Lepta of 1882 with the portrait of King George I. Mintmark A (Paris) [Source: eBay] (dia 30 mm)

The Barre influence throughout the coinage prepared at the Paris Mint has convinced other countries to employ the Mint for their coinage. One example is Greece. In the early 1860s, the Kingdom decided to adopt a new coinage and approached the Paris Mint.

As seen in Figure 10, the 10 Lepta coin is perhaps the most common coin that can be found today from that period, comparable with the French

10 Centimes coin. Designed by Albert-Désiré Barre, the new coinage was circulated from 1868 to 1893.

VENEZUELA

A final example of Barre's work is on the coins of Venezuela, which for over a century, were well-represented by the effigy of Simon Bolivar, seen in Figure 11. It's noticeable that the portrait of Bolivar remained unchanged over the decades and was last used on the 1990's 5 Bolivares coin.



*Figure 11 – Barre's engraving on a modern Venezuelan Bolivar silver coin of 1960
(dia 23 mm)*

After some early success from the British mints in Latin America, the Paris Mint was assigned to provide coinage for Venezuela's new currency form – the Venezolano. As the country adopted the Latin Monetary Union's standards, the monetary law of 11 May 1871 was decreed for introducing the new currency, aimed to eliminate the use of foreign coinage. The new coins were ordered from Paris and were placed into circulation from January 1872. Following orders were placed for the Mint to arrange for silver coins (7/1873) and for gold coins (9/1874). Albert-Désiré Barre engraved the dies.

EPILOGUE

As far as numismatics is concerned, the history of the Paris Mint deserves to be expanded into a single or a series of articles. For two generations, the Barre family has contributed enormously to the Mint's rich numismatic history. This may have been a common philatelic knowledge for many decades, but my recent study on the Greek postage stamps revealed the Mint's connection into philately.

A “COINED” CLASSIC POSTAGE STAMP

Some numismatists may bypass this subject due to their collecting habits, but this is their option. Nevertheless, many of us have started collecting from stamps and, therefore, some respect to, and acceptance of this branch of collecting is well-deserved.

Given the Paris Mint's work on some key French postage stamps – the *Ceres* and *Louis-Napoleon Bonaparte* series – I'm grateful that the Kingdom of Greece had the wisdom to choose the Paris Mint for preparing the country's first postage stamps.

The choice of the design is interesting too. I may put this question to you: *has the stamp been coined or has the coin been stamped?* The medallion design of Hermes is simple and with the other design elements (border and background details), this postage stamp is impressive enough of being classed as another unique one in classical philately, equal in status to the French stamps of Louis-Napoleon Bonaparte, Ceres and of the British Black Penny.

A further research into the Barre family may be long and painfully slow, but should reveal more spectacular facts about the Mint's operations during their tenure. The resultant numismatic products are historical facts and evidence of the Barre family's undisputed contribution to the French nation and to the world.

This article also celebrates the 150th anniversary of the first Greek postage stamp, issued on 1 October 1861 – a significant event in world philately.

Finally, due to the complexity of philatelic information on the subject, it would have been insensitive of me of not acknowledging the contribution of the site <http://hermesheads.home.comcast.net> to this article, of which I'm eternally grateful.

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BIRTHDAY NUMISMATICS

By Ross Wilkinson, NAV 1120¹

So what does a numismatist look for in dates, and, maybe in particular, his or her birthday? Could it be significant events, year sets, famous people or places? And what would you look for – coins, banknotes, medals, vouchers, covers or something else altogether?

YEAR OF BIRTH

If you were born in 1947, for example, you might be inclined to feel “ripped off” as Australia did not produce one shilling or sixpence coins that year. Thus, the set was a bit on the small side compared to other years.



Figure 40 Australian 1947 coin set – penny (dia 31 mm), florin (dia 29 mm), threepence (dia 16 mm), and halfpenny (dia 26 mm)

¹ Ross presented this paper, for which he won the Max Stern Trophy for 2011, to NAV meeting 984 on 21 October 2011.

BIRTH DATE EVENTS

If we look at a specific date, say 27 October, what are some significant events that occurred on that day over the years?

- 312 Constantine receives the Vision of the Cross
- 710 Saracen invasion of Sardinia
- 939 Edmund I succeeds to the English throne on death of Athelstan
- 1275 Founding of Amsterdam
- 1644 Second Battle of Newbury
- 1682 Founding of Pennsylvania
- 1806 French troops enter Berlin
- 1838 Missouri Governor Lilburn Boggs issues Extermination Order
- 1904 New York Subway opens
- 1936 Wallis Simpson files for divorce
- 1961 Saturn 1 launched

Whilst some of these events may have had numismatic items created to recognise their occurrence, such as Edmund's succession to the throne, or the founding of Pennsylvania, they do not or would not have had this date specifically inscribed on them. And whilst we know the tumultuous events surrounding Wallis Simpson's divorce and subsequent marriage to Edward had such an enormous impact on numismatics, it hasn't specifically been recognised numismatically. However, our own association was able to oblige me in this quest with its issue of a medal in 1964 to commemorate the sesquicentenary of the Holey Dollar and Dump. An inscription on the reverse announces the Numismatic Exhibition at the Melbourne Town Hall on 26-27-28 October 1964.



Figure 41 NAV Melbourne Town Hall Numismatic Exhibition (dia 29 mm)

BIRTHDAY NUMISMATICS

BIRTH DATES OF FAMOUS PEOPLE

So, of course, the next obvious thing to look at is famous people born on that date and their numismatic impact. So, who was born on 27 October?²

- 1156 Count Raymond VI of Toulouse – French Royalty
- 1157 Catherine of Valois – Wife and Queen to Henry V
- 1728 Captain James Cook – Sea Captain and explorer
- 1760 Field Marshal August von Gneisenau – Prussian military leader
- 1782 Niccolò Paganini – Violinist and composer
- 1811 Isaac Singer - Inventor
- 1858 Theodore (Teddy) Roosevelt – 26th President of the USA
- 1859 Dylan Thomas – Poet and writer
- 1939 John Cleese – Actor and writer

Of these, we know that **Theodore Roosevelt**, as President of the United States, was often depicted on stamps.



Figure 42 USA 5 cents stamp with Theodore Roosevelt

However, at the present time there are no circulating coins or banknotes with his image present although there are a number of “fantasy” coins and medals or “collector specials” from countries like Liberia put out by Franklin Mint or Bradford Exchange.

A \$1million “fantasy” US “banknote” shows the Mount Rushmore sculptures on its reverse with Roosevelt second from the right.

There is a move to have a centenary coin produced by the US Mint regarding Roosevelt’s presidency but there is no current indication as to the minting or not of this coin.

² Wikipedia



Figure 43 USA fantasy 1 million dollar note, 1996 (157 x 66 mm)

CAPTAIN JAMES COOK FRS RN

Next to the Royal Family, James Cook is probably the next most featured person in Australian numismatics. He was born on 27 October 1728 at Marton in Yorkshire before moving with his family to Great Ayton where he was schooled until 1742 when he commenced working as a farm labourer with his father.

In 1745 he moved to the fishing village of Staithes where he was apprenticed to a grocer, William Sanderson. After a short period of time he moved again to Whitby and became apprenticed as a deck hand in the coastal coal trade, with his first vessel being the *Freelove*.

After completing his apprenticeship and becoming a proficient seaman, he joined the Royal Navy as a mate in 1755 as Britain prepared for the Seven Years War. His work charting parts of the St Lawrence River was vital for General Wolfe's capture of Quebec.

Promotion to Boatswain (Bosun) followed further work charting the coastline of Newfoundland and recording the eclipse of the sun; a report of this event was submitted to the Royal Society.



Figure 44 James Cook by Nathaniel Dance

THE EXPEDITIONS

In 1768 the Royal Society sought the assistance of the Royal Navy to mount an expedition to observe the Transit of Venus. It was considered

that the optimum point from which to view this spectacle was in the South Pacific islands. A Whitby collier, the *Earl of Pembroke*, a type well known to James Cook, was purchased by the Navy and outfitted for the expedition. It was renamed *Endeavour*.



Figure 45 *Earl of Pembroke leaving Whitby Harbour*

A crew was put together and, after the original Royal Navy choice for Captain was rejected, Lt James Cook received his first command. He was given a second task to complete after observing the *Transit* – find and confirm the existence of the Great Southern Land.

After arriving in Tahiti in April 1769 and observing and recording the *Transit*, he sailed southward visiting many islands, circumnavigated New Zealand and landed at Botany Bay (on Australia's east coast) on 19 April 1770. Scientific people on the voyage, such as botanist Joseph Banks, recorded their observations and made sketches of human, animal and plant life. After an eventful trip that included running aground on the Great Barrier Reef requiring extensive repairs near Cooktown, the *Endeavour* returned to England in July 1771.

His second voyage was a commission from the Royal Society to confirm the existence of the "Great Southern Land" Terra Australis. He was promoted to Commander and given command of another converted Whitby collier that was renamed HMS *Resolution*. He was accompanied by another converted collier, HMS *Adventure*, commanded by Lt Tobias Furneaux.

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The expedition set off in 1771 and after rounding the Cape of Good Hope entered the Antarctic waters in search of Terra Australis. Unfortunately contact between the two vessels was lost and after calling in to New Zealand, Furneaux in the *Adventure* returned to England. Cook in the *Resolution* reached the furthest South of any vessel before heading to Tahiti for a break and resuming the search. He finally headed for home proving that Terra Australis did not exist contrary to that envisaged by many in England.

His return to England in 1775 was met with great acclaim and he was promoted to Captain in the Royal Navy, became a Fellow of the Royal Society and was awarded its highest honour, the Copley Gold medal. He was retired from seagoing with a post at the Seamen's Hospital at Greenwich.



Figure 46 Cook's Murder by Johann Zoffany

However, he could not be kept from active seafaring and he was again tempted with a further challenge – to find the Northwest Passage. He set sail once more in HMS *Resolution* in 1776 accompanied this time by HMS *Discovery*, yet again another Whitby collier. Again he sailed via the Cape of Good Hope and the Indian Ocean to visit the Pacific Islands before heading north to the west coast of Canada. After spending time at Tahiti, he was the first European to visit the Hawaiian Islands and named them Sandwich Islands, after the first Lord of the Admiralty. His relationship

with the islanders was very cordial and he was viewed as a demi-god in accordance with their recognition of him as a character from their legends.

The expedition then headed north to prove the existence of the North-West Passage. He charted the north-west coast of North America and into the Bering Strait without finding the Passage. He then returned to the Sandwich Islands where he was murdered on 14 February 1779 in a disagreement with the islanders.

Whilst his body was dismembered and scattered, Cook's crew was able to persuade the Hawaiians to return some of the body parts for a formal burial at sea on the voyage home.



Figure 47 Map of Cook's three voyages drawn by Lt Herbert Roberts RN in 1790³

Cook was revered as a master sailor and navigator, an equal to the finest British sailors of the past. His impact on sailing and sailors' welfare through the control of scurvy was immense. Such was his standing that George III approved a Coat of Arms in 1785 which was presented to Cook's widow, Elizabeth, and his family. It was the only coat of arms to feature a map of the world featuring the Pacific Ocean.

³ Reinitis



Figure 48 Cook's Coat of Arms

NUMISMATIC RECOGNITION OF COOK'S LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS

During his various voyages, Cook took a variety of currency pieces tokens and medals with him for both trading and presentation purposes. Mira records these as being an English Guinea, threepence, twopence and a gambling token. Whilst in foreign ports accommodation and provisions were paid for in English currency at an agreed rate of exchange recorded in Joseph Banks' *Endeavour* journal.



Figure 49 Resolution and Adventure Medal (dia 44 mm)⁴

A specific medal was struck for the second expedition and was known as the *Resolution* and *Adventure* Medal. It is believed that these were

⁴ Peter Lane

arranged by Banks when he was intending to join the expedition but withdrew when he was not considered as the leader.

Whilst few of these exist, examples have been found in locations that suggest they were presented to native residents as indicated in journals and are physical evidence of the expedition's presence.

MODERN CURRENCY

Here in Australia, we tend to claim Captain James Cook as “ours”, that is, he is exclusively related to the start of Australia's history and no-one else's. However, numismatically, we know that any study of Cook will involve looking at coins and banknotes from various countries in the Pacific region as well as commemorative medals. However, this paper is not an exhaustive study in this respect but representative.

Also, if we are to consider these, then we should examine the various portraits of James Cook and paintings of events to understand the probable origin of the images on coins, banknotes and medals. Apart from those already shown in this paper, the most common image of Cook is that by Nathaniel Dance shown early in this paper. Other portraits are by John Webber.



Figure 50 Portraits of James Cook by John Webber

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Figure 51 Medallion portrait, by Josiah Wedgwood

Also important is the medallion portrait cast by Josiah Wedgwood in 1784 from a design by John Flaxman.



Figure 52 Cook's landing at Botany Bay, by Phillips Fox

Finally, there is the portrayal of Cook's landing at Botany Bay by E Phillips Fox.

AUSTRALIA

The first numismatic appearance of Captain Cook was in 1923 with the use of the painting by Phillips Fox on the reverse of the 1923 George V One Pound (£1) banknote with the Miller / Collins signatures. This remained until 1933 under the Riddle / Sheehan signatures when changed for the allegorical image of the Australian rural sheep industry on the legal tender issue.



Figure 53 Australia 1 pound, 1923 – 1933, back (shown at 65%)

His next appearance came about with the need to change the bank notes due to Australia leaving the gold standard in 1931. It was decided to feature the portrait of the Prince of Wales as a watermark on the notes, whereas the note of the previous issue only had a basket weave watermark, as well as a printed portrait of the King (George V). After the death of George V and the abdication of Edward VIII in 1936, the decision was made to change the watermark to a profile image of James Cook. Whilst early images appear slightly different from later images, they appear to be modelled on the Wedgwood profile.

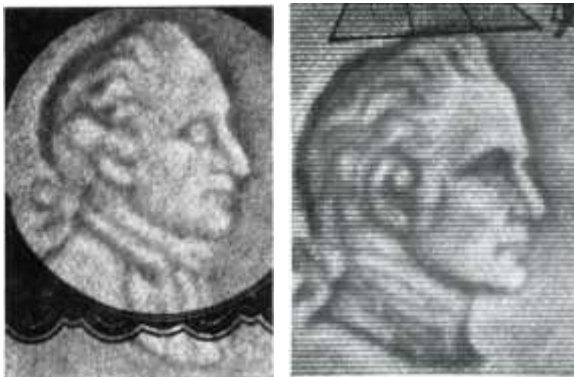


Figure 54 Watermarks on Australian notes: early (left) and later (right)

This watermark remained in place from the 1938 George VI banknotes through Elizabeth II pre-decimal and decimal banknotes until the introduction of polymer technology. In fact, the fifty dollar paper banknote

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had a double image watermark but I am unable to ascertain why this occurred.⁵



Figure 55 Multiple watermarks on Australian 50 dollar note

With the advent of polymer technology, the traditional watermark ceased to exist and alternate security features were developed. One of these featured a clear plastic window with an optically variable device (OVD) image. The first polymer note was the special Bicentenary Ten Dollar banknote and the OVD was a head and shoulders image of James Cook taken from the Nathaniel Dance portrait.



Figure 56 Australia 10 dollars, 1988, bicentennial commemorative (shown at 65%)

⁵ Vort-Ronald

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Finally, in 1970 the Royal Australian Mint produced a fifty cent coin to commemorate the bicentenary of Cook's discovery of the east coast of Australia. This was issued into circulation but was also produced to specimen quality for limited release in capsules and other private issues such as the Nuphil postal cover.



Figure 57 1970 Specimen 50 cent in RAM capsule from the portrait by Webber



Figure 58 1970 Royal Australian Mint Proof Set

BIRTHDAY NUMISMATICS



Figure 59 1970 Specimen in Nuphil PNC

AUSTRALIAN MEDALLIC AND PHILATELIC ISSUES

Various organisations issued medals mainly for the 1970 Cook Bicentenary but also to commemorate other events as follows:



Figure 60 1967 NAV Explorer Series (dia 51 mm)

AUSTRALIAN NUMISMATIST 2011



Figure 61 1970 State Savings Bank of Victoria (dia 34 mm)



Figure 62 1970 Victorian Local Government (dia 32 mm)

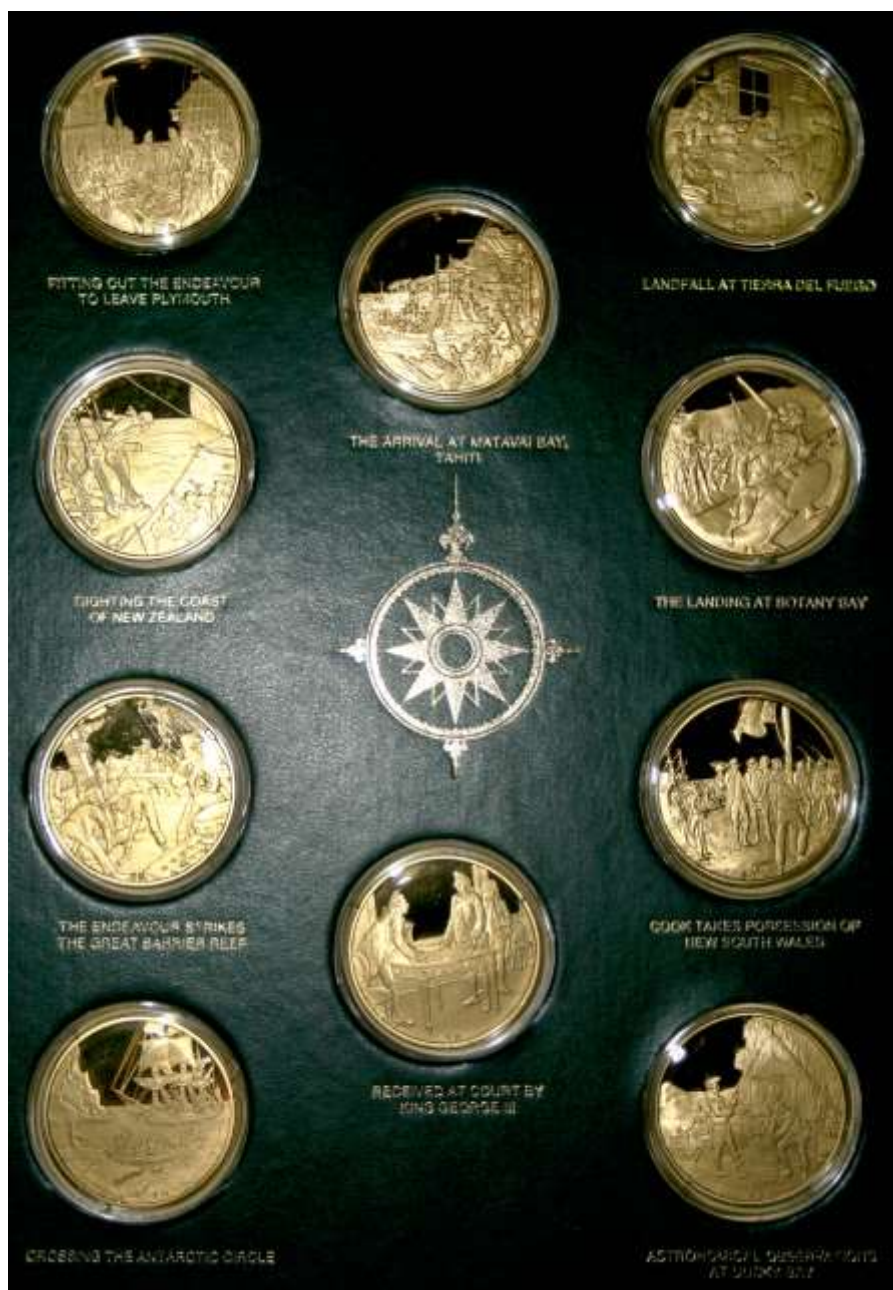


Figure 63 Australian Bicentenary Medal Collection (dia 27 mm)

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Figure 64 1774 Norfolk Island Bicentenary PNC (medal dia 57 mm)



BIRTHDAY NUMISMATICS



Figure 65 Voyages of Captain Cook by Franklin Mint (medal dias 38 mm)



Figure 66 National Trust – Victoria 1970 (dia 52 mm)

OTHER CURRENCIES

As indicated earlier, we tend to think of Captain Cook as exclusive to Australia, however, many of the Pacific Islands were discovered by Cook on his three voyages of discovery. Now, as independent nations, they issue their own currencies and equally honour James Cook as Australians do. Examples of commemorative and circulation issues are:



Figure 67 New Zealand One Pound showing a reversed image
from the Dance portrait on the front (shown at 65%)

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Figure 68 *New Zealand One Pound showing the Endeavour on the back (shown at 65%)*



Figure 69 *New Zealand 1969 50 cent reverse HM Bark Endeavour (dia 32 mm)*



Figure 70 *New Zealand 1969 One Dollar (coin dia 39 mm)*



Figure 71 New Zealand 1994 50 cent Bi-metallic (dia 32 mm)



Figure 72 Western Samoa 1970 Tala (coin dia 39 mm)



Figure 73 Cook Islands 1994 \$10 (coin dia 32 mm)

And finally, the NAV and its former President and resident designer, Terry Pepperell cooperated with the producers of a commemorative Cook Islands silver One Dollar celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the relocation of

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Cook's Cottage to the Fitzroy Gardens in Melbourne in 1934. I was fortunate to get Terry's autograph on the certificate of authenticity.



Figure 74 NAV 1979 medallion – bicentenary of death of Captain Cook (38x50 mm)



Figure 75 Cook Islands 2009 silver One Dollar (33x33 mm)

<p>CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICITY</p> <p>Struck to the highest standards of Australia's precious metal specialists at The Perth Mint, the 2009 Cooks' Cottage 1oz Silver Proof Coin commemorates the 75th anniversary of the opening of Cooks' Cottage in Melbourne in 1934. The mintage is strictly limited to 5,000 coins.</p> <p>Struck by The Perth Mint</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>THE PERTH MINT AUSTRALIA</p> </div> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>T. Pepperell</i></p> <p>LIMITED EDITION NO. 1448</p>	<p>SPECIFICATIONS</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 70%;">Quality</td> <td>Proof</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Year of Issue</td> <td>2009</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Weight</td> <td>1oz</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Purity</td> <td>999 Silver</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Maximum Thickness</td> <td>4mm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Maximum Diameter</td> <td>33.2mm x 33.2mm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Monetary Denomination</td> <td>\$1.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Issuing Authority</td> <td>Cook Islands</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Limited Mintage</td> <td>5000</td> </tr> </table> <p>The coin design of Cooks' Cottage is reproduced courtesy of the Numismatic Association of Victoria and Mr T. Pepperell.</p>	Quality	Proof	Year of Issue	2009	Weight	1oz	Purity	999 Silver	Maximum Thickness	4mm	Maximum Diameter	33.2mm x 33.2mm	Monetary Denomination	\$1.00	Issuing Authority	Cook Islands	Limited Mintage	5000
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Weight	1oz																		
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Maximum Thickness	4mm																		
Maximum Diameter	33.2mm x 33.2mm																		
Monetary Denomination	\$1.00																		
Issuing Authority	Cook Islands																		
Limited Mintage	5000																		

Figure 76 Certificate of Authenticity, autographed by Terry Pepperell, for Cook Islands 2009 silver One Dollar

An unusual addition is this trading coupon issued by the Currency Coupon Corporation, Sydney, 1932. Its purpose was to introduce an alternative barter currency on a bonus points system during the Depression. Clearly the inclusion of Cook's portrait was designed to give an illusion of "official" currency and an upbeat air in those gloomy times.



Figure 77 *Universal Currency Bond, 1932 (120 x 66 mm)*

THE CHALLENGE

My interest in James Cook arose when I learnt that we shared a birthdate, although he is several years older than me. This article is only a brief outline of the material I have on him and his exploits.

My challenge to my fellow numismatists is to find out who you share your birthday with and what numismatic material has been produced in their memory or that of their deeds. Is it as comprehensive as that of my numismatic companion, Captain James Cook?

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Captain James Cook, 1967 NAV Explorer Series

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