

The Numismatic Association of Victoria The Australian Numismatist



2015 No 2



**Opening of Blackfriars Bridge and
Holborn Valley Viaduct medal**



Dick Junge (left) is presented with Life Membership of the Morwell Numismatic Society by his son, MNS President Tilo Junge, and his granddaughter Emily Junge (see NAVigator on page 4)

The Australian Numismatist

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Meetings are held at the Celtic Club, 320 Queen Street, Melbourne at 7:45 pm on the third Friday each month (except January).

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www.facebook.com/numisvic

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Ian Young (member No 17)

The NAV learned in April that the last of our foundation members, Ian Young has died. An obituary will appear in the next issue of this journal.

SYLLABUS 2015

No	Date	Topic	Speaker
1024	19 June	Workshop on Grading (Tender Sale)	Tony Gordon
1025	17 July	Ray Jewell Memorial Meeting <i>Coins of Edward VIII</i>	Frank Robinson
1026	21 August	<i>Banknotes of the Russian Civil War</i> (Tender Sale)	Jane Ventur

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No	Date	Topic	Speaker
1027	18 September	<i>Melbourne City Council Collection</i>	Darren Burgess
1028	20 November	<i>Survey of the Antoninianus in the 3rd Century</i>	Bruce McElholm
1029	11 December	Christmas Meeting Awards; also <i>The One That Got Away, Or Didn't Get Away</i>	(various speakers required)

NAVigator

To a sprightly youngster in his mid-forties, fifty years seems a long time, but that's how long some of our members, including the redoubtable Betty Turvey, have belonged to the Association. Not only that, but Betty was something of a late-comer to the hobby, she joined the NAV when she herself turned fifty. Those of you with elementary mathematical skills will clearly work out that Betty recently celebrated her 100th birthday, on 25 April, Anzac Day. Speaking to Betty's daughter about this milestone it was interesting to learn that because Betty shares her birthday with this historic event, it always seemed inappropriate to celebrate a birthday on this most solemn of days of remembrance. I would personally like to congratulate Betty on her milestone and thank her on behalf of the Association for all the work she's done for us over the last five decades.

It's no coincidence that golden anniversaries are popping up all over Australian numismatics at the moment, as the 1960s saw a huge surge in collectors with the impending advent of decimal currency. In fact I've just returned from the Morwell Numismatic Society's fiftieth anniversary dinner, which was a great opportunity to catch up with their members (and grab some local produce – thanks again for the rhubarb) and talk about our shared passion. At this meeting they awarded their first ever Life Membership to Dick Junge, a founding member and deserving recipient after all his years of service to Victorian numismatics (photo inside front cover). It's no coincidence that he's also father of their current President, Tilo, and grandfather of their youngest two members!

While I was at the dinner I mentioned that this month we've changed the format of our monthly meeting to hold a grading masterclass and both the Morwell club members and the President of the MNS thought this an excellent idea and would look to hold something similar at one of their forthcoming meetings. I for one are looking forward to ours, and being somewhat competitive, I'm hoping that I can tell my VFs from my Almost Uncs!

Darren Burgess, President

Social Media Update

Since March we've gone from 44 to 65 likes, most of which have come on board through Page Suggestions. 83% of these come from men, with 17% from women. The bulk of these (54) are from Australia with 15 based in Melbourne, 5 in Perth, 4 in Sydney, 3 in Geelong, 2 in Hobart and 2 in Ballarat and a smattering of single members in Melton and on the Gold Coast. The majority of people are being referred to our page are from our website, however Google is also sending people to our Facebook page, which is great news. Our posts are reaching up to 74 people with leading posts being about the launch of the new coloured \$2, the new coins from around the world commemorating the birth of Princess Charlotte, the sale of a holey dollar fetching half a million dollars and a post last week noting the anniversary of the capture of Joan of Arc and linking to a photo of a medallion in the Museum Victoria's collection.

Darren Burgess, President

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING No. 1021

20 MARCH 2015

Location Celtic Club, Second Floor, 320 Queen Street, Melbourne
Chair President, Darren Burgess **Secretary** Bill Xynos
Present: 15 members **Apologies:** 2 members **Visitors:** Victor Johnson and John Evans

The President opened the meeting at 8:05 pm by welcoming all present and reminded members to sign the visitors' book.

Preliminary

Minutes of General Meeting #1020 (20 February 2015) – These were tabled and accepted by the members on a motion put by Len Henderson, seconded by Frank Robinson

Council Report

This was tabled and accepted. Details are:

Finance and Membership (David Likar)

Balance of No.2 Account stands at \$1705 as of 24 February 2015.

Term Deposit matured on 18 March 2015 (principal amount of \$27 721) has been re-invested for 3 months at 2.53%. Outstanding memberships stand presently at 17.

Website (Frank Robinson)

Details of Melbourne NS Coin Show added and Syllabus updated

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Publications (Frank Robinson)

First issue for 2015 is ready for distribution.

Volume 25 of the NAA Journal will be distributed with the NAV Journal.

Syllabus (Frank Robinson)

Details given. Speakers required for June and August.

Also, the following events:

11 April Melbourne Numismatic Society's Show & Exhibition, St John's Parish Hall, 494 Whitehorse Rd, Mitcham

11-12 April APTA / ANDA Melbourne Stamp, Coin and Banknote Show, Bayview on the Park, 52 Queens Road, Melbourne

NAA Affairs (Ross Wilkinson)

Members are reminded of the NAA Conference in Adelaide in October. Registration forms are available for online registration on the NAA website. Anybody wanting a paper form to send off, just let Ross know and these can be printed off for prospective attendees. The Agenda of the Conference has not been finalised yet but there is the likely possibility that Ross is going to speak on the Inter-Allied Victory Medal of World War I.

Tender Sales (Ross Wilkinson)

No update.

Medals (Frank Robinson)

Designs for the NAV medallion commemorating the Centenary of the ANZAC landing at Gallipoli has been firmed and orders are now open to the membership.

Correspondence

Inwards:

- Bank Statements (Account #2) and Bank Notice (Term Deposit)
- Letter of enquiry / research on Australian 1955 Half Penny
- Membership Subscriptions
- Membership Application (Mr Fletcher)
- Return-To-Sender NAV Journal
- Australian Numismatic Society Report (2014 15th Biennial Conference 7-8 Jun 2014)
- Australian Numismatic Society – QLD Branch News Bulletin (Mar 2015)
- RNSNZ – Numismatic Journal (Dec 2014)
- Queensland Numismatic Society Monthly Magazine (Feb 2015)
- Perth Numismatic Society's Journal (Jan 2015)
- Newcastle Numismatic Society Bulletin (Mar 2015)
- Geelong Numismatic Society Newsletter (Nov 2014)

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New Acquisitions

Councillor Tony Gordon has confirmed that the Royal Australian Mint is rationalising its stock of coins and a considerable stock will be auctioned to the public through Downies.

He has also informed the members that the gold-clad 50 Cents 'Anniversary of RAM' is out and Max Stern's shop has them available at \$20 each. There are two versions, the 'general' release and the 'first day issue' release.

Finally, he showed a Johannes III Portuguese medieval coin (1600s).

Member Bob Hammon recovered an old 2010 issue of a collectables magazine, showing his 1929 Penny in good shape, the one he discussed a couple of months ago.

Secretary Bill Xynos showed an Islamic coin a Persian Abbasi AH 1181 Isfahan Mint silver coin.

President Darren Burgess showed his latest acquisition, a book from Spink on "Hard at Work" - Diary of Leonard Wyon, by Philip Attwood. At the Perth ANDA Show, Darren picked up 2 decimal coins and from an antique show, an Annand-Smith token for \$10, a few NZ milk tokens and an NAV silver Jubilee QEII medal for \$5.

General Business

NAV Centenary of Gallipoli Medal - Member Ross Wilkinson is liaising with a large group of descendants of WWI soldiers who may be interested in NAV Centenary of Gallipoli Medal. A second strike on a different metal is possible to accommodate demand and Treasurer David Likar believed that 100 medals would be plenty.

Facebook – President Darren Burgess confirmed that we have 50 (from 43) members on Facebook who follow us.

NAA AGM – Ross Wilkinson has prepared and sent reports. President Darren Burgess will attend the meeting.

Member Len Henderson reported on 'lost items' released by the police to Pickles Auction (West Footscray)

Len also informed members of the forthcoming total eclipse of the moon on Easter Saturday from 9.17 to 11.45pm.

President Darren Burgess gave the latest news about member Betty Turvey, who had a fall and at this stage, no visits are permitted. Betty will complete 50 years of membership in May and the Council is in the process of preparing an appropriate certificate.

Darren also informed the members of the MNS Coin Show and Exhibition at Mitcham on Saturday 11th April, and Bill Xynos added that the APTA-ANDA Stamp, Coin & Banknote Show will be held at Bayview on the Park (52 Queens Rd) on the weekend of 11th & 12th April.

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Member Pat Shields informed the members on his visit at the MCG Sports Museum with many members of the Morwell Numismatic Society. The staff was very accommodating and the visit was extremely worthwhile.

Syllabus

The President, Darren Burgess, invited Secretary Bill Xynos for presenting his topic on "My Favourite Medals". Bill gave a brief introduction about his entry into numismatics back in 1996 when he walked by accident to I S Wright's Flinders Lane shop and purchased his first medal, the bronze 1888 Melbourne International Exhibition. At the time, he met with Mr Carr who encouraged Bill to join the NAV and the IBNS Melbourne Chapter.

Bill presented slides of images representing a selection from his medals collection. Each slide contained detailed information about the design, engraver and date of striking.

(As Bill's talk is reproduced elsewhere in this copy of *The Australian Numismatist*, details are not given here.)

Members were able to see each medal closely and appreciate the workmanship and quality of engraving, elevating medal collecting to higher levels of numismatics and asked questions. President Darren Burgess gave the Vote of Thanks for a great presentation accompanied by high quality medals and all present congratulated Bill in the customary manner.

The President closed the meeting at 10:20 pm. Refreshments were provided by the Celtic Club management.

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING No. 1022

17 APRIL 2015

Location Celtic Club, Second Floor, 320 Queen Street, Melbourne
Chair President, Darren Burgess **Secretary** Bill Xynos
Present: 15 members **Apologies:** 3 members **Visitors:** John Evans, Vic Johnson and Robin Glaister

The President opened the meeting at 7 50 pm by welcoming all present and reminded members to sign the visitors' book.

Preliminary

Minutes of General Meeting #1021 (20 March 2015) – These were tabled and accepted by the members on a motion put by Frank Robinson, seconded by Len Henderson and carried.

Council Report

This was tabled and, with corrections to the sequencing of the General Meeting numbers, accepted by the members on a motion put by Bill Xynos, seconded by Tony Gordon and carried. No business was arisen from these minutes or the report. Details are:

Finance and Membership (David Likar)

Balance of No.2 Account stands at \$2232.02 as of 30 March 2015. Term Deposit matured on 18 March 2015 (principal amount of \$27 721) has been re-invested for 3 months at 2.55%. Outstanding memberships stand presently at 18.

Website (Frank Robinson)

Information on earlier-issued NAV medals has been added, with several others updated. Also, the "What's New" link (on the left side of the home page) gives links to new and updated information on the website.

Publications (Frank Robinson)

NAV Journal (Issue No 2 for 2015) now open for membership feedback and submissions. Mail-out to remaining members for Issue No.1 will commence next week, due to updated information about the proposed 'ANZAC' Medallion, for inclusion. Also, volume 25 of the NAA Journal will be distributed with the NAV Journal.

Syllabus (Frank Robinson)

Details given (see pages 2-3).

Other Numismatic Events:

- 22-23 August ANDA / APTA Melbourne Stamp, Coin and Banknote Show Bayview on the Park, Melbourne
- 24-25 October NAA Adelaide Convention
- 24-25 October IBNS Convention, Downtowner, Carlton
- 7-8 November APTA / ANDA Melbourne Stamp, Coin and Banknote Show Bayview on the Park, Melbourne

NAA Affairs (Ross Wilkinson)

NAA Conference in Adelaide (October). AGM attended by President Darren Burgess with three significant outcomes. Firstly, the Paul Simon silver medal was awarded to Peter Lane. Secondly, the NAA Journals will become 'print-less' issues available online from 2016, with option for members interested to request printable versions. Thirdly, Melbourne will become the focus of the NAA's 2017 Conference, and Darren believes that a combined effort from all Victorian-based clubs will make this event a success.

Tender Sales (Ross Wilkinson)

Donation Auction will be set in October. In addition, Councillor Tony Gordon has recommended ideas regarding Tender Sales lots for improving quality of

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items for sale with positive revenues for the Association, including early notifications, measures that the Council has accepted.

Medals (Frank Robinson)

The Adelaide Mint has engraving difficulties with Albert Jacka's portraiture and whilst a search for another engraver is under way, the Council is adopting an alternative design, just in case. Information slip explaining the situation will go out with the NAV journal.

Correspondence

Inwards:

- Membership Subscriptions
- IBNS-Melbourne Chapter Newsletter (Apr 2015)
- Numismatic Society of South Australia Newsletter #112 (Mar 2015)
- Peninsula Stamp Club's Queen's Birthday Dromana Stamps-Coins-Cards Show (8/6/15)
- Australian Numismatic Society – QLD Branch News Bulletin (Apr 2015)
- Queensland Numismatic Society Monthly Magazine (Mar 2015)
- Geelong Numismatic Society Newsletter (Feb 2015)
- Morwell Numismatic Society's 50th Anniversary Invitation (24/5/2015)

New Acquisitions

President Darren Burgess showed a special commemorative coloured New Zealand 50 Cents coin, the first circulating decimal commemorative issued in New Zealand. Following his attendance at the Melbourne Numismatic Society's Numismatic Exhibition on the 11 April, the President was presented with the Society's historical book that details the Society's history since its establishment in 1966. Darren also showed a Northern Ireland 1971 medal (commemorative 1921-1971 with N.I.'s Coat of Arms), a year that saw the escalation of unrest.

Vice President Frank Robinson showed an English coin (½ farthing William IV of 1837) that fits well into his long search of Great Britain farthings. At the MNS Numismatic Exhibition, he was able to find a group of communion tokens (Edzele Free Church 1843, Scottish Parish of Leadhills) and a 1795 Half Penny of Poole & Dorsetshire copper token. Member Len Henderson added that on the 3rd floor of the Scots Church there is a collection of 600 communion tokens.

Member Pat Shields showed two 'shot' 'copper-made' glasses with an English and an Australia Penny incorporated on the bottom of these glasses.

Councillor Tony Gordon showed an interesting ribbon that flew from the NPA factory, a ribbon that resembles a tiny part from a \$50 polymer sheet.

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General Business

President Darren Burgess announced with sadness to the members that our last foundation member Mr Ian Young passed away recently, based on an e-mail we've received a couple of days ago. Member Joan Henderson added that Mr Young was a State Government minister for a while.

The President continued with the positive news that member Betty Turvey is doing well following the accidental fall. All members wished for Betty's speedy recovery.

Darren also announced to the members that the Morwell Numismatic Society is holding its 50th Anniversary at the Morwell Bowling Club (Hazelwood Rd) on Sunday 24 May 2015 at noon.

Darren also informed the members that the RAM will hold a special launch event for the new \$2 coin at the City of Stonington's Malvern Town Hall on 19 April.

The President announced to the members that the Council has received two membership applications from Mr James Fletcher and Mr Victor Johnson and is recommending for the ratification of these applications. The membership present approved these unanimously and the President declared that Mr Fletcher and Mr Johnson have now been elected as NAV Members Nos. 1160 and 1161 respectively.

Syllabus

The President Darren Burgess invited member Ross Wilkinson to present the ANZAC Oration – “Gallipoli – Inspiration or Lunacy”. Ross questioned the wide concept of “ANZAC” – to many of us it means the brave campaign of Gallipoli and also, the role of Australian forces in WWI. To others, the concept highlights the failure of the campaign and even some conspiracies to explain the cause and result.

(As Ross' talk is reproduced elsewhere in this copy of
The Australian Numismatist, details are not given here.)

Many questions and comments followed Ross's excellent presentation. Member Bob Hammon was also very moved by this presentation as he outlined his family's link to the War as shown by his family memorabilia, awards and military ephemera: L/Cpl Norman Coates Hammon, 22nd Bat, 2nd M.G. Co, 1st Battalion, 1894-1970, Pte John Henry Hammon, 3333, 4th Bat 18/1/1915, killed in action 23/8/1918 Harbonnieres, France, 1883-1918 and L/Cpl Robert Henry Lawson, 1129, enlisted 5th Bat 30/9/1914, killed in action in Gallipoli 26/4/1915, 1885-1915.

Member Dr John Chapman gave the traditional Vote of Thanks; this presentation gave him a particular pleasure because he has learned so much about the War that he never knew despite the fact that his father served in the

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14th Jacka's Battalion but very rarely discussed his service. All members congratulated Ross for a well-deserved oration!

Door prizes were drawn and the winners were members Ross Wilkinson, Peter Goldsmith, Pat Shields and Dr John Chapman.

The President closed the meeting at 10:00pm. The Tender Sales session was postponed until the May Meeting. Refreshments were provided by the Celtic Club management.

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING No. 1023

15 MAY 2015

Location Celtic Club, Second Floor, 320 Queen Street, Melbourne
Chair President, Darren Burgess **Secretary** Bill Xynos
Present: 14 members **Apologies:** 5 members **Visitors:** John Evans and Michael Wade.

The meeting was opened at 7.50pm and welcomed all, including our visitors Mr Evans and Mr Wade.

Preliminary

Minutes of General Meeting #1022 (17 April 2015) – These were tabled and accepted by the members on a motion put by Len Henderson, seconded by Peter Goldsmith and carried.

Council Report

This was tabled and accepted. Details are:

Finance and Membership (David Likar)

Balance of No.2 Account stands at \$1018.22 as of 15 April 2015. Outstanding memberships stand presently at 10.

Website (Frank Robinson)

No further updates.

Publications (Frank Robinson)

Second Issue for 2015 in preparation

Social Media (Darren Burgess)

62 Facebook likes and recently used to promote current exhibition by City of Melbourne's Exhibition of items from the city's collection including badges, buttons and medallions entitled Special at the City Gallery.

Syllabus (Frank Robinson)

Details given (see pages 2-3).

NAA Affairs (Ross Wilkinson)

Nothing to report

Tender Sales (Ross Wilkinson)

Deferred April Tender Sale to be held tonight

Donation Auction will be set in October.

Medals (Frank Robinson)

A new design is being prepared.

Correspondence

Inwards:

- Bank Statement (Account #2)
- Membership Subscriptions
- Domain Registration Services 'navic' website certification
- Australian Numismatic Society – QLD Branch News Bulletin (May 2015)
- Newcastle Numismatic Society's News Bulletin (April 2015)
- Geelong Numismatic Society Newsletter (March 2015)
- Tasmanian Numismatist (March-April 15)
- Queensland Numismatic Society Monthly Magazine (April 2015)
- Perth Numismatic Society's Journal (April 2015)
- Renniks / Lighthouse 2015 Catalogue & Special Listing

Matters arising

Receipt of 2 membership applications to be considered at the Council Meeting.

New Acquisitions

Member Bruce McElholum showed postcards sent by his friends on a river cruise / train trip in Austria, where the Austro-Hungarian Imperial Train is pictured, as well as a special medal sold by a gentleman in military uniform they bought for Bruce. The reverse shows the emblems of the 19th century Austro-Hungarian Arms.

Member Ross Wilkinson showed a 'Captain Cook' medal struck by the short-lived 'Historical Medal Society of Australia and New Zealand' that failed in the early 1970s. Also, in line with last meeting's presentation, he showed a fund-raising Gallipoli medal (soldier with Gallipoli map on background / Dardanelles April 25, 1915).

Member Frank Robinson showed some medallic pieces or souvenirs from the Shrine of Remembrance, showing standing soldier with the legend '2014-2015 Remembering 100 years since WWI'.

Member Tony Gordon showed the \$2 coin of 2015 and five of them will be made available at the next meeting. On that subject, Darren reported on the disappointing visit (with Tony) at the City of Stonington's Malvern Town Hall (19th April) regarding the RAM's special launch of the new \$2 coin that did not

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take place, but met some distinguished people such as Mr McDermott of the RAM. Peter Goldsmith added that these coins are being sold for \$100 where the distributing company receives the profits by such slow releases.

President Darren Burgess rescued a piece of Melbourne numismatic history, the 'Peter Strich' signage. He also bought from eBay four spoons, one on the 25th anniversary of the Newcastle Numismatic Society (14/2/1991), one from the Northern Suburbs Numismatic Society and two from the NAV!

General Business

President Darren Burgess was very happy in reporting that our member Betty Turvey has finally reached her 100th birthday on ANZAC Day. Betty received the famous 'letter' from Queen Elizabeth II. Darren has sent Betty a card and the appropriate Certificate will follow soon. Some members mentioned a few lovely occasions where Betty was at her best. Darren outlined Betty's outstanding contribution to numismatics, to the NAV and to the Melbourne Numismatic Society. During her period at the NAV, she was a member of the Council, a 'Welcoming' Officer, and held many responsibilities. In the mid 1960's, with two monthly meetings and up to 150 members in attendance and a Council of 12 members, Betty's input was valuable and she was always looking for new people, new collectors to join in. For many years, Betty was involved in cosmetics sales, being an 'AVON' lady until 10 years ago. Vice President Frank Robinson will coordinate with Mr Wade of the MNS for a joint submission of Betty's numismatic biography for the next CAB magazine issue.

ANDA is looking for state representatives for organising their trade shows. Upon their request, documentation has been tabled tonight.

Vice President Frank Robinson reported on the difficulties encountered in proceeding with the original design of the ANZAC medal and showed our alternative design (VC medal). Member John Chapman suggested that a 'Gallipoli' peninsula map be drawn on the background, filling the 'void' around the medal and giving that link to the purpose of the medal. John also mentioned that numismatically, the VC has a connection with Victorian token issuer Grieve. His son, Captain Robert Cuthbert Grieve, 37th Battalion, 3rd Australian Division was awarded the Victoria Cross for his actions in the Battle of Messines in France (7-14 June 1917).

The President and Mr Michael Wade (President of the Melbourne Numismatic Society) gave a brief report about the MNS Coin & Exhibition Show.

Member Ross Wilkinson informed the members of a Macquarie Mint product (\$10 commemorative Gallipoli coin). Apparently, recent reports indicate that for some design elements of the product, permission for use was not sought after and there are potentially substantial penalties.

President Darren Burgess showed a press release on numismatics in the Sydney Morning Herald with his photo. The article was on the Downies

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forthcoming auction where part of the archival coin material from the RAM will be auctioned. Darren also reported on another press release regarding the discovery of the first One Pound Australian note in the National Library, reportedly worth over 1.3 million dollars.

Secretary Bill Xynos gave a brief report on the ANDA-APTA Melbourne Show (August 2015) and submitted application forms for those members interested in exhibiting at the show. Further details, especially about access and transport will be provided at the next meeting. Members were informed that the NAV will primarily volunteer for organising the competitive exhibition and for manning the NAV information table.

President Darren reminded about the Morwell Numismatic Society's 50th Anniversary event at the Morwell Bowling Club (Hazelwood Rd) on Sunday 24th May 2015 at noon.

Syllabus

The President Darren Burgess invited the guest speaker for tonight, Michael Wade, President of the Melbourne Numismatic Society for presenting the topic 'Highlights from the English Hammered Series'. Michael has been a collector of English hammered coins for over 40 years. His reasons for choosing this area of numismatics has been many but mainly, concentrated into three reasons. Firstly, in studying this type of medieval coinage, the links to the people and events of English history can be revealed. Secondly, the rarity of many types of such coinage and the painstaking research needed to identify them. And thirdly, many hammered coins have long provenances, often going back to the original hoard where they were found.

Being a unique part of numismatic research, English medieval coinage can be full of surprises. As detection technology evolved through the times, metal detectors have awakened the interest of many amateur and serious coin collectors in researching many areas throughout the United Kingdom. Recent coin finds can be attributed to the use of such technology used by 'detectorists'. Usually, details of such recent finds are revealed such as general details of find spot and date of single or small finds. Areas of interest in particular have been Anglo-Saxon coins from the time of separate kingdoms to the Norman Conquest, followed by rare medieval issues where there have been changes in style often due to a new engraver and, of course, coinage of the 'Wars of the Roses' period, with special focus on the periods from 1455-1464, 1470-1471 and 1483-1487 when the throne changed hands.

Michael displayed some images of coins from some auction houses. These included:

- a) Penny of Coelnoth, Archbishop of Canterbury in the mid 800's with a provenance going back to the Trewiddle Hoard of 1774;
- b) Penny of Edward the Martyr 975-8, probably from an 18th century hoard;

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- c) Penny of Harold II 1066 the last A/S king killed at the Battle of Hastings;
- d) Groat of Edward I 1278-1307 the rare first 4d;
- e) Noble of Richard II 1377-99 from the famous Fishpool hoard of over 1200 gold coins found in 1966;
- f) Mule London/York penny from Henry VI Restoration 1470-1;
- g) Angel from Henry VI Restoration 1470-1;
- h) Richard III 1483-5 group including rare Farthing, Halfgroat and York groat.

The last coin was of particular interest, due to the recent (2012) discovery and identification of the remains of Richard III who was killed in battle in 1483. This incredible discovery is remarkable and Michael elaborated on the persistent efforts of archaeologists for obtaining approval for the excavations that led to this dramatic discovery of the remains of Richard III in a car park. Michael's presentation also touched into internet trade where he emphasised the importance of understanding English medieval coinage and its characteristics such as mint place, assayer and other details, that should be researched carefully before purchases are made. The popularity of these coins is as such that there is a wider variety of coins being available today than ever before. Michael also described a couple of events when discovered hoards had to be returned to the authorities due to the tough regulations on discovering historical artefacts in Great Britain.

After many questions from the members, in his Vote of Thanks, Treasurer David Likar congratulated Michael for a very interesting topic that outlined key coins in the English medieval coinage spanning from the middle of the 9th century until the late 1400's, and for learning so much tonight than ever before. David invited all to join him in appreciation to Michael's excellent presentation.

The President closed the meeting at 9:40 pm, followed by the Tender Sales session, conducted by Pat Shields and assisted by David Likar. Refreshments were provided by the Celtic Club management.

My Favourite Medals

By Bill Xynos, NAV 1112¹

INTRODUCTION

In reviewing this subject, especially when I look at the following first medal, I will always be reminded of the day I've joined numismatics; but also, of the misfortune of being inactive for over 15 years. My accidental visit to

¹ This is an edited and complete representation of the paper Bill presented at NAV meeting 1021 on 20 March 2015.

I S Wright's Flinders Lane shop in mid-1997 was a memorable day. Recollecting it clearly, I walked through the door of the shop and its walls were covered by a huge number of coins and banknotes. Feeling like a kid entering the milk bar, my senses were awakened! The shop was oozing numismatics, including gold, silver and bronze coins from ancient, medieval and modern times, with Australian pre and post decimal coins.

One item drew my attention – a superb and well-preserved bronze Melbourne 1888 International Exhibition medal. This was my first numismatic purchase: 'love at first sight!' The manager, Mr Dave Carr explained a few elementary things about collecting and recommended me to join the Numismatic Association of Victoria and the International Bank Note Society's Melbourne Chapter. From that day, my perception of collecting changed forever.

'MELBOURNE CENTENNIAL INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION 1888' MEDAL

For this project, the medal designs were to be modelled in relief and to show the Queen's head in profile on the obverse, and a 'suitable design' on the reverse. This competition received 19 designs for the medal and 52 designs for the certificate. A sub-committee from the Fine Arts Committee was appointed to select the best design and Ernst Altmann, a Melbourne die-sinker and engraver, was selected as the winner of the medal design on 18 January.

The Royal Mint was asked to strike the medal, but Deputy Master George Anderson reported that some of the relief was almost undercut, requiring unusual pressure, and was not feasible. This had happened to Altmann before, when his winning design for the 1880 exhibition medal was also rejected. Altmann was too unwell to re-work his design, so George Anderson was asked to both design and execute the medal. The dies were to be engraved by Stokes & Martin and Anderson set to work on this magnificent medal. This illustrated bronze medal² has a diameter of 76 mm (3 inches) and was awarded to W Elms Esq. Records indicate that 1273 exhibits were awarded with the bronze medal. With a recent acquisition of the related original medal box, this set is now complete.

Obv: Queen Victoria's portraiture, based on the Jubilee medal by Sir Joseph Edgar Boehm (except that the crown had been replaced by a 'more firmly seated one which is seen in the New Zealand war medal'), with the legend "CENTENNIAL INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION MELBOURNE".

Rev: a wreath composed of the leaves and acorns of British oak and the leaves and acorns of the wattle. The oak and wattle were tied together 'by a true-lover's knot, symbolizing the unity and affection between the mother country and the colony'. The motto "ARTIBUS DIGNIS HONOR INSIGNIS" – meaning 'to the deserving arts, distinguished honour' – was placed within the

² Ref: Carlisle's *Australian Commemorative Medals and Medalets from 1788* (edition 1983, page 54, No.1888/8)

wreath, encircling the Southern Cross. The date, in Roman numerals, is below the wreath and knot.



Melbourne Centennial International Exhibition, 1888 (dia 76 mm)

Some years later, I attended an NSSA-NAV Symposium in Adelaide with some NAV members, including the late Terry Pepperell. By accident, we discovered a copy of the Timothy Millett catalogue lying on a table. We inspected the catalogue that illustrated some exceptional British and foreign medals. Since then, I've admired Terry's appreciation and respect about medallic artistry. We were both excited in selecting our 'wish' list and upon returning to Melbourne, our choices were firmed with Mr Millett. We were both delighted with the quality of these medals and the following three medals are from that order.

'OPENING OF BLACKFRIARS BRIDGE & HOLBORN VALLEY VIADUCT' MEDAL

The original Blackfriars Bridge was completed in 1769 and was demolished in 1864. The new bridge was designed by Joseph Cubitt and H Carr with the foundation stone laid by the Lord Mayor in 1867. The bridge was opened in 1869 at the same time as the Holborn Viaduct, which was designed by William Heywood and was constructed to span the valley of the river Fleet.

This impressive 76 mm bronze medal was struck by George Gammon Adams. The mintage was 400 and was issued as a boxed set of two medallions.³

Obv: Queen Victoria, with the legend "VICTORIA D: G: BRIT: REGINA F: D:"

Rev: Two wreaths, the lower one inverted, joined at the centre by a shield with the arms of the City of London. Within the upper wreath is a view of Farringdon Street Bridge of the Holborn Viaduct inscribed "HOLBORN VIADUCT". Within the lower wreath is a view of Blackfriars Bridge crossing the Thames inscribed "BLACKFRIARS BRIDGE". On the left is Londinia (the

³ Ref: Welch 11; BHM 279/2906; Eimer 189/1604

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City of London), and on the right is Britannia with shield and trident. Above the opening of the upper wreath is the date “1869”.



Opening of Blackfriars Bridge & Holborn Valley Viaduct, 1869 (dia 76 mm)

‘ALEXANDRA’S WELCOME TO LONDON’ MEDAL

This bronze medal commemorates Princess Alexandra’s public entry into the City of London on 7 March 1863 before her marriage to the Prince of Wales (later King Edward VII) three days later. Engraved by J S & A B Wyon, it has a diameter of 76 mm.

Obv: a beautiful portraiture of the Princess, with inscription “ALEXANDRA”.

Rev: The Princess being led by the Prince of Wales, is welcomed by Londinia (the City of London), who is accompanied by Peace and Plenty carrying the diamond necklace and earrings which the City offers to the Princess. In the background is the triumphal arch, erected by the Corporation at London Bridge where the Princess entered the city. It carries the inscription “WELCOME ALEXANDRA” and below, the date “MAR 1863”.



Welcome Alexandra Medal (dia 76 mm)

'CHRIST'S HOSPITAL' PRIZE MEDAL

This silver medal⁴ engraved by Thomas Pingo has a diameter of 35 mm. By looking at the medal, one could be perplexed about the purpose of this institution. Christ's Hospital was actually a school for the orphan children of poor Londoners and was founded in London by King Edward VI on the site of the former Grey Friars Monastery in Newgate Street, given by Henry VIII to the city in 1546. Its first 380 children were admitted in November 1552 and the institution was given its Royal Charter by Edward VI in 1553, as part of a foundation which included St Thomas' and Bridewell Hospitals.

Infants were sent away to Ware (Hoddesdon or Hertford) to be looked after by nurses, and to attend local day schools when they were old enough. Children usually came to London to be educated only at the age of 10 or older. Girls were also admitted from the beginning but were always in a minority. Records indicate that in 1563 (the first children's registry), there were 132 girls out of 396 children. The great majority of children were educated in the Writing School for a position in commerce or trade, leaving when aged 15. The few who stayed on beyond that age studied either in the Grammar School for University or, from its foundation in 1673, in the Royal Mathematical School (RMS) for service at sea. The RMS received its Royal Charter from Charles II, with Samuel Pepys, Sir Isaac Newton and Sir John Flamsteed being influential figures in its early years.

The Christ's Hospital lost 32 children in the Great Plague of 1665, but did not lose any children to the Great Fire in 1666, although most of the buildings were burned down. With only a few children able to return to the ruined buildings, many were sent out to Hertfordshire. In 1682 a site in Hertford was acquired for a self-contained boarding school, which the institution was to own for over 300 years.

The great generosity of benefactors assisted in the rebuilding after the Great Fire. Completed in 1705, Sir Christopher Wren designed the South front as well as Christ Church, the parish church used for its worship. A second major rebuilding (from 1793 to 1836) included a Grammar School (1793), a new Great Hall (1829), and the new Grammar and Mathematical Schools (1834), replacing the 1793 Grammar School and the 1684 Mathematical School correspondingly. Finally, the cloisters (known as the Grecians Cloister) were rebuilt in 1836. In 1902 all the boys from both the London and Hertford schools transferred to a new site in Horsham, and the school at Hertford became a girls-only school. In 1985 the Hertford site was closed and the girls transferred to Horsham, once again to form a co educational school.

This prize medal was awarded to William May in 1848.

⁴ Ref: Eimer 29; Pingo 66.

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Obv: the portraiture of Edward VI (1547-1553), the Boy King, with inscription “EDWARD VI D G ANG FR ET HIB REX”.

Rev: it carries the legend “HEAR READ MARK LEARN”, with an open book at the centre of the medal, and below that, in exergue “CHRISTS HOSPITAL INST MDLII”.



Christ's Hospital prize medal (dia 35 mm)

'QUEEN ANNE – INSVIAE CAPTAE' (1708) MEDAL

This bronze medal commemorates the capture of Lille (October 1708) during the War of the Spanish Succession following a two-month siege, although the citadel continued to hold out for another six weeks.

This War started in 1700 and lasted for 15 years. After the death of the Spanish Habsburg King Charles II on 1 November 1700, his last will designated Louis XIV's second grandson Philip Duc d'Anjou as his successor. In spite of the protests of other powers the transition seemed to go smoothly at first. In September 1701 the grand alliance of The Hague was formed between the United Provinces, England and Emperor Leopold I, who had declared war in spring and thus started the War of the Spanish Succession.

In terms of numbers the Grand Alliance and the Two Crowns (Bourbon) were about evenly matched. On the Bourbon side the French Army was Europe's largest and the Spanish Army was rapidly expanding. On the Grand Alliance side the Dutch Army was the largest, closely followed by the English Army and the Austrian-Habsburg army. Given these forces and the recent achievements of the French army a lot of Europeans probably counted on a French victory.

The War started with a surprising Austrian offensive by Prince Eugen in Italy in 1701 and an Anglo-Dutch offensive on the lower Rhine and Meuse under Marlborough in 1702. Bavaria then joined France in September 1702 and Savoy and Portugal joined the Alliance. In 1704 France seemed well on its way to victory, but the Franco-Bavarians were crushed in the Battle of Blenheim and the Grand Alliance took Gibraltar. In 1706 Marlborough was victorious again, this time in the Battle of Ramillies. This led to the Allied

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conquest of the Spanish Netherlands and positively influenced Eugen's victory at the siege of Turin. In 1708 the Grand Alliance was victorious at Oudenaarde and in the siege of Lille. In the next year France could claim a strategic victory at Malplaquet and the War started to bog down in the French lines of defence. The War ended with England deserting its allies and making a peace that was very profitable for itself.

Lille was considered as a strategic fortress during the War. Further details can be found on the internet and I would recommend you to study the detailed information provided on the website www.spanishsuccession.nl.

Obv: Crowned bust of Queen Anne

Rev: Winged Victory holds captured fleur de lis shield over citadel map, scene of an epic siege before eventual British victory.



Queen Anne – Insviae Captae 1708 (dia 44 mm)

‘BATTLE OF CASTIGLIONE’ (1796) MEDAL

Engraved by Lavy, this bronze medal has a diameter of 43 mm. The Battle of Castiglione saw the French Army of Italy under General Napoleon Bonaparte attack an army of Habsburg Austria led by Feldmarschall Dagobert Sigmund von Wurmser on 5 August 1796. The outnumbered Austrians were defeated and driven back along a line of hills to the river crossing at Borghetto, where they retired beyond the Mincio River. The town of Castiglione delle Stiviere is located 10 km south of Lake Garda in northern Italy. This battle was one of four famous victories won by Bonaparte during the War of the First Coalition, part of the Wars of the French Revolution (the others were Bassano, Arcole, and Rivoli).

Castiglione was the first attempt by the Austrian army to break the French Siege of Mantua, which was the primary Austrian fortress in northern Italy. To achieve this goal, Wurmser planned to lead four converging columns against the French. It succeeded insofar as Bonaparte lifted the siege in order to have the manpower sufficient to meet the threat. But his skill and the speed of his troops' march allowed the French army commander to keep the Austrian

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columns separated and defeat each in turn over a period of about one week. Although the final flank attack was prematurely delivered, it nevertheless resulted in a victory. In the battle, the Austrians suffered 2000 killed and wounded, plus 1000 men and 20 cannons captured. The French probably lost between 1100 and 1500 men. In the campaign, the French lost 6000 killed and wounded, plus 4000 men and their siege train captured. Total Austrian casualties numbered 16 700.

Obv: the inscription of “BATALLIE DE CASTIGLIONE COMBAT DE PESCHIERA”. In the middle, two naked combatants holding swords, one subduing the other.

Rev: the inscription of “A L’ARMEE D’ITALIE / LOI DU 27 THERMIDOR / AN 4^{ME} REP” (14 August 1796) with crossed trumpets through a closed wreath in the centre.



Battle of Castiglione (dia 43 mm)

‘CORMENIN’ (1842) MEDAL

This bronze medal was engraved by E Rogat in 1842 and has a diameter of 51 mm.

Obv: portrait of Cormenin with inscription” LOUIS MARIE DE CORMENIN”.

Rev: with a mausoleum on the background surrounded on the sides by an array of trees, at the front of the building there is a statue, flanked on each side by a semicircular group of 24 statues.

Louis Marie de la Haye (Vicomte de Cormenin) was born and died in Paris (6.1.1788 – 6.5.1868). He was a French jurist and political pamphleteer. His father and his grandfather both held the rank of Lieutenant-General of the Admiralty. At the age of twenty he gained some reputation as a writer of piquant and delicate poems.

In 1810 he received from Napoleon I the appointment of auditor to the Council of State; and after the restoration of the Bourbons he became master of requests. He devoted himself zealously to the study of administrative law and

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was selected to prepare some of the most important reports of the Council, advocating the protection of the rights of private persons, the right of oral defence and publicity of trial. His work 'Questions de droit administratif' (1822) is recognized as his most important work as a jurist.

In 1828 Cormenin entered the Chamber of Deputies as member for Orleans, took his seat in the Left Center, and began a vigorous opposition to the government of Charles X. He defended all forms of popular liberties, and under the pseudonym of Timon, delivered a series of powerful pamphlets against tyranny, all political and administrative abuses. After the revolution of July 1830, Cormenin was one of the 221 who signed the protest against the elevation of the Orleans dynasty to the throne; and he resigned both his office in the Council of State and his seat in the Chamber. He was, however, soon re-elected deputy, and now voted with the extreme Left.

His political activities continued but in 1846, he lost his seat of Joigny in consequence of public reaction to his pamphlet 'Oui et non' (1845) and his second entitled 'Feul Feul'. Cormenin was an earnest advocate of universal suffrage before the revolution of February 1848, and had exposed the corrupt practices at elections in his pamphlet 'Ordre du jour sur la corruption électorale'. After the revolution he was elected by four departments to the Constituent Assembly, and became one of its vice-presidents. He was also member and President of the Constitutional Commission and for some time took a leading part in drawing up the republican constitution until disputes led him to resign the Presidency. He was soon after named member of the Council of State and President of the Comit du Contentieux.



Loius Marie de Cormenin (dia 51 mm)

It wasn't long that I discovered Downies auction operations and I've been fortunate in acquiring the following medal:

'GOREE TAKEN' (1758) MEDAL

Attracted by the effigy of Lady Britannia, this medal came into my possession some years ago. Engraved by John Pingo, this lovely darkened silver medal has a diameter of 40 mm.

Goree, a town in modern-day Senegal, is located on the Goree Island, just 2 km at sea from the main harbour of Dakar, capital of Senegal. Due to the lack of drinking water, the island was not extensively populated. The island of Gorée was one of the first places in Africa to be settled by Europeans, and the Portuguese settled in 1444. It was captured by the United Netherlands in 1588, then the Portuguese again, and again the Dutch. They named it after the Dutch island of Goeree, before the British took it over under Robert Holmes in 1664. After the French gained control in 1677, the island remained continuously French until 1960 but with brief periods of British occupation during the various wars fought by France and Britain.

In relation to the medal, the island was notably taken and occupied by the British between 1758 and 1763 following the Capture of Goree and wider Capture of Senegal during the Seven Years' War before being returned to France at the Treaty of Paris (1763).

The Seven Years War (1756 – 1763) was one that involved most of the great powers of the time and affected Europe, North America, Central America, the West African coast, India, and the Philippines. Its prelude was the conflict between Great Britain and France that broke out in 1754–1755 when the British attacked disputed French positions in North America and seized hundreds of French merchant ships.

The War was a success for Great Britain, which gained the bulk of New France in North America, Spanish Florida, some individual Caribbean islands in the West Indies, the colony of Senegal on the West African coast and superiority over the French trading outposts on the Indian subcontinent. For a brief time between 1779 and 1783, Goree was again under British control, until ceded again to France in 1783 at the Treaty of Paris (1783).

Goree was a trading post administered by Saint Louis, the capital of the colony of Senegal. It was famous as a destination for people interested in the Atlantic slave trade when the House of Slaves was built by an Afro-French Métis family about 1780–1784. In February 1794 during the French Revolution, France was the first nation in the world to abolish slavery. However, following extensive pressure from Caribbean-based sugar plantation owners, slavery was reestablished in 1802. Nevertheless, slave trading through this port was not large. As the slave trade declined and was abolished in 1815 by Napoleon, the town became an important port for the shipment of peanuts, peanut oil, gum arabic, ivory, and other products of the "legitimate" trade.

Obv: the diademed head of Britannia left, a trident behind, "O FAIR BRITANNIA HAIL"

Rev: Victory, holding a laurel wreath and palm branch stands on the prow of an ancient galley, with the inscription of “Goree Taken MDCCLVIII” (1758).



Capture of Goree, 1758 (dia 40 mm)

STAFFORDSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY (1830) MEDAL

This medal was purchased from a city-based dealer some years ago at an ANDA Numismatic Show. What attracted me the most was the frosted surface of the medal (glazed silver) and the exceptional glass and silver fob that protected it well. The Staffordshire Agricultural Society was established in 1844. This medal was engraved by Thomas Ottley, a medallist based in Birmingham and has a diameter of 48 mm. It's cased in a silver rim and contained within glass lunettes with ornate suspension loop and ring.



An almost identical example of the Staffordshire Agricultural Society Medal, 1890 (dia 49 mm in silver fob)

Obv: pair of wreaths enveloping the area where details of the award are engraved: “Presented / to / W A Barnes / for Shetland / Pony Stallion / “Prince William” / Age 5 Years / 1890”.

Rev: a number of animals in a field with farming tools in the foreground and a house in the distance.

'SCANDINAVIAN EQUESTRIAN AWARD' MEDAL

This medal was acquired from the Association's Tender Sales many years ago. The size of this silver medal and the excellent portraiture of King Oscar II and the exquisite posture of the stallion made it very attractive for me to purchase it. The engraver is Lea Ahlborn.

Obv: OSCAR II SVERIGES OCH NORGES KONUNG.

Rev: Stallion standing on ground. Inscription around it: "FOR HASTAVELNS FRAMJANDE" and below it "PRISBELONING".

This example has not been awarded (no inscription) but from limited information presently available, this medal is issued for the encouragement and promotion of horse breeding, and presented to prize winners during annual Scandinavian agricultural fairs. Apart from types made in silver, some were done in bronze too but in lesser numbers. Zinc metal was used during World War I because of shortage of silver. The design was adopted by provincial and local horse breeding associations.



Scandinavian Horse-Breeding Award Medal (dia 43 mm)

Despite my limited research on the subject, so far, details⁵ point out towards the establishment of a state body in the 1600s for looking after the equestrian needs of the Swedish army at the State stud farms in Erikssund, Stromsholm Flyinge and Ottenby. A 'Stud' administration was established in 1818 and consisted of a single-decision member. In 1921, the board's organization was changed in composition, consisting of a Director General, an agency director and two councillors in the treatment of certain issues. The Board was subordinate to the Ministry of Agriculture that had the mandate to promote and follow hästavelns (horse breeding) development to maintain the country's horse supply for the needs of defence, local businesses and pastures. The

⁵ The information has been compiled by Richard Nystrom (www.medalj.nu)

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'Stud' Board was disbanded in 1934 and its activities were taken over by a Stud Farm Bureau attached to the Board of Agriculture.

The following medal was acquired at a recent Noble Numismatics auction when some of the best ever collections have been made available to the public. The competition was fierce but I was pleased to obtain one item from the collection, perhaps one of the most beautiful medals ever made:

MELBOURNE REGATTA (1887) MEDAL

This silver medal was engraved by W J Taylor (London) and has a loop mount at top. Information gathered so far from local sources indicates that the winner of the maiden sculls in 1887 at the Melbourne Regatta was J Warnock of Harbour Trust Club. James Cazaly won the Champion Sculls in 1872. James had 10 children and it's quite possible that John was one of his children.

Obv: A lovely allegorical portrait of a Lady with 'spring-season' features.

Rev: pair of wreaths with the central inscription of "Melbourne Regatta / 1887 / MAIDEN SCULLS / John Cazaly".



Melbourne Regatta 1887 awarded to John Cazaly (dia 41.5 mm)

About 11 years ago, when visiting my relatives in Athens, I've decided to fulfil my dream in visiting Paris and decided to 'blow-up' my credit card for organising a short trip to Paris with my mother. Ten days were not enough and I would recommend you to include this city during your future retirement holidays in Europe. It was by chance that near the motel we've been staying at, I've discovered a stamp shop and I had to buy something:

EXPOSITION UNIVERSELLE INTERNATIONALE (1878) MEDAL

This exposition was the third one held in Paris, following the Exposition Universelle in 1855 and 1867. At its opening day, the buildings and the fairgrounds were somewhat unfinished because six months ago, political complications had prevented the government from paying much attention to the exhibition. However, great efforts made in April and by 1 June, a month after the formal opening, the exhibition was finally completed.

This exposition was on a far larger scale than any previously held anywhere in the world, covering over 27 hectares (or 66 acres). Its main building was in the Champ de Mars and the hill of Chaillot, occupying 22 hectares (or 54 acres). The Gare du Champ de Mars was rebuilt with four tracks to receive rail traffic occasioned by the exposition. The Pont d'Iéna linked the two exhibition sites along the central driveway. The French exhibits filled one-half of the entire space, with the remaining exhibition space divided among the other nations of the world. Germany was the only major country which was not represented, but there were a few German paintings being exhibited. The United States exhibition was headed by a series of commissioners, which included Pierce M B Young, a former United States Congressman and Major General in the Confederate States Army, as well as other generals, politicians, and celebrities.

The United Kingdom, British India, Canada, Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Cape Colony and some of the British crown colonies occupied nearly one-third of the space set aside for nations outside France. The United Kingdom's expenditure was defrayed out of the consolidated revenue; each British colony defrayed its own expenses. The UK display was under the control of a royal commission, of which the Prince of Wales was President.

The exhibition of fine arts and new machinery was on a very large and comprehensive scale, and the Avenue des Nations, a street 730 metres in length, was devoted to examples of the domestic architecture of nearly every country in Europe and several in Asia, Africa and America. The "Gallery of Machines" was an industrial showcase of low transverse arches, designed by the engineer Henri de Dion (1828-78). Many of the buildings and statues were made of a low-cost temporary building material invented in Paris in 1876, which consisted of jute fibre, plaster of Paris, and cement.

On the northern bank of the Seine River, an elaborate palace was constructed for the exhibition at the tip of the Place du Trocadéro. It was a handsome "Moorish" structure, with towers 76 metres in height and flanked by two galleries. The building stood until 1937. On 30 June 1878, the completed head of the Statue of Liberty was showcased in the garden of the Trocadéro Palace, while other pieces were on display in the Champs de Mars.

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The exposition featured a close connection between scientific technologies and arts. At the venues, electric railcars were operated, and four fountains with water pumped up from the River Seine were constructed. Among the many inventions on display was Alexander Graham Bell's telephone. Electric arc lighting had been installed all along the Avenue de l'Opera and the Place de l'Opera, and in June, a switch was thrown and the area was lit by electric Yablochkov arc lamps, powered by Zénobe Gramme dynamos. Thomas Edison had on display a megaphone and phonograph and sewing machines by A Wilson and Singer Co were displayed. International juries judged the various exhibits, awarding medals of gold, silver and bronze. One popular feature was a human zoo, called a "negro village", composed of 400 "indigenous people". Augustin Mouchot's Solar powered engine, converting solar energy into mechanical steam power, won a Gold Medal in Class 54 for his works, most notably the production of ice using concentrated solar heat. Various international conferences were held at the exposition. Also, an aquarium was built taking advantage of the geographic features and a colony pavilion was built.

The Exposition Universelle was held from 20 May 1878 to 10 November 1878. The number of visitors was 16 032 000. By holding this international exposition, the defeated nation of the Franco-Prussian War⁶ (sought to raise the profile of its Third Republic in the world, and to demonstrate its revitalization as the centre of world culture.

The medal was designed by Jules-Clement Chaplain. This medal marks the emergence of Art Nouveau design in medals. Chaplain retained the basic neo-classical themes but his depiction is rich with movement and his composition emerges from the background in flowing lines. By the use of the new reduction technology, designs could be replicated on a smaller scale, placing Paris again at the centre of the medallic world. In 1877 Chaplain was named the official medallist of the French government; in 1878 he was named a Chevalier of the Legion of Honour; and in 1881 was given the seat at the Académie des Beaux Arts. He was commissioned to engrave the country's gold coinage and his gold medal commemorating the visit of Czar Nicholas and Czarina Alexandra of Russia to Paris in 1896 was thought to be one of the finest ever struck.

Obv: Allegorical portraiture of a lady representing Republique Francaise (as inscribed)

Rev: Allegorical portraiture of winged Victory bearing a wreath and below on right, a girl holding a plaque (name of the winner – J Guivet Delaroche & Cie). Inscription : "EXPOSITION UNIVERSELLE INTERNATIONALE DE 1878 / PARIS".

⁶ Franco-Prussian War: 19 July 1870 – 10 May 1871).



Exposition Universelle Internationale de 1878 medal (dia 68 mm)

EPILOGUE

This small selection of medals can explain my admiration about their aesthetic value and direct link to historical events and personalities, as well as our social development. The artistic capabilities applied on medals during the 18th and 19th century should not be neglected and I hope that this presentation does some justice to this branch of numismatics, of which I proudly own a tiny part of it.

The Dardanelles Campaign 1915 Inspiration or Lunacy?

By Ross Wilkinson, NAV 1120⁷

INTRODUCTION

April 25 2015 marks 100 years since the ANZAC troops went ashore at ANZAC Cove on the Gallipoli Peninsula in the First World War. This event is jointly commemorated every year in both Australia and New Zealand although the event here in Australia has been broadened over the years to be a commemoration of the losses from all subsequent wars.

However, with the Centenary of the First World War and the ANZAC Landing, the focus is sharply on the Dardanelles Campaign for the 2015 ANZAC Day commemorative services. My sub-title will also touch on the other aspects that arise from events such as this and will include discussion on myths, intrigue and controversy!

This paper will focus on the Campaign and question whether it was a wise decision or not to initiate and then persevere with the naval and land operations for so long. It will question whether or not there were other factors

⁷ Ross presented this paper to NAV meeting 1022 on 17 April 2015

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at play that may have subconsciously or actively influenced all or some of the principal decision makers.

I will then look at the medallic recognition given to all servicemen and women who took part in the Campaign, to those who lost their lives and those who performed notable acts of bravery.

Finally, I will also look at the subsequent Australian public reaction to the Campaign and the creation of a potentially unrealistic military consciousness within the minds of the Australian people – then and now. This is manifested in the number of medals issued for the public to recognise this event and the annual public memorial rituals performed wherever Australians gather.

THE MARCH TO WAR

The European World had progressively advanced towards conflict leading to the assassination of Archduke Ferdinand on 28 June 1914. The increased tensions across Europe led to the creation of alliances on both sides. But the intermingling of the Royal families created conflicts of interest that would add intrigue to the mix.

France and Germany had been at each other's throats for hundreds of years. The Austrian-Hungarian Empire created conflicts into the Balkan states under Ottoman control, which, in turn, created tensions for Italy and Greece.

Germany and Austria-Hungary became the Central Powers and France, Great Britain and Russia became the Triple Entente (see first map on inside back cover).

Britain had also promised Belgium in 1821 that its neutrality would not be threatened.

With the imminent threat of war, Britain sought assurances of manpower support from its Empire and Australia promised a force 20 000 men. Canada, not to be outdone by Australia immediately promised 30 000 men.

TURKEY AND THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE

For hundreds of years the Ottoman Empire had controlled large tracts of land across Eastern Europe, North Africa and the Middle East. Progressively it was to lose much of this land through various military actions as its power and influence waned.

In turn, it incurred massive debts to the various European governments to the point it sought an alliance with France, Russia and Great Britain immediately prior to the outbreak of war. When this offer was declined with Turkey's failure to meet the request to repay the debts first, the Ottomans quietly joined the German/Austro-Hungarian Alliance and so, the sides were set.

Turkey's immediate action was to close and mine the Dardanelles which was a declared international waterway. This effectively cut Russia off from the rest of

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the world as the German Grand Fleet controlled and blocked the North Sea ports.

Britain was building warships for Turkey so its response was to seize those ships before delivery and they became part of its Royal Navy fleet.

WAR BEGINS

The assassination of the Archduke became the catalyst for this unstable arena to break out into warfare. The various alliances meant that one thing led to another, like dominoes falling, and soon Europe was inflamed.

Germany's plan to invade France involved a surprise manoeuvre, first devised in 1909, to march through neutral Belgium from whom it sought permission to enter. When Belgium refused this request, Germany marched in anyway on 4 August 1914. Britain immediately declared war and came to Belgium's assistance.

And, with that declaration, the Empire was also at war.

AUSTRALIA'S PREPARATION

After Federation, the Australian Government enacted its Defence Act 1903 to create an Australian military force for the defence of Australia. It provided for a permanent force and a part-time militia to be called up for service as required. With the outbreak of war the call out notices for full-time service went to all militia troops

Unfortunately, the Act restricted these forces to not serve outside the borders of Australia and its Territories. In order to meet its commitment to Great Britain, the Government called for volunteers to form an expeditionary force to serve overseas.

The rush was overwhelming and many were turned away, but, by Christmas 1914, 50 000 had enlisted. And this was despite the commitment to raise a separate force to invade the German Pacific territories. The initial Force Commander, Major-General William Bridges, named this volunteer force the Australian Imperial Force (AIF).

After the successful Pacific Campaign, the RAN fleet was promised to Great Britain as part of our commitment and many of those who had enlisted for four months in the German New Guinea Campaign re-enlisted in the AIF.

THE CAMPAIGN PLAN

With the initial reverses in Belgium and France, the public intention of the Allied plan for the Dardanelles was to force the straits with the combined Royal Navy and French ships, capture Constantinople to cause the Turkish surrender and free up Russian ports in the Black Sea. This would then allow

Russia to put pressure on Germany on the Eastern Front and relieve the offensive on France.

Winston Churchill, as First Lord of the Admiralty, considered that the Campaign was a Naval one with the objective to clear the waterways to the Black Sea ports of Russia. Two Royal Marines Battalions were sent to the area and began to raid Turkish forts at Cape Helles and Kamkale supported by gunfire from RN ships.

With the failure of the combined British French heavy squadron to break through the minefields, with the loss of several ships to mines, a Land Campaign, still under Naval control was the next option. The intention was to seize the Gallipoli Peninsula and control the forts. This would release the waterway and allow the navy in to the Sea of Marmara and capture Constantinople, thus forcing the surrender of the Turks. The land invasion would consist of a series of feints to disguise the Allied intention and prevent the Turks from predicting the real landing area and concentrate force.



Map of the Dardanelles Forts and Minefield

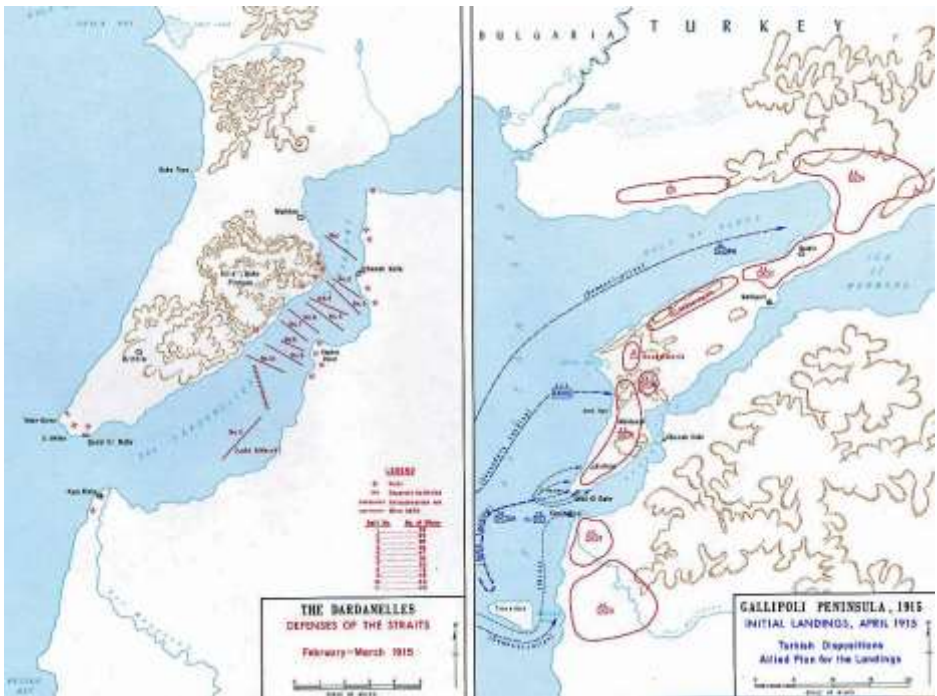
THE CAMPAIGN

On the morning of 25 April 1915, several squadrons of ships sailed around different parts of the peninsula to keep the Turks guessing while the actual landings simultaneously took place at ANZAC Cove and Cape Helles. The French landed a force on the opposite side of the waterway at Kamkale as a further diversion for the Turks. When the landings had consolidated, the French withdrew and joined the British at Cape Helles.

The ANZAC objectives were to drive the Turks from the ridges and hills behind the landing area and prevent reinforcements from getting to Cape Helles.

The British objective was to take the coastal forts and the town of Krithia then move up the peninsula to join up with the ANZACs. Once the peninsula was secure the forces would then advance to the neck of the peninsula at Gallipoli and free the strait from threat for the navy to enter the Sea of Marmara. The

objective would then be to capture Constantinople and free the Russian Black Sea ports.



Maps of the Invasion Plan and Manoeuvres

As the landings commenced, the Australian submarine, HMAS AE2, the only Australian naval vessel at the Dardanelles, under the command of Lt Commander Stoker, began to cautiously enter the strait to attempt to slip through the minefields and submarine nets. Its objective was to enter the Sea of Marmara and cause havoc among the Turkish navy ships operating there.

AE2 managed to navigate through the minefield and submarine nets where it created problems for the Turkish Navy inside the Sea of Marmara. Unfortunately it suffered a mechanical failure and was forced to surface within the view of a Turkish gunboat where it ran aground and the crew became prisoners of war for the remainder of the war. However, it paved the way for other British submarines to emulate its success.

At Cape Helles, the British, after managing to form a beachhead, suffered heavy casualties, became bogged down and made little headway despite repeated attempts until withdrawn in January 1916.

At Anzac Cove, the first waves of Australians and New Zealanders landed and moved inland although the steep terrain was causing difficulties. With

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scattered elements attaining the third ridge, Australian commanders became cautious and ordered a withdrawal to the first ridge where the Australians dug in where they basically stayed for the next eight months.



The Landing (George Lambert 1922)

However, Turkish forces didn't take this lying down and on 19 May 1915, launched a series of attacks against the ANZAC positions in much larger numbers than the defenders. Trenches and posts would fall but be taken back by the Australians. At Quinn's Post, Silas Ellis, a signaller with 16 Battalion, was an accomplished artist who created a series of sketches during his time at Gallipoli. He was later commissioned by Charles Bean to paint these.



16 Battalion Roll Call after Turkish attacks (Silas Ellis 1920)

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In a simultaneous attack the Turks entered the trenches at Courtney's Post held by 14 Battalion. Private Albert Jacka immediately gathered several comrades and counter-attacked. Jumping alone into a trench filled with Turks he killed several with his bayonet and regained the position, thus becoming Australia's first Victoria Cross winner of the First World War.

The Fourteenth Battalion's first task when coming ashore after the initial landing was to guard the beachhead in case the Turks strongly counter-attacked. This gained them the insulting nickname, "The Bacon Stealers", when other battalions accused them of getting an unfair share of rations.

However, after the action at Courtney's Post, they quickly adopted the name, "Jacka's Mob", which gained strength with his later actions and decorations in France, and which is how they are remembered today. (Medals shown on back cover4444.)

It was also on 19 May 1915 that Private John Simpson (Kirkpatrick) was killed. He had gained fame on the battlefield for recovering wounded using

a donkey named Murphy. He was nominated for a Victoria Cross but was awarded a Mention in Despatches (medals shown on back cover). His image has become iconic for ANZAC but the award has created controversy to this day. He was only one of a number of medical men using donkeys to recover wounded. I will refer to this later in this paper.



Private Albert Jacka at Mudros

After several months of stagnation, sniping and trench raids, in August 1915, the British Commanders decided to break the stalemate with a series of actions and feints. The main attack was to take place at Cape Helles where the British would make a concerted effort to capture Krithia. An Australian Brigade group was sent to reinforce the British and French at Cape Helles. British troops also reinforced the Suvla Bay front north of ANZAC Cove as attacks were required from there to draw attention away from the Krithia attack. These were to see elements of great sacrifice, personal courage and command stupidity.



Simpson and his Donkey (Peter Corlett 1988)

The attack at against the Turkish trenches at Lone Pine lasted from 6 to 10 August 1915. The Australians found that the Turkish trenches were covered and had to either find the entrances or dig through the top. Eventually the position was gained and held for the remainder of the campaign. Seven Victoria Crosses were won by Australians at Lone Pine during this battle:

- L/Cpl Leonard Keysor 1 Bn 7 August 1915
- Lt William Symons 7 Bn 8 August 1915
- Cpl Alexander Burton 7 Bn 9 August 1915 killed in action
- Capt Frederick Tubb 7 Bn 9 August 1915
- Cpl William Dunstan 7 Bn 9 August 1915
- Pte John Hamilton 3 Bn 9 August 1915
- Capt Alfred Shout 1 Bn 9 August 1915 killed in action

Orders were received for another distraction and the Light Horse Brigade was required to attack entrenched Turks at a position known as The Nek. The attack was to be preceded by a naval bombardment of the Turkish positions

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and pushed by four waves of dismounted Light Horse soldiers from the Eighth and Tenth LH Regiments.

Each wave was to consist of 150 men with the 8th LH providing the first two waves followed by two from the 10th LH. As soon as the naval bombardment finished the first wave from the 8th LH was to attack over the open ground before the Turks recovered from the bombardment.

Unfortunately, it appears that no-one synchronised watches and the terrible events that followed arose from this oversight. The naval bombardment finished 7 minutes early according to the watches of the Light Horse officers. However, they didn't order the attack to commence until Zero Hour by their watches.

This vital delay gave the Turkish troops, who had been sheltering from the naval gunfire, time to man the trenches with rifles and machine-guns. The ensuing concentrated fire mowed down the two 8th LH waves. A request to delay the first wave from 10th LH was denied by the Brigade Commander and it too went over the top. Climbing over the bodies of the dead and wounded from the 8th LH, it suffered a similar fate.

A further request to delay the next wave was being considered when, by mistake, it too climbed out and charged only to be mown down. The 8th suffered 234 casualties of whom 154 were killed. The 10th fared slightly better and lost 138 of whom 80 were killed.



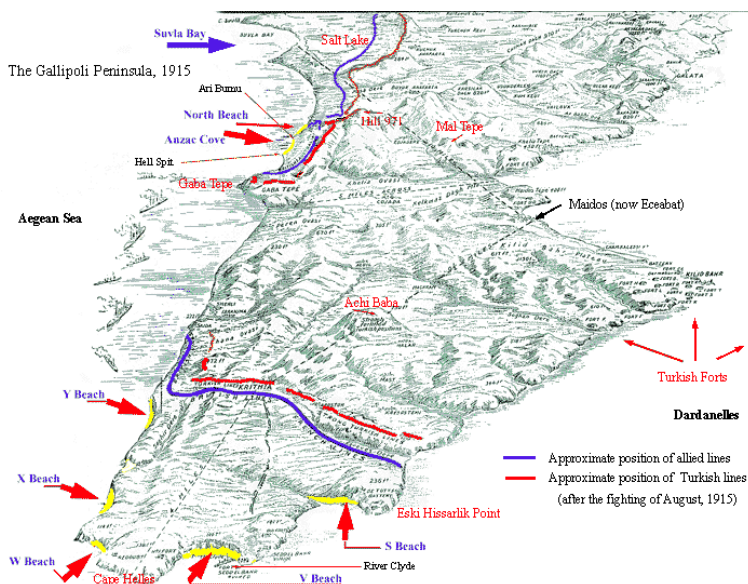
The Charge of the Light Horse at The Nek – George Lambert 1924

My connection to Gallipoli and The Nek is through 757 Private Ivan James Denkel 8th LH Regiment, my mother's uncle. Fortunately, he was a machine-gunner and did not take part in the charge. He was later wounded in the Mesopotamia Theatre and survived the War but his two brothers were killed in separate actions in France.

One further attempt to break the stalemate occurred in late August where an unsuccessful attempt to capture Hill 60 saw 2/Lt Hugo Throssell of the 10th LH

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awarded the Victoria Cross on 29 August 1915. This, though, was the end of the campaign but nobody had realised it and the relative Turkish and British positions at this time remained until the withdrawal in December 1915.



Map of Dardanelles dispositions August 1915

INGENUITY AND SUBTERFUGE

During the course of the campaign the Australians became noted for their inventiveness. Early on it was recognised that the Turks were excellent shots. For an Australian to put his upper body and rifle above the lip of a trench and wait for an enemy target to appear was a temptation to great to miss for the Turkish snipers.



L/Cpl William Beech demonstrating his invention

Whilst a number of soldiers of different nationalities have claimed credit for inventing the periscope rifle, the one most commonly seen in photographs is attributed to the Australian, Lance-Corporal William Beech of 2 Battalion AIF.

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With the decision to withdraw from the Peninsula, the problem became how to hide this from the Turks and to minimise casualties when leaving. How could they prepare to evacuate without alerting the enemy? Normal activities had to appear to continue as far as the Turks were concerned. One of the most famous was the Australian cricket match on the Green in view of the Turks. This was replicated by Australian Test Cricketers in recent years.



Australians playing cricket at ANZAC Cove

The invention that gets the most attention is the “dripping rifle”. Private William Scurry 7 Battalion AIF was worrying about the safety of the evacuation once it became known among the Australians. He developed a firing mechanism from the weight activated by water dripping from one tin to another. This allowed the Australians to convince the Turks from continuing rifle fire that they were still present after they had left the beach. This enabled them to leave without any casualties.



Dripping rifle

STRATEGY OR CONSPIRACY?

So, from the last major offensive in August to the final evacuations in December 1915 – January 1916, why did it take so long to make the decision

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to withdraw? Why did the Campaign remain the responsibility of the First Lord of the Admiralty for its duration even though it had shifted from a naval to a military focus?

Whilst the public reason for the Campaign was the opening of the Dardanelles Straits to enable sea access to Russia. However, was there something more sinister at play? Did British Government involvement in Persian oil exploration, changes to Royal Navy strategic and logistical requirements and Winston Churchill's position of First Lord of the Admiralty create conflicts that blurred clear thinking and decision-making? And finally, did Winston Churchill's reported intemperate habits interfere with his ability to think clearly?

A company called Burmah Oil had acquired the exploration rights for oil in Persia (Iran) but required additional financing. It sought the assistance of the British Government and this was achieved through the Admiralty. In 1908, the company struck oil at Masjed Soleiman and established a refinery and export facilities at Abadan in the Persian Gulf. The company established a subsidiary, Anglo-Persian Oil Company (APOC) to manage this find.

Under Churchill's stewardship, the Royal Navy was upgrading its ships with armament and conversion to oil-fired turbines. The Admiralty entered into a twenty year contract with APOC to supply its entire oil needs. So its primary oil supplies from the Persian oilfield were located very close to the Persian border with the Ottoman Empire (see second map on inside back cover).

So the question posed is, "What was Churchill's primary concern, freeing the Dardanelles for the Russians or removing the Turkish threat to his oil supplies?" It must also be noted that in 1923 when he lost his seat in Parliament, Churchill was engaged on a very princely sum by Burmah Oil as a consultant to lobby the British Government about its oil supplies. Was this genuine employment or a reward for favours already made?

The final factor to be taken into consideration is Churchill's mental acuity. His alcoholic intemperance and prodigious daily alcohol intake has been well documented in a number of publications. He has been accused by some of these writers of being in a befuddled state so I question whether it was a potential conflict of interests regarding the oil supplies or his mental state that led to the delay in recognising and approving the need for withdrawal from the peninsula.

Whatever the reason, he has always been recognised in history as being the architect of this defeat, particularly in Australia, because even though it is now a National Day of Remembrance here and in New Zealand, it was a defeat with much unnecessary loss of life.

[To be continued in the next issue.]

Gallipoli – Inspiration or Lunacy

(see article commencing on page 31)



The Alliances of Europe 1914



Ottoman Empire and Persian oilfields



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

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Albert Jacka's Medals at the Australian War Memorial



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

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Simpson's medals at the Australian War Memorial