

Geelong
Numismatic
Society

Journal

Registered at the G.P.O. Melbourne for transmission by post as a Periodical — Price 15c.

GEELONG NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

(Founded 1965)

P.O.Box 423, G.P.O.,
Geelong, Victoria, 3220,

AUSTRALIA.

President

T.B.Carey

Hon. Secretary

P.Olsen

Hon. Treas.

E.S.Bond

Monthly Meetings - Fourth Friday of each Month -
8.00 p.m., Guild Hall, Myers Street, Geelong.

VOLUME 2 - Number 6

MARCH 1970

E D I T O R I A L

Dear Member,

Here we are, now fully launched on our new Society year, having had our Annual General Meeting and elected a new Committee to organise and plan our affairs. At least, we say it is a new Committee, but it is really only somewhat of a reshuffle - and not only that but a reshuffle of the same old willing horses again. What a great thing it would be if more Members would take an active interest in the affairs of the Society instead of being quite content with second best, provided that someone else does the thinking or the work to achieve a minimum level.

No doubt you say that you haven't got the time - if you don't say it aloud you probably say so to yourself. But do you really think that those who do alot for the Society HAVE the time; that there aren't dozens of other things that they could be doing with the time that they are devoting to providing for YOU as a Member?

Maybe they never ask you to do anything, maybe you hope they won't, but if you don't, or haven't been able to, do anything because you are a bit timid about volunteering your good services, please feel assured that your assistance would be more than welcome. VOLUNTEER IN 1970 - NOW. Don't let the few carry you.

The Editor.

G. N. S. NEWSMARCH MEETING

The March Monthly Meeting will be held on Friday next, 20th March in the Guild Hall at 8.00 p.m. As you will be aware, owing to the fourth Friday in March being Good Friday, our usual meeting night has been brought forward one week.

There has been no opportunity for the new Committee to draw up a 1970 programme as yet, and there is not yet therefore any information to hand on the activities for this forthcoming meeting. In line with our usual programmes however the timetable for that night will probably be as follows:

7.30 - 8.00 Bourse (Fixed price table)
 8.00 - 9.30 Monthly Meeting
 9.30 - 9.45 Break
 9.45 -10.15 Tender Sale

NEW OFFICE BEARERS

Resulting from the Annual General Meeting of the Society, held on Friday, 27th February, there have been several changes in the office bearers. Bern. Carey succeeds Neil Clement as President, Neil having completed two one-year terms in that position. Peter Olsen takes over the duties of Hon.Secretary from Ken Bain, who has also completed two successive years in that office. Ken Bain will continue in his present capacity as Editor of this Journal, so making this task one separate from the normal secretarial function again, as it was when Bern. Carey did the Bulletin until June of last year.

Bob Jordan was unable to continue with his duties of Tender Sale Organiser owing to other important commitments, and this post has been taken over by Paul and Christine Engledow. Ern.Bond has most gallantly agreed to continue as Hon.Treasurer to the Society for yet another term.

V.C.N.S. PRESIDENT

At the Annual General Meeting of the Victorian Council of Numismatic Societies, Bern.Carey of the Geelong Society was elected President of the V.C.N.S. for the year 1970/71.

GENERAL NOTES

Have you heard ?

(By Neil Clement)

That Bendigo Society have eight lady Members who attend meetings regularly. What about it, Mrs. Watson and Mrs. McHarry? We would like to add a little bit more glamour to our meeting.

That we had two lady Visitors at our last meeting, namely Margaret Clement and Shirley Meyer. Thanks for coming, ladies.

That four of our Members travelled to Bendigo to attend the Victorian Council of Numismatic Societies' (V.C.N.S.) Convention. They were Bern. Carey, Peter Olsen, Chris Olsen, and Neil Clement. Also present were Mrs. Olsen, Mrs. Carey Senior, and Mrs. Clement.

That the Prize Winners in the various Sections were:

Society Display (V.C.N.S. Shield) - Bendigo Society.

Their display of gold coins, nuggets and mining paraphernalia was extremely well done. I was told that ten members of that Society contributed material.

Australiana - John Knox - Bendigo President

The same display as above !!!

British Commonwealth - Great Britain - Peter Olsen, Geelong

A lovely display of British Coins, laid out on dark red cardboard and divided into the Royal Houses.

Thematic (A Theme) - Christine Engledow, Geelong

A display of famous people on coins. The coins were well written up on cards, and the Judge commented that the display was more comprehensive than its competitors.

Foreign - Neil Clement, Geelong

A display of what Bern. Carey was overheard describing as a lot of arab rubbish.

The final Section was won by Peter Wall of N.A.V. with a display of ancient coins, which traced and depicted the great civilisations of the past - Greek, Egyptian, Roman, Phoenician, Arabic, Persian and Byzantine.

Have you heard (cont'd)

That 56 lots were offered for sale at the Convention Auction. Only eleven of these were sold, Neil Clement buying six of them. The prices were good, but all the buyers were still in Geelong.

That there were 30 displays at the Convention, and most of these were of a very high standard.

That an Italian Mint is now striking (or rather re-striking) 5 Lire coins of Humbert I of Eritrea (Y 4). This was reported by Stan Church of Northern Suburbs Society. You just can't trust those "Romans".

That the set of Australian Replicas as advertised in "The Australian" some weeks ago is reported as being of very poor quality. I believe Bern.Carey may have a set to show us in the near future. The replicas are all uniface (one-sided).

That Paul and Christine Engledow, Bern.Carey and Neil Clement all displayed coins at the Hobbies Wxhibition in the Norlane High School Assembly Hall last week-end. Big crowds of people viewed the displays, and the Exhibition which was open on Friday evening and all day on Saturday was organised by the Rotary Club of Corio.

That this family business is catching - I offer my congratulations to John Hosford and his wife on their expected addition to the family.

That the Republic of Ireland issued a 50 New Pence coin similar to that of the U.K. but with an individual design, on the 16th February, 1970.

Neil Clement.

DID YOU KNOW ?

That the Banking Act 1945-59 limits the amount of gold and gold coin you may hold? It is an offence to possess more than \$50 of gold coin without the consent in writing of the Reserve Bank. The Act leaves the fixing of the prescribed amount (\$50 at present) to the Reserve Bank. However, coins are valued under the Act according to the weight and fineness of the gold they contain and not according to their numismatic value.

THE MARKET PLACE

Our Purchasing Officer (Neil Clement) still has the following items for sale to Members, these being new issues which he has ordered and received direct from overseas:

4 ZAMBIA - F.A.O. - 50 ngwee Coins	@ \$1.50 ea.
2 Jordan - F.A.O. - ¼ dinar Coins	@ \$2.10 ea.
4 Sets JERSEY - 5, 10. & 50 New Pence	@ \$2.15 per set.
4 Sets GUERNSEY - 5, 10 & 50 New Pence	@ \$2.15 per set.
6 Britain - 50 New Pence Coins	@ \$1.50 ea.

He assures us that these won't last long, so if you are interested in any of them for your collection do hurry along to him on Friday night. As soon as they are all sold Neil can go ahead and buy further new issues.

NEW ZEALAND SETS

The following Coin Sets are still available in limited quantities from the N.Z. Treasury, Wellington.

1968 Souvenir Coin Set -(Specimen Proof-like Sets)

50 Cent to 1 Cent	-	Price per Set	A\$ 6.00
Presentation Case	-	Each	A\$ 2.00

1969 Cook Bi-Centenary Coin Issue

Seven Coins including Dollar and 50-Cent piece with edge inscription.

Cook Dollar (Uncirculated)	A\$ 1.25
Specimen Set (Proof-like)	A\$ 6.00
Uncirculated Set	A\$ 2.50
Presentation Case*	A\$ 2.00

* Available only with specimen set.

1970 Royal Visit Commemorative Crown (Depicting Mount Cook)

Royal Visit Dollar	A\$ 1.25
--------------------	----------

Lot No.	Country of Issue	DESCRIPTION	No. of Coins	Cond'n.
201	Australia	Florin 1933	1	G/F
202	Australia	1/- 1940 (2), 1943, 6d 1935 (5)	9	F-VF
203	Australia	Threepence 1934, Sixpences 1918, 1921	3	VG-VF
204	U.S.A. Poland	Half Dollar 1968 D 10 Zl. 1968	2	EF
205	Britain	Half-Crown 1922	1	aVF
206	Britain	Halfpenny 1807	1	G
207	New Zealand	Pennies - mixed	5	F-VF
208	Honduras	2 Centavos 1956	1	UNC.
209	Guernsey	4 Doubles 1830, 1889.	2	aF-VF
210	Guernsey	8 Doubles 1949	1	aEF
211	French Indo-Ch.	5 Cents 1938	1	G-F
212	British W.Africa	Penny 1920	1	VF
213	Turks & Caicos	Crown 1969	1	aUNC.
214	Japan	Banknotes (Occupation)	8	F-VF
215	Malaya, Fiji	-do- (including 5/- Fiji)	3	VG-VF
216	China etc.	-do-	6	VG-F
217	Phillipines & Thailand	-do-	2	aVF-F
218	China	-do-	10	aVF-F
219	China	-do-	10	aVF-F
220	Australia	Penny 1925	1	aVF
221	Panama	1/10 Balboa 1953	1	aVF
222	Australia	Service Medal - Special Constabulary	1	gVF-aEF
223	Australia	Threepence 1910	1	VF
224	Australia	Threepence 1955 (Miss-strike)	1	aVF
225	New Guinea	Shilling 1938	1	EF

TO: The Honorary Secretary,
Geelong Numismatic Society,
P.O.Box 423, GEELONG 3220

For the record.....

PRICES REALISED AT TENDER SALE HELD
ON FRIDAY, 27th FEBRUARY.

Lot No.	Price	Lot No.	Price
101	1.00	111	0.30
102	(3.00)*	112	0.60
103	(4.00)*	113	2.10
104	(4.00)*	114	0.70
105	(3.00)*	115	0.90
106	0.70	116	0.20
107	0.70	117	0.30
108	1.00	118	0.40
109	0.90	119	0.40
110	0.60	120	0.40

* Passed In - Bids not reaching
reserve shown thus: (-)

ATTENDANCES - Friday, 27th Feb. '70

Members: 23

Visitors: 7

Apologies 4

WHY "VIGO" ON COINS OF QUEEN ANNE?

This is a simple word, but behind it lies a story of great audacity and bravery, back in the times of the Anglo-Dutch Alliance whose superiority was eventually to relegate Spain to a second-rate sea power. To bolster their failing economy, the Spaniards and their allies the French, decided as a last resort to risk the Atlantic crossing of their treasure ships. The French Fleet, under the command of Le Comte de Chateau Reynaud, was entrusted with the task of ensuring a safe crossing of the Atlantic.

On their voyage from Vera Cruz, and on nearing the Spanish Coast, news of the presence of the Anglo-Dutch Fleet reached the French Commander. The galleons were offered the haven of a French port by Count Reynaud, whose ulterior motive was now revealed, but the Spaniards rejected his offer and made for the safety of Vigo Bay.

Part of the combined Allied fleet, after the failure of Cadiz, sailed on awaiting the arrival of the treasure fleet off the Spanish coast. This was August 1702. The only knowledge the British had was that seventeen Spanish galleons were due in early October, but by a stroke of luck word of the whereabouts of the rich prize reached Captain Hardy, who immediately informed his Admiral, Sir George Rooke.

The combined Anglo-Dutch fleets comprised fifty ships in all with a total of about 3000 troops on board prepared for any eventuality. The strong defences of Vigo Bay did not deter the Allies who realised that all the gold and bullion was still on board, not yet having been unloaded. Allied troops had been landed at nearby Vigo on the 11th October, 1702, and had captured Fort Randa which protected the Spaniards' southern flank. Vice-Admiral Hopson, who was Rooke's deputy, breached the barricade across the narrow entrance to the Bay, and in spite of the enemy's use of fireships, succeeded in achieving a brilliant victory. By the morning of 13th October, all the enemy ships were either sunk or in Allied hands.

Of the treasure which had originally left Vera Cruz, 14 million pieces of eight were recovered, and also 5 million pieces of eight worth of goods. The Spaniards had also been able to remove 7 million pieces of eight value in bullion and goods before the remainder fell to the Allies.

During the following year the famous Vigo silver coins were minted in England from the captured silver, and so marked.

MEDALS AND DECORATIONS

No.6 - The George Cross (Great Britain)

The George Cross was instituted on 24th September, 1940 by King George VI. The decoration may be conferred as a reward for valour and outstanding gallantry displayed under dangerous conditions, primarily for civilians of the British Commonwealth, but also to members of the Armed Forces for actions for which military decorations are not normally awarded. It may also be conferred posthumously.

The George Cross ranks after the Victoria Cross, but before all other British Orders and Decorations. The holders of the decoration are entitled to add the letters "G.C." after their name, and are entitled also to a tax-free annuity of One Hundred Pounds.

The Cross is a George Cross in silver with the Royal Cypher GVI in the angles of the cross. The motive of the centre medallion is St. George and the Dragon surrounded by the words "For Gallantry". The reverse bears the name of the Holder and the date of the award. The Cross hangs by a ring from a silver bar adorned with oak leaves, and the ribbon is Garter-blue. When awarded to women, the Cross is worn suspended from the ribbon tied in a bow. If awarded a second time, the riband is provided with a Bar. The riband worn alone with uniform, is provided with a miniature of the Cross in bronze.

The Cross took the place of the Medal of the Order of the British Empire for Gallantry (commonly known as the Empire Gallantry Medal). A holder of this Medal was required to return it to the Central Chancery of the Order of Knighthood, when a George Cross was issued in its place.

The George Medal was instituted at the same time as the George Cross, and is awarded in circumstances when the action is not so outstanding as to merit the award of the George Cross. The Medal is of silver, and hangs by a ring suspended on a riband consisting of six red and four medium blue stripes. The obverse bears the crowned effigy of Her Majesty with the legend "Elizabeth II Dei Gratia Regina F.D." The reverse bears St. George on horseback killing the Dragon, and the inscription "The George Medal". The holder is entitled to place the letters "G.M." after his or her name.

GEELONG NUMISMATIC SOCIETYReceipts and Expenditure for the period 1/3/69 to 1/3/70RECEIPTS

Balance in Bank 1/3/69	163.77
Balance in Cash -do-	37.76
Nominations and Subscriptions	73.50
For Vendors	153.88
Tender Sales Commission	29.72
Bourse Commission	7.64
Bank Interest	3.22
Sale Surplus Book	1.80
Float repaid	5.00

TOTAL \$ 476.29

EXPENDITURE

Payments to Vendors	153.88
Advance to Tender Secretary (Float)	15.00
Apex Club Rent Year plus Convention	20.00
Postage & Printing	44.96
Post Box Rental	3.00
Keys Cut	1.14
Cheque Book	2.50
V.C.N.S.	5.00
Hall's Book Store	4.35
Journal Covers	18.80
Balance in Bank at 1/3/70	191.63
Balance in Cash at 1/3/70	15.97

TOTAL \$ 476.29

A comparison of the starting and finishing balances, and the float, shows an improvement over the year of \$16.07.

Signed: E.S.Bond - Hon.Treas.

Society Membership as at 1/3/70:

Full Members 33; Juniors 11.
Total Membership 44 -(same total as last year)

GEE LONG NUMISMATIC SOCIETYNew Issues Purchasing Account - Statement of Receipts & ExpenditureYEAR 1969 - 1970

	\$
Bank Balance at Annual Meeting 1969	136.65
Coins on Order at Cost as at 1/3/69	21.87
Profits for year:	
Gambia	\$ 1.30
Phillipines	2.16
Investiture Medallion	1.08
	4.54
Coins sold but countries not yet finalised	41.50
	\$ 204.56
Cost of Coins on Order or Unsold as at 27/2/70	122.81
Loss on New Zealand Orders	0.15
Bank Balance as at 27/2/70	81.60
	\$ 204.56

Neil Clement - Purchasing Officer

27/2/70.