

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

Treasurer

E.S.Bond

Monthly Meetings - Fourth Friday of each Month -

8.00 p.m., Guild Hall, Myers Street, Geelong.

VOLUME 2 - Number 7

APRIL 1970

E D I T O R I A L

Dear Member,

Here we are in 1970 celebrating the Bi-Centenary of Capt.James Cook's landing in Australia, and the claiming of this vast continent in the name of the British Crown. We are all busy getting our Cook 50 Cent pieces, and everyone's getting into the Cook medallion race. The celebrations and re-enactments of that event which took place in 1770 have caught the public imagination, and the fact that the bi-centenary has been honoured by a Royal Visit has made the whole affair a world news item.

It is very true that nothing succeeds like success, and one wonders just how much publicity by todays standards actually attended Cook's discoveries in the London, and the world, of his day. It is certain that the imagination of 1770 would have been hard pressed to foresee the development of this huge country; a development which is only in the last few years beginning to gain such momentum. It is equally certain that even Cook himself, blessed as he undoubtedly was with uncommon vision, fully appreciated the great portent of his landing, and sad that he did not live to see even the first fruits of his discovery. To him it was simply a mission successfully accomplished in his line of duty.

The Editor.

G. N. S. NEWSAPRIL MEETING

The April Monthly Meeting of the Society will be held on Friday next, 24th April, in the Guild Hall at 8.00 p.m.

The highlight of the Meeting will be an address by our Guest Speaker, Mr. Peter Wall of the Numismatic Association of Victoria. We hope that as many as possible of our Members will be able to attend, as this promises to be a most interesting evening.

The programme for this Meeting will be as follows:-

7.30	-	8.00	Bourse (Fixed Price Table)
8.00	--	8.30	General Business
8.30	-	9.30	<u>Guest Speaker</u> - Mr. Peter Wall
9.30	-	9.45	Break
9.45	-	10.15	Tender Sale
10.15	-		Close Bourse.

NEW ZEALAND SETS

You are reminded that Orders with money will be received only up to and including the April Meeting next Friday. If you are wanting to purchase these N.Z. Mint Sets please see Neil Clement by the 24th without fail. No late Orders will be sent.

British India and Indian States

We have received notification from NARENDRA S.SENGAR, P.O.Box 110, KANPUR, INDIA, that he has reasonably priced coins of British India and Indian States for sale. Anyone interested should contact him direct by writing with want list to the address shown.

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

The Committee wishes to remind those Members who have not yet paid their 1970/71 Subscription that this is now due, and should be paid to our Honorary Treasurer, Ern. Bond as soon as possible. Please co-operate in this matter, to allow Ern. to finalise his Membership List and also to avoid making him have to run after you for your Society dues. Prompt payment will also avoid the embarrassment to you of finding that your name has been deleted from the list of Members.

* * * * *

HAVE YOU HEARD ?by Neil Clement.

That Canada is issuing Commemorative Dollars in 1970 and 1971.

That Bern.Carey has been made an Honorary Member of the Northern Suburbs Numismatic Society.

That the Gambia is to issue an 8 Shilling coin dated 1970. The coin features a hippopotamus, and completes the series issued in 1966. The coin's specifications are:-

Diameter - 1 5/8" (41 mm) Weight - 34 gms. Milled Edge.

London Mint. Cupro-Nickel.

The Proof Coin will be .925 Silver.

That the Italian Mint mentioned last Month as re-striking coins of Eritrea, is now reported to be re-striking coins of Ethiopia, San Marino and the Papal States.

That another Sultanate from Trucial Oman has issued its own coinage - the Ras Al Khaima Currency Board has issued 3 silver coins. These are as follows:-

1 Ryal - 64% Silver, 36% Copper 20.50 mm.

2 Ryals - 83.5% Silver, 16.5% Copper 25 mm.

5 Ryals - " " " 32 mm.

This is an important event for all those collecting Arabic coinage.

That orders are being accepted by the Royal Australian Mint for Proof Sets of 1970, containing the Cook Commemorative 50-Cent coin.

That Neil Clement has THREE \$10 BAGS of pennies and halfpennies at his bank. The contents of the bags are mixed, and would probably contain most of the Australian Dates. Those interested - get moving.

NEW ISSUES AVAILABLE FROM PURCHASING OFFICER - NOW

4 ZAMBIA F.A.O. - 50 Ngwee	\$1.50 each
2 JORDAN F.A.O. - ¼ Dinar	2.10 each
6 WESTERN SAMOA Tala coins	2.00 each
3 Sets JERSEY 5, 10 & 50 New Pence	2.15 per Set
3 Sets GUERNSEY 5, 10, & 50 New Pence	2.15 per Set
2 BRITAIN - 50 New Pence	1.50 each

Any of the above Coins and Sets not already sold will be available at next Friday's Meeting.

Lot No.	Country of Issue	DESCRIPTION	No. of Coins	Condition
401	Hungary	Banknotes - (Mixture)	7	F - VF
402	Hungary	Banknotes - (Mixture)	5	F - VF
403	China & Japan	Banknotes - (Mixture)	5	F - VF
404	China	Banknotes - (Mixture)	5	F - VF
405	Mixed	Good Variety	25	F - EF
406	Jersey	1/12 Shilling 1923	1	aVF - gVF
407	New Zealand	2/- (Low mintage) 1953, 1941.	2	F
408	Ethiopia	1, 5, 10 and 25 Cent, 1944.	4	VF - EF
409	Britain <i>check</i>	Sixpences, including 1916	8	G - aVF
410	New Guinea	Penny 1936, Shilling 1938	2	G - aVF
411	New Guinea	Sixpence 1935	1	aVF
412	New Zealand	Half-Crowns 1948, 1949.	2	GF
413	Canada	25 cent 1940, 1951. 5 cents 1965.	3	VG - EF
414	Britain	Sixpence 1941, Threepences (Silver) (3)	4	P - EF
415	Mexico	One Peso 1961 (base silver)	1	G
416	Panama	¼ Balboa 1966	1	G - EF
417	New Zealand	Halfpenny to Florin 1964	6	UNC.
418	New Zealand	Halfpenny to Half-Crown 1963	7	UNC.
419	New Zealand	Threepence to Half-Crown 1933 (Silver)	5	VF - aUNC
420	Nicaragua	½ Cent 1937, 5 Cent 1934 (Scarce)	2	G - F

Please Note:

Auction Material is again urgently required - if you can help with even a couple of items, please contact Paul or Christine Engledow as soon as possible, or hand your spares to them at next Friday's Meeting.

DELIBERATE MISTAKES

Last Month's deliberate mistake was not reported to the Editor, so it appears our Readers are either loth to take the Prize offered by Neil Clement or else they just didn't find the offending statement. Just for the record, it was on Page 6 of the March Issue - Paragraph 3, last sentence states that the Miniature of the Cross is in BRONZE, which would look most odd on the ribbon of a Silver Decoration. It should, of course, read SILVER.

This Month's Mistake is another matter, however, so if you haven't found it yet, I suggest you keep your eyes down - it certainly is in this issue all right, so you won't search in vain. Neil will be most disappointed if he can't get rid of his prize on Friday at the Meeting.

* * * * *

THE FARTHING

Did you know that the Farthing is the longest-lived base metal coin in the history of the English Coinage? Its life spans the period from 1613 until 1956, through 16 different reigns, and so as a coin it presents a stimulating challenge to the collector.

ANCIENT ROMAN FIND

By Christine
Engledow

During 1939, the Caerleon Excavation Committee of Monmouthshire, (one of the English Counties adjacent to the Welsh Border) excavated an area which had once been occupied by a Roman Fort. Many interesting relics were found, including belt buckles, cheek-plates from Roman military helmets, tiles stamped LEG II AUG. ANTO., and from a rubbish dump about 70 Roman Silver Denarii. Also, under the floor of the remains of a barrack 14 beautiful specimens of the gold Aurei were found. Minted during the reigns of Nero and his mother, Agrippina, Vespasian, Titus and Domitian, dating between A.D. 54 and A.D. 96. Both lots of coins were in beautiful condition, just as they had left the mint, and it is thought that they must have been the collection of one of the Romans at the fort.

GUINEA GOLD The Guinea was a British coin first issued in 1663 by Charles II and made from gold which came from Guinea. Many of the early guineas bore an elephant in the design, which was in fact the stamp also of the Company which imported the gold from Africa.

"Spade" Guineas are those issued between 1787 and 1799, which bear a spade shaped shield with the Royal Arms on the reverse of the coin.

THE CHANNEL ISLANDS

These Islands, situated in the English Channel close to the coast of France, came under the domination of the French at various times until the fifteenth century. Originally they formed part of the Duchy of Normandy, and on the accession of William the Conqueror to the English throne (he was Duke of Normandy) in 1066, they came under English rule.

However, it is in the twelfth century, during the time of King John, that the authentic history of these islands commenced, and since their final recapture by the English Guernsey and Jersey have remained a possession of the British Crown. Despite threats from the French during the reign of Charles II and again during George III's reign in 1781, the islands remained British until occupied by the Germans during the Second World War.

A new distinctive coinage, which bore the representation of the Seal of the Bailiwick of Guernsey, appeared in 1830. The main unit of currency was the "Double", which derived its name from the French Double Denier or Liard, which in turn originated from the Denier Tournais.

At first, a 1 Double and a 4 Double piece only were struck, but later both 2 Double and 8 Double pieces were added, and have continued to the present time. In 1956 threepences were introduced, and featured the world famous Guernsey Cow.

Copper coins for Jersey appeared during Queen Victoria's reign, in 1841, and these and all subsequent issues bear the Arms (Shield and three lions) of the States of Jersey. All values were expressed in fractions of a shilling. An additional value was introduced in 1957 with the issue of the threepence ($\frac{1}{2}$ Shilling). Also, in 1949, there was the special issue of the Liberation Penny, although this was dated 1945.

When the 1/12th Shilling was issued with the obverse of Elizabeth II in 1954, the year after her Coronation, the reverse of the Liberation Penny was used.

* * * * *

PHOTOGRAPHY OF COINS

WALTER MEYER, one of our very active Members, has asked us to let all those interested in producing photographs of coins know that he will be very willing to assist with advice based on long experience. Walter spent many years as a professional - so he knows

OLDEST KNOWN COIN

An archaeological find of great interest has been reported by Pastor Lohmann of the German Society for Scientific Research in Anatolia.

During a journey in North Syria, an excellently preserved coin of pure silver was offered to him, and this coin, on examination, proved to bear a perfect Aramean inscription of Panammu Bar Rerub, King of Schamol, who reigned about 800 B.C.

Up to the present, the Lydians have been regarded as the inventors of money, but this new find shows that Semitic Arameans, who lived 200 years before the Lydians, are the oldest known coiners.

Several new Hittite bas-reliefs were also found by Pastor Lohmann at Marach.

* * * * *

DO YOU KNOW?....

...by Walter Meyer

St. George and the Dragon first appeared on the 1526 George Noble of Henry VIII, and the inscription "TALIDICATA SIGNO MENS FLUCTUARI NEWQUIT" was a line from a Fourth Century hymn - "A mind sealed with the sign of the Cross cannot waver".

.....

In the year 1883 a boundary rider by the name of Charles Rasp pegged out a forty acre mining claim in the far west of New South Wales, on a rugged ironstone outcrop he called "Broken Hill".

By 1888 more than \$2 million worth of silver ore had been won in a year and the Governments of New South Wales and Victoria asked for Royal permission to produce silver coins at the Sydney and Melbourne Mints. This permission was granted in 1898, but twelve years later the first Australian silver coins were in fact struck at the Royal Mint, London, as the Australian Mints were not yet able to undertake this coining.

.....

The Australian Sixpence holds the record of being the coin that bore an obsolete design unchanged for over 50 years. The last Sixpences, struck in Melbourne in 1963, had the same reverse as those first struck in London in 1910.

.....

One of the most colourful forgers the world has known ended his life here in Australia. Nicholas Bochsa, a musician, and once a harpist at the Court of Napoleon, fled to Sydney and is buried at Camperdown, N.S.W.