

Geelong
Numismatic
Society

Journal

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GEELONG NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

(Founded 1965)

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

President

T.B.Carey

Hon. Secretary

W.P.R.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 9

JUNE 1970

E D I T O R I A L

Dear Member,

From comments over the last ten or eleven months it appears as though many of our Members welcome the regular issue of this Journal, and would like to see it remain as the official paper of our Society. I myself share this view, and would like to see the standard of the publication continually improved in contents and format, and had I not had this aim in mind the Journal as such would never have been started in the first place.

The time has come however, when some thought has to be given by yourself and all other Members, as to whether you want to see the Journal continue, and if you do, to make some appropriate plans for keeping it alive and ensuring that it flourishes in the way you want it to, and in a form that is in the best interests of the Society.

As from late this year it will be necessary for myself as the present Editor to withdraw, at least for the best part of 1971, from any major participation in the production of the Journal. This means that it will have to become the responsibility of other members to continue this routine and fairly onerous task, and I ask any of you who are willing to assist NOW with a view to taking over later on to contact me as soon as possible.

Some action now in preparing for others to produce the Journal will avoid any interruption to its issue later on, and may eventually lead to its being properly regarded as a team effort.

The Editor.

G. N. S. NEWSJUNE MEETING

The June Monthly Meeting of the Society will be held on Friday next, 26th June in the Guild Hall at 8.00 p.m.

The main item at this Meeting will be an address and practical demonstration by one of our own Members, Mr. Walter Meyer, on the subject of PHOTOGRAPHY OF COINS.

Walter has done much in the field of professional photography, and is fully conversant with advanced techniques, but I imagine that in his talk and demonstration he will be attempting to show us that one does not have to be a wizard to produce effective pictures or slides of coins, and that the most simple methods and equipment are often the most satisfactory. He will have some equipment at the meeting, however, just in case anyone thinks it's TOO easy, and I very much hope that he will bring along some of his prints to let you see the standards he has achieved.

The Programme for the Meeting will be as follows:-

7.30 - 8.00	Bourse (fixed price table)
8.00 - 8.30	General Business
8.30 - 9.30	<u>Mr. Walter Meyer - Photography of Coins</u>
9.30 - 9.45	Break
9.45 - 10.15	Tender Sale
10.15 - Close	Bourse.

COMPETITION

Last Month's Competition in this Journal was a search for the Hidden Coin, but we regret to say that the answer wanted was not forthcoming.

All you had to do was turn to Page 5 of the May Issue, and focus your attention on the following heading:-

"TYPE SET AS COLLECTING AIM" - PESETA - OK?

See if you can be a bit sharper-eyed this month - a different coin has been similarly hidden; BUT RING ME AT 43-4216 IF YOU FIND IT.

HAVE YOU HEARD ?.....by Neil Clement.

That Paul and Christine Engledow have new collecting interests ? They have stopped collecting girls and have started on boys. Please accept our congratulations.

That Eric Jones is still sporting that beautiful beard ?

That the Kingdom of Tonga has issued two more commemorative coins for 1970 ? They are the 1 and 2 Pa'anga dated 1968, and are gilded and counterstamped "Commonwealth Member 1970". They were issued to commemorate Tonga's entry as a member into the British Commonwealth.

(Neil Clement would like to hear from two Members of the Society who would be prepared to pay \$4.50 for a set of these coins - the reason being that they are only available on a minimum order of THREE SETS.)

That the Government of Ajman has just issued its own coinage ? Can anyone find out where Ajman is ? I know, but do you ?

That Bern. Carey journeyed to Melbourne last Saturday to chair the latest meeting of the Victorian Council of Numismatic Societies ?

That the 1969 Australian Proof Sets have arrived - and they look just beautiful ?

SOMETHING TO LOOK FOR IN THE NEXT COUPLE OF DAYS

The Editor would like to hear from anyone who has concise information on the coinage of Hungary, as it is intended that this will form the basis for a Journal feature at some future date.

INDEPENDENCE COINAGEprovided by Ern. Bond.

New Hampshire was the first of the United States of America to consider the subject of coinage following the Declaration of Independence. William Moulton was empowered to make a limited quantity of coins of pure copper authorised by the State House of Representatives, March 13th, 1776. Although patterns were prepared, it is generally believed that they were not approved. Little of the proposed coinage was ever circulated, and an original New Hampshire half penny is valued at \$ 750.00.

A Facsimile of the New Hampshire Halfpenny will be on display at the Meeting on Friday night. If you have any genuine ones at home, you're rich.

NEW ISSUES

The following new issues will be available from our Purchasing Officer, Neil Clement, at Friday night's Meeting:-

- 1 only British 50 New Pence \$1.50.
- 3 Sets Guernsey 50, 10 and 5 New Pence - Reduced to \$2.00 per Set.
- 4 Sets Jersey 50, 10 and 5 New Pence - Reduced to \$2.00 per Set.
- 3 Sets Ireland 50, 10 and 5 New Pence - \$2.20.

FAO Coinage :-

- 1 Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan - $\frac{1}{2}$ Dinar - Reduced to \$2.00.
- 3 Zambia - 50 Ngwee - Reduced to \$1.40.
- 5 Republic of Guyana - One Dollar - Small Crown Size - Just arrived - Price \$1.10 each.
- 4 Western Samoa - Robert Louis Stevenson Tala - Cased - Only \$2.00.

AUSTRALIAN PROOF SETS - UNCIRCULATED SETS - DATED 1970.

Orders will be accepted by Neil Clement until this SATURDAY, 27th JUNE for both Proof Sets and Uncirculated Sets of Australian 1970 coins, which will be available to us from the Royal Australian Mint, Canberra.

The cost of the se sets will be:-

- Uncirculated Sets - in Official Vinyl Wallet - \$2.00 per Set.
- Proof Sets - in Official Hard Plastic Transparent Containers - \$10.00 per Set.

Orders will be accepted from Members only, and must be accompanied by at least 50% of the purchase price of the order, the balance to be paid the following month.

Your Order should be handed to Neil at the Meeting and should be written out in the following form:-

"Please supplyProof Sets
Uncirculated Sets Total Cost : \$"

Amount Enclosed with Order \$ Name & Address :"

Lot	Country of Issue	DESCRIPTION	No	Cond.	Price
401	Hungary	Banknotes	6	F-VF	30
402	"	"	5	F-VF	20
403	China / Japan	Banknotes	9	F-VF	400
404	"	"	10	F-VF	30
405	"	"	9	F-VF	30
406	"	"	10	F-VF	30
407	"	"	9	F-VF	30
408	"	"	10	F-VF	30
409	Jamaica	Commonwealth Games Crown	1	aUNC	2-10
410	India	Selection to 1/2 Rupee	13	VG-VF	70
411	New Zealand	50 Cent, 20 Cent	2	VF+	70
412	Mixture	Including Nigerian 1959 1/2d Unc	5	gF-Unc	70
413	Britain	Copper Farthing 1694 (Cat. Val \$3.50 Fine)	1	VG	1-10
414	Britain	Penny 1834; Groat 1836	2	Fair-G	80
415	Britain	Halfpenny 1853; 3d 1841; Farthing 1860	3	Fair-F	60
416	Phillipines	"Aguinaldo" Crown - Bent & Def.	1	aEF	1-10
417	Mexico	One Peso Morelos; 8 Reales 1891	2	F	1-70
418	Hungary	1742 Thaler - Reverse Mounted	1	VG-F	2-00
419	Turkey	Piastre 1293 AH	1	aF	2-80
420	"	20 Piastres 1255 AH	1	VG	2-50

Please provide any suitable Tender Sale material that you have available - it can be handed in at Friday's Meeting.

In the 16th Century, the standard of the English Coinage was far below most of the coins minted on the Continent where at that time the Screw Press was being used. England seemed reluctant to abandon the hand hammered method of striking coins. This was mainly due to opposition from workers at the Mint, as they feared the use of machinery would put them out of employment.

Henry VII, a man of considerable culture, was quick to realise the value of fine coinage and in an effort to improve the existing English standard, he acquired the services of Alexander de Brugsal, a German engraver. About 1500 a new coin was produced, equivalent to 12 pence, and this was called the Testoon - the first English shilling. This was a fine coin, and bore the profile head of Henry VII - the first time the profile head had appeared on an English coin since the reign of Stephen.

In Edward VI's reign the first silver crown was produced, the obverse depicting the young King in armour on a galloping horse.

Early in the reign of Elizabeth I, machinery was introduced to the Mint by Eloye Mestrelle, a Frenchman, who between the years of 1561 and 1571 produced on his power-driven screw presses coins of much finer workmanship than those hitherto turned out by the old hammered method. However, there was intense opposition from the workers at the Mint, and in 1572 Mestrelle was removed from his post. He was subsequently hanged in 1578 for forgery, but this charge may have been a trumped up one.

In 1625, the first year of Charles I's reign, a brilliant French die engraver Nicholas Briot began work at the Tower Mint. He introduced the latest types of machinery, and struck coins of outstanding design and workmanship, but since his process was unable to cope with the level of demand hand hammering of coins still continued.

When in 1649 Charles I was executed and the Commonwealth of England under Cromwell and the Puritans came into being, the designs of the coinage were changed to possibly the plainest to appear for 200 years. The obverse bore the St. George Shield surrounded by a wreath of palm and laurel, with the inscription "The Commonwealth of England" The reverse design was the shields of England and Ireland side by side and the inscription "God With Us".

In 1649 Pierre Blondeau was invited over from Paris to work at the Tower Mint. He had invented a machine for stamping coins with inscribed edges, and the Mint officials realised that here at last was a means of preventing clipping of coins. However, like the earlier engravers, Blondeau met with a great deal of opposition from the Mint workers, and in 1656 he was retired with a pension. In 1656 and again in 1658 some beautiful patterns were struck on Blondeau's machine by Thomas Simon.

THE COINAGE OF THE PHILIPPINES

For the Spanish Colony of the Philippine Islands, the earliest coinage was issued under Charles III in 1766 in the form of copper Quartos with a castle and inscription "Cuidad de Man(ila)" on the obverse and the arms of the Philippines on the reverse. In the first half of the nineteenth century, coinage continued to be of copper quartos, the usual types being a crowned lion on obverse and arms of Spain on reverse.

For Isabel II (1833-70) this copper-quarto coinage was reinforced by issues in gold of the Peso, and multiples up to 4 pesos, and of silver coins of 50, 20, and 10 Centimo values. The types on all were the royal portrait on obverse, and on reverse the Spanish arms with an additional inscription, "Filippinas", below the shield. Similar silver coins and the gold 4 pesos were struck for Alfonso XII (1875-85) and in 1897 the last Spanish coinage for the Philippines was the silver peso of Alfonso XIII.

Following the Spanish-American War, the Philippines were bought by the United States in 1898. On the peso and centavo values from 50 down to 10 in silver, the obverse showed a standing female figure with a volcano in the background, while the reverse carried the arms and title of the United States of America. A seated male figure and the volcano appeared on the nickel 5 centavos and the bronze centavo and its half, all of which had the same reverse as the silver coins. The issues after the creation of the Commonwealth of the Philippines in 1935 continued the denominations, less the peso, and the types of the earlier coinage, but the arms of the United States on the reverse were replaced by those of the Commonwealth. A special issue of the silver peso in 1935 had on its obverse the jugate busts of President Roosevelt and President Quezon of the Philippines. In 1936 the silver peso and its half bore the busts of Governor-General Murphy and President Quezon. After the liberation of the islands from the Japanese, the Philippines became an independent republic in 1946. The first coinage of silver peso and 50 centavos in silver in 1947 with arms-and-value reverse, carried on the obverse the portrait of General MacArthur inscribed "Defender and Liberator of the Philippines."

A new cupro-nickel coinage was issued in 1958. The 25 and 50 centavo pieces repeated the type of female figure and volcano on reverse and the 1, 5, and 10 centavos coins the seated male figure and volcano which had appeared on earlier coins. The obverse, the usual shield of arms, now has an inscription "Central Bank of the Philippines."

BANKNOTES...by Ern. Bond.Forgery Detection

Early in 1968 the Occupational Health Division of the New South Wales Public Health Department was asked to investigate a complaint of eye irritation and skin-reddening, made by workers in a Sydney bank. After making further enquiries into the complaint, it was found that the workers concerned were employed in the detection of forged \$10 notes.

During the previous 18 months, a large number of well-made and difficult to detect forged \$10 notes had been introduced into the Australian currency. High-class paper and very skilled printing methods had made the forgeries almost impossible to detect by the unskilled eye. These forgeries even included in their later and more refined form, the fine copper-wire threads that were a feature of the Treasury product. However, the Treasury had found that the forgeries fluoresced under ultra-violet light, because of an ingredient in the ink used in them which was not present in the genuine note.

Down in the sub-basement of the bank, under maximum security conditions, a squad of forgery detectors worked for several hours a day, flicking through thousands of \$10 notes, and removing for destruction those notes that fluoresced. The detection lights used were of the "black light" type, emitting rays in the long ultra-violet range. Such lights have a variety of uses, including the "sun-lamps" for a winter tan, bactericidal lamps in nurseries, etc., and a wide use in night clubs and dance halls, where a combination of dim light and dramatic fluorescent effects on certain materials enhances the appearance of the band and performing dancers.

The workers in the forgery detection unit were seated at desks with desk-lamp type ultra-violet lights shielded so that the rays were directed downwards. In no case was the lamp shining directly into the operator's eyes. On each desk top were thousands of \$10 notes, collected in bundles of 50 and held by thick rubber bands. It was not necessary to examine the whole note for the tell-tale fluorescent glow, but the ends were riffled through in such a way that part of each note was briefly exposed to the ultra-violet light. A portable adding machine was operated to record the number of forgeries detected.