

Victorian Numismatic Newsletter



Issue Five

October - November 2020

Welcome

Welcome to the fifth newsletter of the year, which we hope you're continuing to find an informative and a welcoming distraction. With the numbers continuing to fall and restrictions slowly lifting there is hope that next year might bring a sense of normality to our activities and might even allow us to celebrate our 75th anniversary in May.

For the moment though physical meetings are still not an option, so the Association will continue to conduct its monthly meetings on-line. These will continue to help us maintain our social interactions and have wonderful chats about all things numismatics. For members with no computer access, these newsletters will continue to provide updates on our activities.

We encourage you to continue submitting content for the ongoing Newsletters and forthcoming Journals. **One issue is planned for December 2020 and another 'Commemorative 75th Anniversary' issue is scheduled for April 2021. It's important for submissions to arrive as soon as possible so now's the time to study up on your specialty, or record a story of your recent or older acquisition, or perhaps provide us with your recollections of the Association's activities over the decades that would be suitable for the Anniversary issue.**

With the arrival of spring and the hope of many more freedoms to come we have more reasons than ever to be positive and continue to Keep Calm and Coin On! Darren Burgess (Secretary) and Bill Xynos (President)



*We're all in this together!
NAV members,
friends and partners
at Christmas Dinner 2019.*

Content

The front cover depicts one of the Egyptian banknotes issued during WWII, the 25 Piastres note. Examples of these continued to be issued after the war and the pictured note is dated 5th of July 1950. Please read the article starting on page 4 of this issue.

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Contact Us

There are many ways to contact the NAV and these can be found right below. To make sure we can contact you please notify us if you've recently changed address or updated your email.

Bill Xynos (Editor) and Darren Burgess (Copy-Editor)

By Post: P.O. Box 288, Flinders Lane, VIC, 8009	By Email: contactus@navic.org.au	
Website: www.navic.org.au	Facebook: www.facebook.com/numisvic	Twitter: @NumisVic

New Anniversary Medal from the NAV

Your feedback would be appreciated!

The medallion committee have been hard at work on a proposed design for a 75th anniversary commemorative medallion for release next year. Shown below are the designs that were used for the Association's 50th and 60th anniversary. The Port Phillip Kangaroo Office design was used on the reverse for both medals.

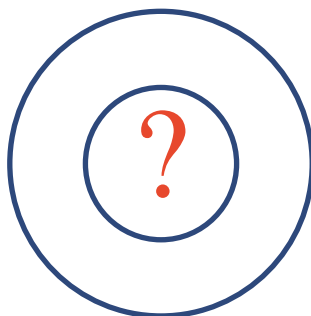
The committee considered a number of designs and reached the decision that the reverse of the forthcoming medal should continue the tradition set by the 50th and the 60th anniversary medals and consequently focussed on the obverse design. Below are four examples that have been prepared. The difference among these are the 'stop' styles (at 9 and 3 o'clock positioning) and placement of the '75' digits.



**Obverse of
50th Anniversary Medal**



**Obverse of
60th Anniversary Medal**



**Obverse of
75th Anniversary Medal**



**Reverse of 50 / 60 / 75th
Anniversary Medals**

For the 'stop' styles, obverse designs A and B use a 'dot' stop, whereas designs C and D use a 'diamond' stop. For the inner diamond digits for '75', designs A and C show these as separated, and designs B and D show these as overlapped (as per the 50th & 60th anniversary designs).

The inner circle words "Research / Education / Participation / Fellowship" represent our Association's four core values, derived from our Aims and Objectives. The font styles for the lettering will be decided at a later stage, following internal consultation and production feedback from the Adelaide Mint, our chosen supplier.



**Obverse A of
75th Anniversary Medal**



**Obverse B of
75th Anniversary Medal**



**Obverse C of
75th Anniversary Medal**



**Obverse D of
75th Anniversary Medal**

The committee kindly seek your comments and feedback regarding your favourite obverse design as soon as possible, preferably by the November meeting date.

Thank you.

Egyptian Banknotes during World War II

By Bill Xynos (NAV 1112)

This is a brief review on the Egyptian banknotes issued and circulated during World War II. Printed by the English printing firm Bradbury Wilkinson (London), these examples show some of the most complex designs in printing innovations used at the time, making them some of the best modern notes ever seen.

For clarification purposes, the table of National Bank of Egypt (NBeE) governors and the production dates for each denominated banknotes can assist in identifying the signatory on any particular note in discussion here. After the war, the political scene for many countries has changed enormously and in 1951, the NBoE was “Egyptianised” in terms of the governing personnel.

Governors for the National Bank of Egypt	Denomination	Pick No	Production Periods
Sir Elwin Palmer (17 Aug 1898 to 30 Jan 1906)	25 Piastres	10	From 5 August 1917 to 23 May 1951
Sir Frederick Rowlatt (26 Jun 1906 to 28 Feb 1921)	50 Piastres	21	From 7 May 1935 to 18 May 1951
Sir Bertram Hornsby (1 Mar 1921 to 28 Feb 1931)	1 Pound	22	From 23 April 1930 to 10 June 1948
Sir Edward Cook (1 Mar 1931 to 27 Oct 1940)	5 Pounds	19	From 1 August 1924 to 26 December 1945
Sir Norman Nixon (28 Oct 1940 to 30 Apr 1946)	10 Pounds	23	From 3 March 1931 to 24 May 1951
Sir Frederick Leith-Ross (1 May 1946 to 30 Apr 1951)	50 Pounds	15	From 4 September 1913 to 2 May 1945
Dr. Ahmed Zaky Saad (12 May 1951 to 30 April 1952)*	100 Pounds	17	From 1 March 1921 to 3 April 1945

Note (*) - Dr. Ahmed Zaky Saad also served as governor from 31 March 1955 to 23 July 1957

Twenty–Five Piastres

This note was initially issued from 5th August 1917 to 20th October 1918 under governor Rowlatt. In fact, this was the first ever banknote of 25 Piastres issued for the country. The same note was reissued from 6th to 7th June 1940 under Cook, and from 18th December 1940 to 4th December 1945 under Nixon. Production on from 5th December 1946 to 7th July 1950 under Leith-Ross and from 15th May to 23rd May 1951 under A. Zaky Saad.



National Bank of Egypt, 25 Piastres, P10d, signature Leith-Ross, dated 5 July 1950

The design of the banknote remained unchanged for almost 34 years and offers to the collector a unique visualisation of a countryside scene on the Nile river bank around late 19th or early 20th century. On reverse, the winged solar disc and lotus flowers makes a connection to early Egyptian history. Printed by Bradbury Wilkinson & Co, the pastel-like variety in colours, geometric patterns and the delicate borders elevate the quality of printing production to a new level for anti-counterfeiting purposes, in absence of water-marking features. There are two serial number varieties.

Fifty Piastres

This note was issued from 7th May 1935 to 6th June 1940 under governor Cook, followed by another production batch from 19th February 1941 to 6th January 1945 under Nixon, and again by another batch from

1st March 1947 to 15th June 1950 under Leith-Ross. Finally, under governor A Zaky Saad, this note was printed from 15th May to 18th May 1951.

This is the third design adopted and a strong design change from the earlier issues, especially from the second design (Pick no.11) where drawing details are more compatible to the notes we are discussing in this article. This design shows elements from the Ancient Egyptian period by depicting the statue of King Chephren, while the lotus and papyrus flowers symbolise the Upper and Lower Egypt. On the back, the three stars within the crescent are symbols of the old Egyptian flag (1923-58).



National Bank of Egypt, 50 Piastres, P21d, signature Leith-Ross, dated 15 June 1950

The colour variation from left to right is another anti-forgery element counterfeiting and the Pharaonic scarab was adopted as a watermark in the lower middle area.

One Pound

This note was released under governor Hornsby from 23rd to 25 April 1930, under Cook from 5th December 1931 to 10th June 1940, under Nixon from 25th November 1940 to 31st January 1945 and under Leith-Ross from 19th May 1948 to 10th June 1948. The design is the fifth one and was based on the fourth where the face of an old man was positioned where the statue of king Tut-Ankh-Amon is shown below, and that the colours of lime-orange (front) and pale mauve were substituted by those shown below.



National Bank of Egypt, One Pound, P22b, signature Cook, dated 3 May 1940

Tut-Ankh-Amon was one of the last kings of the 18th dynasty, acceded to the throne at the age of 9 and died at the age of 18. He became famous rather for the coincidence of his tomb discovery by Howard Carter in 1922, a major event in Egyptian and world archaeology. On reverse, the mosque of al-Mansour Seif el-Dine Qalawun at Bein al-Qasrein.

Have you considered writing YOUR story about one of your discoveries?

Contribute and support your NAV Publications!

Write an article about your favourite numismatic item!

Contact the NAV for further details.

Five Pounds

This note is the third design adopted by the NBoE and was issued with purple-orange (front) colours from 1st August 1924 to 13th September 1930 under governor Hornsby, from 1st April 1932 to 13th June 1940 under Cook, and from 18th November 1940 to 7th December 1945 under Nixon. Then, it was re-issued with new colours (see below) from 8th December to 26th December 1945, again under Nixon.

The front of the note shows the old front view of the National Bank of Egypt and on reverse, a scene from a tomb location, surrounded by palm trees. The Bank was established in June 1898 during the reign of Khedive Abbass II Helmy.

The elaborate designs and the colour variation (especially on reverse) with geometric background elements makes this note difficult to forge. However, according to information from Eng. Magdy Hanafy, some perfect forgeries of the post 7th Dec 1945 date were surfaced in the 1950's. The forged notes show the policeman's right arm partially missing. There is no watermark on this note and there are two serial number varieties.



National Bank of Egypt, 5 Pounds, P19c, signature Nixon, dated 13 December 1945

Ten Pounds

The Ten Pounds banknote shown in its fourth design was issued from 3rd March 1931 to 8th June 1940 under governor Cook, from 22nd November 1940 to 25th April 1945 under Nixon (stronger colours used from 16th April 1945), from 3rd November 1947 to 15th February 1950 under Leith-Ross and from 12th May to 24th May 1951 under S Zaky Saad. It depicts the Al Nahhaseen street and the mosque of Sultan al-Mansour Qalawun. On the back, palm trees and a waterwheel. The watermark is the Sphinx.



National Bank of Egypt, Ten Pounds, P23c, signature Leith-Ross, dated 13 February 1950

Fifty Pounds

The Fifty Pounds note in its second design was issued from 4th September 1913 to 21st January 1920 under governor Rowlatt and was re-issued under Nixon from 6th July 1942 to 2nd May 1945. It depicts a convoy of camels passing by Malmuks Cemetery in Cairo. On back the name of the National Bank framed with geometric designs. There is no watermark.



National Bank of Egypt, Fifty Pounds, P15b, signature Rowlatt, dated 21 January 1920

One Hundred Pounds

The One Hundred Pounds note in its third design was issued on 1st March 1921 and 1st September 1921 under governor Hornsby and later, under Cook only on 4th June 1936. The note was re-issued under Nixon from 6th July 1942 to 3rd April 1945.

It depicts the Zuwayla Gate, one of the gates of the Old Cairo Wall, surmounted by the two minarets of al-Mu'ayyad Sheik's mosque. To the left, the mosque of Muhammad 'Ali and a man pulling a camel. On the back, a boat sailing over the Nile and Philae Temple at the background. There is no watermark. There are two serial number varieties.



National Bank of Egypt, One Hundred Pounds, P17d, signature Nixon, dated 6 July 1942

Conclusion

While these Egyptian banknotes were printed in considerable volumes, the climatic conditions and constant use of banknotes in African and Saharan nations usually affect their condition. For any remaining earlier issues, there are quite scarce or rare and most would be kept in private hands. To locate notes in better condition the chances are that quite a few from the end of World War II would have survived and, based on my limited experience, can still be purchased today. Due to the elaborate engraving and printing techniques used by Bradbury Wilkinson, the spectacular designs adopted, the wide array of colours used and the addition of security features such as the complex geometrical elements, the banknotes from Egypt printed by Bradbury Wilkinson are very popular, colourful and worthy to be added in your collection.

References

- <https://en.wikipedia.org/>
- Standard Catalog of World Paper Money 1368 to 1960 issue, Edition 11th, 2006, Krause Publications
- The Egyptian Banknote, Eng. Magdy Hanafy, 2004

New Acquisitions: Item 1 - Astor Cup medal

This bronze medal was struck for the National Rifle Association (GB) that was founded in 1859 as a registered charity with a Royal Charter, whose objectives are to promote and encourage marksmanship throughout the Queen's dominions in the interest of defence and the permanence of the volunteer and auxiliary forces, naval, military and air. The formal purposes of the charity are to promote the efficiency of the armed forces of the Crown, or the police, fire and rescue or ambulance services. This medal is dated 1880 for the shooting tournament held in Astor County. Obverse: 1300 - 1500, 1880, SIT PERPETUUM, archer standing left, rifleman standing right. Rev: a tankard with the words ASTOR COVNTY CVP (ASTOR COUNTY CUP).

The medal fits into a square presentation box. The base of the box is lined with purple/bluish velvet and the lid with faded silk stamped in "crown with the words BY SPECIAL APPOINTMENT, ELKINGTON & CO LTD MEDALLISTS". Also, below the tankard, the medallist's name is also engraved close to the rim.



New Acquisitions: Item 2 - A Mexican 'Train' Banknote

'For quite some time in the past, these notes were very popular and still affordable', the NAV member lamented, when he emailed us for submitting one of his favourite notes. The VNN editors also agree with his comment and note that progressively, banknotes from private American banks (including regional Mexican states notes) are becoming difficult to obtain cheaply.

This banknote is from the Mexican Peninsular Bank based in Merida, Mexico. Printed by the American Bank Note Company (NY), this delightful note depicts a steam-driven locomotive (left) and a scene of trading activity at a wharf. On reverse, an elaborate vignette and two busts of allegorical ladies.

The banknote is catalogued as S.465 under 'Mexico' in Krause Publications SCWPM Specialised Issues and its image was obtained from eBay.



New Acquisitions: Item 3 - A banknote from Czechoslovakia

The featured banknote is a specimen note of 100 Korun from Czechoslovakia, dated 10th March 1931. Produced locally, this is a spectacular artistic example of promoting allegorical figures representing liberty, agriculture and education. The paper is watermarked in elaborate pattern of waves and carries on the right hand side some scattered cotton fibres.

The design shows a youth holding an olive branch on his right hand and with his left hand, turning a page of a book and allegorical representation of Liberty.



On reverse, a naked couple representing strength (man), maternity (crowned woman), with agricultural produce (wheat, corn, etc). On the right Tomáš Masaryk, (1850-1937), a Czechoslovak politician, statesman, sociologist and philosopher. A book also appears below his portraiture that is flanked by two children, the future of the nation. Masaryk was an early advocate of restructuring the Austro-Hungarian Empire into a federal state, he strived for independence for Czechoslovakia as WWI ended in 1918. He co-founded the nation together with Štefánik and Beneš and served as its first president (President Liberator). During his academic career, he promoted education, culture and science and promoted the cause for independence. The note is catalogued in Krause Publications book as Pick No 23s.

Source: Standard Catalog of World Paper Money, General Issues (1368-1960), 11th Ed.-2006, Krause Publications.

News from around the World



New “Donation Dollar” coin

While most Australian collectors of polymer banknotes are patiently waiting for the release of the “New Generation” One Hundred Dollars polymer banknote, the release of the “Donation Dollar” has caused a vigorous discussions. Currently, these were supposed to be released together with other circulating ‘dollar’ coins progressively through the banking system, evidence of these being

sold in small plastic RAM bags or in singles are already on sale though online auction. Images: eBay Australia

Royal Australian Mint Unveils heartfelt initiative behind new \$1 coin

Source: <https://www.news.com.au/finance/economy/australian-economy/>

Erin Lyons (NCA NewsWire), September 2, 2020

The Royal Australian Mint has launched a new \$1 coin in a world-first scheme where millions will be released into circulation. **Australians could soon find a new \$1 coin in their wallets, but this one has a catch and it's for the greater good.** The Royal Australian Mint has unveiled its new Donation Dollar, a \$1 coin designed to be donated to charity after 57 per cent of Australians said they would do exactly that if they found one in their coin purse or wallet.

Millions of these coins will join circulation during the next few years with the aim to release 25 million eventually or **one for every Australian.** **And they could appear in people's wallets from as early as Wednesday, with three million already released into circulation.** Each of the coins feature a green centre with a gold ripple design. The hidden meaning behind the design is it is intended to act as a symbol of the ongoing impact each donation makes to those who need it most.

The mint said the scheme came in response to a difficult year for many Australians who faced the worst bushfire season on record followed by the coronavirus crisis that triggered an economic recession. If every Australian donated their Donation Dollar just once a month, the initiative has the potential to raise \$300 million annually for those who need it most.

Speaking to NCA NewsWire, chair of The Community Council for Australia and former chief executive of

World Vision Australia, Tim Costello, said he hoped the scheme would promote a behavioural change among Australians.

“It’s so different to any dollar we’ve had before, and the ripples make you think, ‘Yeah I know someone is homeless, I was touched by their story on the news’,” he said.

“Suddenly, there’s a behavioural change because your compassion is being aroused and triggered just by a donation coin, suggesting the needs are ongoing and a person doesn’t have to just wait.”

The Australian Generosity Report found one in five Australians would require some degree of charitable aid over the next 12 months, either for themselves or family. Royal Australian Mint CEO Ross MacDiarmid said the proposal should tap into Australians’ “spirit of generosity”.

“Like any other one dollar coin, the cycle of a Donation Dollar is ongoing, as is its potential for positive impact,” he said.

“If every Australian donated a Donation Dollar just once a month, it has the potential to raise an additional 300 million dollars annually for those who need it most.”

Mr Costello said it was a great way for parents to explain to their children the significance of giving and how lucky they are.

“From ancient times, currency has just been an economic unit of value,” he said.

“For the first time, we have a coin that isn’t just triggering economic value but triggering compassion and generosity which prompts people to think of those in need.

“It’s great for parents to teach their kids they are blessed and can keep those dollars in a piggy bank and give.”

It could take four to five years until the full 25 million coins have been released into circulation.

[New Edition of Leon Morel’s NZ Medallion Catalogue](#) (available through RNSNZ)

Source: <https://www.navic.org.au/books/new-edition-of-leon-morells-nz-medallion-catalogue-available-through-rnsnz/>

Part 1 of the 3rd edition of Leon Morel’s catalogue of NZ commemorative medals 1865-1940 is now available from the Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand’s website.

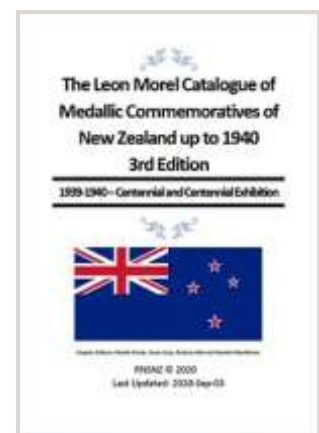
This section covers the issues produced in 1939-40 for the Centennial and Centennial Exhibition, and expands greatly on the listings previously included by Leon in his 2nd edition and Supplement.

Each chapter will be made available online as a colour PDF and can be downloaded at no cost. Feel free to share these, but be sure to acknowledge the RNSNZ as publisher, and note they are not intended either for sale or resale.

Copies can be downloaded from www.RNSNZ.org.nz/collector-info/catalogues

Further parts will be added once ready, and Part 1 of the updated MacMaster/Purdy catalogue of post-1940 medals (covering the 2010-2019 decade) is expected to follow before the end of the year. Contact Martin Purdy martin_lists@yahoo.com regarding any errors, omissions or new discoveries.

One advantage with electronic publishing is that the editors can update whenever necessary and make a new version available for downloading. It may pay to look in on the “catalogues” folder periodically to make sure the versions you have are the most RECENT.



[No new 2p or £2 coins to be made for 10 years](#)

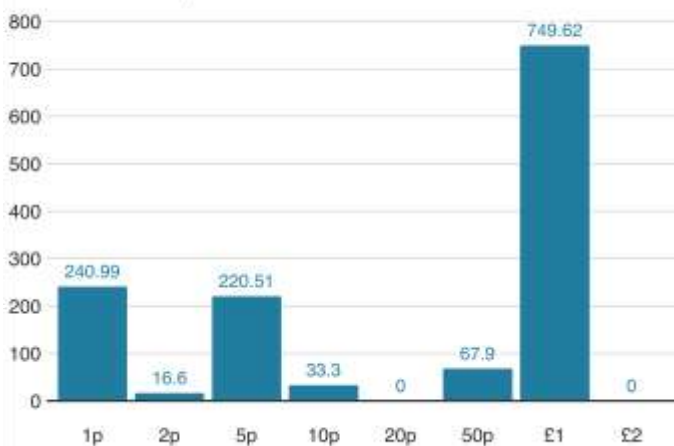
Source: <https://www.bbc.com/news/business-54196300>

By Kevin Peachey - Personal finance correspondent Date: 18 September 2020

Anyone who likes to see a new production date on their coins is set for a disappointing decade. The Royal Mint

Coin mintage in 2017

Millions of coins produced

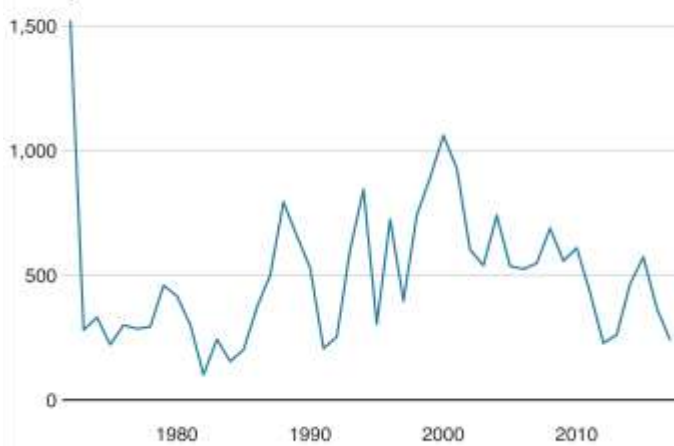


Source: Royal Mint

BBC

How many 1p coins have been made?

Mintage in millions



Source: Royal Mint

BBC

stores at work, sending the entire contents back to their banks. In contrast, demand for banknotes has been rising and there is little reliable information over the whereabouts of £50bn worth of notes in circulation. They are not used in transactions or held as savings, but may be overseas, tucked away in homes unreported or being used in the "shadow economy".

Old and poor 'left behind'

The NAO said there were wider issues over access to cash, partly owing to the closure of 17% of cash machines in two years. Older and lower-income consumers tended to use cash more and were at risk if nobody took responsibility for stopping the slide in cash access.

"Cash use might be declining overall but it remains a vital part of millions of people's lives - particularly for some of the most vulnerable in society," said Meg Hillier, who chairs the influential Public Accounts Committee in the House of Commons.

"The government took its eye off the ball and too many people already have to go out of their way to get their hands on cash.

"It and the regulators will have to hurry to catch up with fast-moving technology, or even more people could be left behind."

The government has committed, with legislation, to protect access to cash, and address the sustainability of the cash infrastructure as its use falls. Some businesses that transport or process cash could struggle, it said.

The NAO said it could not currently see a clear link between the government's aim and which of the various public bodies involved in overseeing the cash network could actually make it happen. Gareth Davies, head of the NAO, said: "The approach is fragmented, and it is not clear that the action being taken will keep up with the pace of change.

"As society progresses towards the wide use of digital payments, the use of cash in transactions is dwindling. It

has no plans to make new 2p or £2 coins for the next 10 years. A coin mountain lies in storage as demand has dropped, in contrast to banknotes.

The issue was revealed in a wide-ranging report on the future of cash by the National Audit Office (NAO) warning it could become harder to access by those who rely on it. It warned that the authorities were not keeping up with the pace of change in digital payments - leaving those who needed cash at risk. Ten years ago, cash was used in six out of 10 transactions but by 2019 it was used in less than three in 10 purchases. The NAO said the coronavirus outbreak may have accelerated the trend.

Despite the decline in cash use, a riddle remains over demand for coins and banknotes. The old, round £1 coin was withdrawn from circulation in 2017. Coin-making has been cut by The Royal Mint but stocks of every coin in circulation are exceeding its targets. For £2 coins, the hoard is 26 times over target. A spokeswoman for The Royal Mint said 2p and £2 coin production could return if needed.

"We constantly monitor the demand for coins from the banks and Post Offices, and seek permission to manufacture more from HM Treasury," she said.

These coins have not been needed because lots of old coins were returned to circulation when the 12-sided £1 coin was launched in March 2017. Everyone had six months to return their old round pounds and emptied savings jam jars or money

may become harder for people to access cash when they need it and those without the means to pay digitally will struggle if cash is not accepted."

2,000 year-old Julius Caesar 'assassination coin' surfaces, may be worth millions

The coin is only the third known example in gold

Source: <https://www.foxnews.com/science/2000-year-old-julius-caesar-assassination-coin-surfaces>

By James Rogers, Fox News Date: 9 October 2020

An extremely rare Roman coin commemorating the assassination of Julius Caesar has surfaced and may be worth millions of dollars, according to coin experts.

"It was made in 42 B.C., two years after the famous assassination, and is one of the most important and valuable coins of the ancient world," said Mark Salzberg, chairman of Sarasota, Fla.-based Numismatic Guaranty Corporation, which confirmed the coin's authenticity, in a statement obtained by Fox News. **The front has a**



The Roman coin commemorating the assassination of Julius Caesar (Photo credit: Numismatic Guaranty Corporation)

portrait of Marcus Junius Brutus, one of Caesar's assassins, and the other side dramatically has two daggers and the words EID MAR, a Latin abbreviation for Ides of March."

Numismatic Guaranty explains that nearly 100 Ides of March coins in silver are known, but the coin is only the third known example in gold. The mint condition coin, which had been in a private collection in Europe, will be auctioned by London-based Roma Numismatics on Oct. 29.

"The conservative pre-auction estimate is £500,000 (\$647,173, €548,511), but

considering the coin's rarity, artistry, and fabled place in history I would not be surprised if it sold for several million," Salzberg added in the statement.

In October 2019, a pair of 2,000-year-old Roman scrolls believed to have belonged to Caesar's family that were buried and charred during Vesuvius' eruption, were virtually "unwrapped" for the first time ever.

Ancient coins have been garnering plenty of attention in recent years. Earlier this year, for example, a rare coin from an ancient Jewish revolt against the Roman Empire was discovered in Jerusalem.

In 2018, a 2,200-year-old gold coin was uncovered in Egypt.

In 2017, a rare Roman coin was discovered on a remote Scottish island.

Euro residents offering views on future of small denomination coins

Source: <https://www.coinworld.com/news/precious-metals/euro-residents-offering-views-on-future-of-small-denomination-coins>

By Jeff Starck, Coin World Date: 9 October 2020

Some 342 million residents of the eurozone may soon be saying arrivederci, adios, or auf wiedersehen to the two smallest denominations of coins in the euro currency.

The European Commission on Sept. 28 began soliciting resident feedback at its website, noting, "EU rules on euro coins state that the EU institutions should periodically examine the use of different denominations of euro coins in terms of costs and public acceptability." The Commission continued, at the feedback page on its website, "This assessment will explore whether to introduce a rule to round cash payments to the nearest 5 cents. This could lead to 1- and 2-cent coins being phased out."

Five euro area member states — Belgium, Finland, Ireland, Italy and Netherlands — already have rounding rules to the nearest 5 cents for cash payments.

Introducing rounding rules to the nearest 5 cents for cash payments would lead to the gradual withdrawal of 1- and 2-cent coins from circulation as these coins would no longer be needed to make payments. Another option would be a hard and fast switch, eliminating the legal tender status of the two smallest denominations immediately.

Spiritual activities during Covid-19

Source: The Editor (NAV Publications HQ, 17 September 2020)

At the NAV Publications HQ, the editorial team has noticed the inflow of numismatic content for 'newsletter' purposes has been reduced to a trickle. Baffled by this concerning phenomenon, the editor presents his view of the situation.

Over the past few months, I was concerned that very few members contributed to the VNN and at times, meeting the timing requirements to release each issue was hard to achieve. The way I see it, the impact of the Covid-19 situation is real and our lives have changed; but we need to escape from this negativity, become more positive and proactive in any way we can. Personally, I have an obligation to continue the NAV work and I strongly believe that the newsletter is a great way of keeping in touch with our members; so, it would be great if content is sent to **us regularly**. This could be in a form of 'new acquisitions', a mini-article or a story behind a purchased or viewed numismatic item, or something relating to numismatics.

For a while, well before Covid-19, the increased dependence on me at home has forced me to change my evening after-work routine as I became more domesticated than ever. There is not much time left in the day before going to bed - **sometimes making some calls to friends or reading a book**. For some evenings I'll do NAV tasks such as drafting newsletters or journals, aiming that by the end of the month, most of the work would be almost complete.

And on the weekends, home duties never end: shopping, house tidying, cooking experiments and gardening sessions. My collection is a low priority these days, but if there is a chance I just open a small bag of coins or a pack of banknotes purchased centuries ago and start studying them.



Spying at the 'capsicum' army!

My immediate plans? Right now, summer is approaching fast and there will be plenty of vegetable growing such as tomatoes, capsicums, **eggplants, cucumbers, zucchinis and broad beans**. And don't forget, apricots and peaches are also coming to a plate near me! Last year, I was fortunate in cultivating about 30 capsicums and over 70 tomato plants and these pictures here are proof of my **green state of mind**. What an amazing summer! On that day when the pics were taken, I recollect resting my feet nearby after a de-weeding session, enjoying the results of hard work. And the peaches were great too but I could

not control some birds going under the covering nets. Rescuing the best crop every evening after work was a constant battle and you can guess who the winner was!

For some time, my NAV duties have been on a tight schedule and with lesser content coming in, our publications may struggle. This has to be mentioned to the members as I cannot carry all this by myself indefinitely.

Members should be reminded that the NAV team is working hard under awkward circumstances, especially in 2020. All this is done on a voluntary basis too.

So, I recommend that while you maintain your healthy activities at home and when time permitted, read our newsletters over a cup of tea or coffee, maybe think about us too. Contributing to our group can be a great achievement and a revelation that you can be a story writer. Writing a mini-article or a story behind something - a coin, a medal, a banknote or a badge can be fun! Be active, be proud of your achievements and your participation is always appreciated, not only by the committee and the publications team, but also by your fellow members.



*Rescued peaches
(those %\$#& birds!)*

Brief Reports from the Geelong, Melbourne and Morwell Numismatic Societies, including the NAV

Geelong Numismatic Society

Our regular 'Zoom' meetings are continuing on the 4th Friday of the month at 7.00 pm and our members' feedback has been great! We are all pleased from these meetings as we all learn something new every month, as well as staying in touch with many members, even at a distance. The Committee of the Society would like to see more members attending the 'Zoom' meetings and sends its best regards to the membership and wishes for all of us staying safe and healthy. Regards, the Honourable Secretary.

Melbourne Numismatic Society

Our 'Hibernation newsletter' is now up to its 4th month and it's really becoming quite a solution to our normal meetings. Members' talks are now written down in detail, so as we get so much more than just reading the Minutes, which really don't incorporate all the knowledge that we have among our members; from ancient coins to the miss strikes that we get in change. Presentations now become wonderful articles. We have now become a 14 pager and would be happy to receive even more great items, from full blown articles to new acquisitions and numismatic items that catch our attention on the internet. Regards Monica.

Morwell Numismatic Society

Although the restrictions in country Victoria have been relaxed, indoor congregations essentially remain a no go. With that in mind, we are looking to hold a November meeting at an outdoor venue, most likely on a Sunday. I hope everyone has been able to keep safe and that our Newsletter will hopefully keep you occupied. Regards, Tilo Junge.

Numismatic Association of Victoria

The October meeting of the NAV was held on the 16th, as a video conference. A strong attendance of 21 was greeted with a wide array of numismatic acquisitions and a short talk on the history of the Transcontinental (Indian Pacific) Railway. More details [here](#). We also recently inducted a new member, welcome aboard Mrs R. Costa, member No 1,213. **We will continue to update our website's Numismatic Calendar** to inform you what events, including those on-line, that are occurring. The next meeting will again be a video meeting to be held at 7:30pm on 20th November. Regards, Darren.



NAV Zoom Meetings

The NAV presently conducts its Zoom meetings at the same dates and times as our regular meetings. Members with an email address will receive an invitation from the NAV Secretary to join the meetings. This email contains a link that should be clicked around the time that the meeting is due to start (7:30pm). As a minimum you will need internet access and a computer with microphone and speakers. If your device has a **camera that's an added bonus. Alternatively if you have a Smartphone or Tablet then you can download the Zoom App** from the relevant store and participate on your device. Failing all of that, the meeting also can be accessed by phone.

You can download the latest version of Zoom from their [Download Center](#). [Learn more about downloading Zoom](#). If someone invites you to their meeting, you can join as a participant without creating an account. You can join a meeting by clicking the meeting link or going to [join.zoom.us](#) and entering in the meeting ID, which will be provided in the invite. [Learn more about joining a meeting](#). On most devices, you can join computer/device audio by clicking Join Audio, Join with Computer Audio, or Audio to access the audio settings. [Learn more about connecting your audio](#). While you are not required to have a webcam to join a Zoom Meeting or Webinar, you will not be able to transmit video of yourself. You will continue to be able to listen and speak during the meeting, share your screen, and view the webcam video of other participants.