

The Numismatic Society of South Australia Inc.



Newsletter No. 102, September 2012.

Society meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of the month, in the Royal Society Room behind the State Library off Kintore Avenue, Adelaide from 7.45 pm. Supper afterwards, visitors welcome. **Postal address** P.O. Box 2029, Kent Town S.A. 5071.

Newsletter compiled by Mick Vort-Ronald, primarily from minutes of Society meetings recorded by the Secretary. Contact details for Mick are; phone (08) 8522 4490, P.O. Box 653 Willaston S.A. 5118, email vortronald@yp-connect.net

For daytime **information** phone or see Grant Morton at I.S. Wright's coin shop, 2nd floor, 138 Rundle Mall, Adelaide Phone (08) 8232 7188.

After hours enquiries, Mick Vort-Ronald, (contacts as above) or on mobile at **0417 212 906** on meeting nights for messages etc. Please do not send text, SMS or leave messages.

Members attending meetings **speaking** on various topics are encouraged to provide the secretary with brief **details** of the subjects and examples produced **in writing** to allow accurate recording in the Society minutes. This will make his task much easier and ensure that correct information is later used in this newsletter for the information of other members and clubs.

Newsletters are now being presented via **email** for those who have the capacity to receive them. In this way you can get your newsletter quicker and better than the printed version. Please advise Mick of your email address for future issues. This is more efficient and saves the society money. For those who do not have access to the Internet, or want **hard copy** anyway, hard copies will still be produced and posted if requested.

Main nominations received at the October 2012 meeting for the 2012/2013 year for AGM 15.11.12 - President, PF. VP Mick, Secretary Barrie, Treasurer Mick.

Notice of motion for AGM to change Constitution – Create position of Life Member for members with 50 years continuous membership. To be presented with a gold plated medallion and pay no further subscriptions.

The Society year is from 1 October to 30 September. Subs of \$20 are now due. Please send direct to Treasurer Mick at the above address. If you require an invoice, please advise.

Meeting No. 873, Royal Society Room, Adelaide, 19 July 2012.

Application for affiliate membership of the South Australian Philatelic Council: The Secretary advised that the SA Philatelic Council had approved the NSSA Affiliate Membership of the Council at their executive meeting held on 11 June.

Digital Camera/Projector: The equipment had been modified for use by the Society and was trialled at the meeting. It proved to be most successful and members were very happy with the new method of presenting and projecting their various numismatic items for viewing by the meeting.

Life Membership: The President advised that he would investigate those members who would be eligible to be made Life Members once that category of membership had been approved at the AGM.

Correspondence: Email from the South Australian Maritime Museum requesting the NSSA assess a small quantity of shipwreck coins from the “**Gilt Dragon**” in their possession. PL agreed to undertake this task on behalf of the NSSA.

NAA Report: Copies of the Journal (JNAA22) were provided for members at the meeting and others would receive theirs in the post in the next few days. PL advised that the AGM of the NAA was to be held at I S Wright, Sydney on Fri 27 July.

Door Prize: was won by Coral, Second Prize of 10 Trillion Zimbabwe Note won by Ray



Mick showed a) document from Court of Exchequer, Ireland dated 18 August **1790** being court judgement against Edward Percival for 100 pounds with costs of 2 pounds 4s. 8d, b) Promise on Demand document dated London 1 January **1795** to pay Joseph Taylor 200 pounds with interest (embossed 2s duty), c) Payment document dated 17 April 1802 for 200 pounds plus 12 pounds 18s. 8d. interest paid by William Ward to executors of late William Leatham, d) **minerals** from which **coins** are made - crystal 3.5cm square of iron sulphide (pyrite) from Spain, e) various pieces of copper iron sulphide (chalcopyrite) from Kanmantoo Copper Mine – samples given to each member present, f) coin, with accompanying Certificate of Origin No A2979, from wreck of Dutch East Indiaman “**Hollandia**” which sank on her maiden voyage in July 1743, g) copy of his latest book “Police Gazette Extracts 1888-1892” with photos of uniforms from early period to more recent (including of himself on horseback taken at Thebarton Police Barracks in 1960).

Shane showed original State of **Connecticut** Treasury Certificate No 236 issued 14 Nov 1788 paying Capt Elisha Lee 25 pounds and signed by Oliver Wolcott (Wolcott was a signatory to the United States Declaration of Independence).



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Mark showed a) **elliptical clip** of 1961 Australian shilling (not punched correctly), b) strike-through error of 1954 Australian florin. Pictures on page 2.



PH showed 1772 **Dutch East Indies** silver ducat.



PJ showed a 1975 medal won by himself for **archery**, together with a total of 36 badges and medals he won for archery when he was a member of the Adelaide Archery Club.

Ray showed the 10 Trillion Zimbabwe note that he won for the door prize.

Frank showed 5 **Russian** coins a) 1978 Moscow Kremlin, b) 1979 Sputnik & Sojuz, c) 1979 Moscow University, d) 1980 Dolgorukij Monument, e) 1980 Olympic Torch.



PS showed a silver **1872 Manchester & Liverpool Agricultural Society** medal awarded to Thomas Inwood for “Self Balancing Dog Cart” (Ottley).

Gil advised that he was currently lecturing in the History Dept of the University of Adelaide and trialing the analysis of ancient **Greek silver coins** using a bench-top spectrometer.

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David R showed a small worn copper token bearing an inscription “BENJn LANG, VICTORIA MUSICAL GALLERY NEAR MANCHESTER OLD CHURCH” and talked about the interesting research aspects and questions posed by this token – Who was **Benjamin Lang**? What happened at the Victoria Musical Gallery? What was the function of the token? Why is the token so worn? The obv featured an effigy of Queen Victoria encircled by a wreath, with musical instruments below, and the token was of the same size as an English halfpenny.



PL showed a) brass seal “South Australian **Taxation Office**” on surround, with a “queen’s” crown in the centre and a figure “1” below the crown, b) a wooden handled seal “F.Lasseter & Co, Sydney” with a “king’s” crown in the centre and the figure “1” on one side of the crown and the letter “A” on the other side of the crown.



PF showed a) “Daily Record **Chum Club**” children’s badge in vitreous enamel, b) 4 pointed star Church Lad Brigade badge with “C”, “L”, and “B” within 3 of the points and blue vitreous enamel background.

Meeting 874, Royal Society Room, Adelaide 16.8.2012.

SAPC affiliation now completed. Digital microscope used with good results. Life membership discussed, Mick to purchase scroll certificates (done).

NAA Report – PL advised he would be standing down from the judging panel for the **Paul Simon Award** Committee and Mick Vort-Ronald has agreed to take over as the S.A. representative.



Paul S spoke about a medal from the **1851 Great Exhibition**.

Peter L. spoke about a bronze 38mm Annie Montgomerie **Martin Medal** awarded in 1922 to Donald D **Harris** for Senior French Exam. Maker Stokes & Sons.

Frank produced a set of five **Russian** bi-metal wildlife coins, 1991/2, owl, goat R5, bird, tiger, cobra R.10.

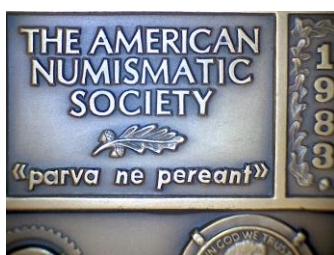
David F. spoke about **BRYANT & MAY LIMITED, LONDON**. Boxed 25 Years Service Medal in Bronze with clasp. Inscribed on back "Presented by the Company to T.S. Ensum" Produced by The Goldsmiths & Silversmiths Company Ltd., 112 Regent Street, London, W. SEITA (Service d'Exploitation Industrielle des Tabacs et des Allumettes) 72mm diameter Service Medallion inscribed on back Mr Pinaud Jean. A State French Government Monopoly on tobacco and match production was instituted in 1872 which took over no less than 550 firms some of which has been in existence since 1822. The tobacco arm adopted the name SEITA in 1922. Match production came in under this name in 1935, so the medallion is post 1934. SEITA merged in 1999 with its Spanish equivalent, Tabacalera, to form Altadis.

Richard spoke about a Lysimachos tetradrachm c.294BC; 1906 **Pillar Dollar** (Mexico Mint) and a group of small Tasmanian medals & medallettes.

Kathryn and Mark showed a Coat of Arms **50c** which has been struck on a **20c planchet**. The design shows much strike weakness due to the smaller weight of the 20c planchet compared to the heavier weight of the correct sized planchet. The weakness is so apparent that there is no date visible but bearing the Maklouf portrait it can be estimated at being minted somewhere between 1985-1998. We discussed the ideas and probabilities of wrong planchets contaminating the barrels of blanks at the Mint.



Peter F. produced two English **mouse-shaped badges**, some for Middlesex Mouse Club for children, one in white and one in black; a Scottish bronze badge enamelled in 6 colours – winged fairy with a castle in the background, from Castlebank Children's Circle; English bronze badge from the Black Gang, made in two pieces sweated together. 26mm bronze turnstile token for SAMuseum art exhibition "The **Waterhouse** Natural History Art Prize on display until 9 September this year. He **recommended we see it**. An anodised aluminium medal for Saving Bees of SA (Savings Bank).



Mick showed two large heavy medallions owned by our late member JD, to be sent with others for the next Noble auction. One medal by **Grilli** depicted the centenary of the birth of James Joyce, Irish novelist and playwright. It originally was sold by Seaby in May 1982 for £40. The other medal was for the **American Numismatic Association**. Mick also spoke on the **Chimney Hoard** and stated he had located the original newspaper item in 1955, spoken to the son and grand daughter of the finder and written a story for CAB October issue. The house where it was found, removed for the new harness racing club near the gliding airstrip, no longer exists.

Meeting No. 875, Royal Society Room, Adelaide, 20 September 2012.

South Australian Philatelic Council: The Secretary advised that he had attended the SA Philatelic Council meeting on 10 Sep as representative of the NSSA. He advised that 31 clubs were affiliated with the SAPC. Next meeting will be the AGM to be held on 12 November. Barrie was appointed delegate to the SAPC. Carried.

Life Membership: The President advised that he had prepared the Certificates for presentation to Life Members after approval at the AGM. It was passed that each recipient also receive a gold plated medallion from the NSSA suitably inscribed.

Stamp & Coin Show Torrens Training Depot: The Secretary advised that the date had been changed to 6/7 October. Two members had agreed to take up tables at the Show.

NAA Report: PL reported that he, the Secretary and Gil had visited Openbook Howden, printers, to discuss having a **digital** version of the Journal produced and discussions were ongoing.



Barrie showed a) **Royal Life Saving Society** bronze medallion awarded to J M McDonald 1933 for swimming compared to an example of the current bronze medallion (taken from the press before bronzing), b) Sterling silver badge awarded to J M McDonald Season 1928-9 “Best Batting” YMCA Kia-Ora Cricket Club, c) aluminium “St Christopher” medalette with “I am a Catholic. In case of accident or illness notify a priest” on reverse d) a small gold plated medalette of the Virgin Mary “1830”, e) lapel pin “BOC” 15mm diam with blue vitreous enamel background (Pattorini & Sons, 36 Barr St, Birmingham), f) copper Scout Badge with figures of adult and child within a life bouy on which is embossed “Life Saving Scouts”.

PL showed, recently purchased from the Strathalbyn Fair, a mug, made from a **brass shell** casing and silver plated with engravings around it depicting battles won during the North African campaign in 1943.



Kathryn showed 2 x 1975 PNG 1 Kina cupro-nickel coins both showing a hole, punched **off-centre** and not fully circular (the holes in both coins are in different positions despite the coins being the same date). Possibly the holes could have been punched in blanks before the coin was struck?

Mark showed a) 1778 **British Virgin Is half real**, b) 1778 British Virgin Is quarter real. Both coins were still traded in early 20C.

Neil showed recent RAM Issues a) 4 x \$1- coins commemorating the 150th Anniversary of the Melbourne Zoo – frog, tiger, orangutan, tree kangaroo, b) 50cents 70th Anniversary of Kokoda, c) 50cents Australia Remembers – Merchant Navy, d) \$1- Inspirational Australians – Sir Douglas Mawson.



PH showed a) silver chain with miniature 1870 **German Iron Cross** featured, with smaller Iron Crosses at junction of links, b) German Iron Cross 1813-1914 with black and silver ribbon, c) .800silver German Iron Cross 1915.



Denis showed **Air Warfare Destroyer Alliance** commemorative medallion issued to all ASC staff at the Osborne Shipyard on 17 September 2012 to commemorate the keel-laying of the first destroyer “**HMAS Hobart**” being built at the shipyard. (Approx 2000 issued).



Richard showed 3 **biblical coins**: a) silver denari of Tiberius – “Give unto Caesar what is his...etc”, b) copper elepton struck under Pontius Pilate – “Widow’s Mite”, c) silver 79/8 BC shekel of Tyre (issued during period 126BC to 70AD) – “silver paid to Judas”.

Mick showed a number of samples of “Hell Bank Notes”, Adelaide Exchange Jewellers “Three Bucks Note”, promotional notes \$20, \$100, \$200- and Pauline Hanson “#1 Australia” \$20 and gave samples to members.