



The Numismatic Society of South Australia Incorporated

NEWSLETTER 105 – June 2013.

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 2183, Kent Town S.A. 5071. Secretary; Barrie Newman, phone (08) 8362 1167 or email adelaidemint@bigpond.com

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 Mobile as below.

For daytime **information** phone or see Grant Morton at I.S. Wright coin shop, Shop 23 Adelaide Arcade (between Rundle Mall – Grenfell St.) Adelaide, Phone (08) 8223 7603. **After hours** enquiries, Mick Vort-Ronald, (as above) or on mobile at **0417 212 906** on meeting nights for messages etc. Please do not send text, SMS or leave messages on the phones.

Annual membership **subscriptions** are \$20 in Australia and \$30 overseas. They can now also be paid by **EFT** to 015 590 4981 20308 (ANZ) stating surname and/or postcode.

Members attending meetings **speaking** on various topics are encouraged to provide the secretary with brief **details** of the subjects and examples produced in **writing** on the night or sent by email to the secretary 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 sent via **email** to those who have the capacity to receive them. In this way you can get your newsletter quicker and better than the printed version, **AND IN COLOUR**. Please advise Barrie 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 still want **hard copy** in black and white, some copies will still be produced and posted if requested. As a result of sending our emailed newsletters to other clubs in Australia and New Zealand, we are now receiving their emailed newsletters and these are also being forwarded on to our financial members.

Remaining meetings for 2013 at Royal Society Room behind State Library off Kintore Ave, Adelaide. Thursdays, 7.45 pm., 15 August, 19 September, 17 October, 21 November and 19 December. Visitors are welcome.

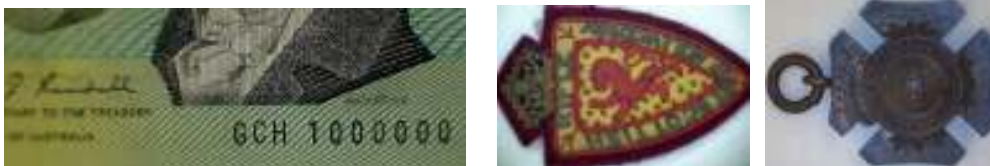
NSSA meeting No. 882, Royal Society Room, Adelaide, 18 April 2013.

Life Membership: Presentation was made to Colin by the President and Peter L. *NAA Conference 2015, Adelaide:* It was moved and passed that a Sub-Committee comprising the President, Secretary, Peter L. and Shane (with the power to co-opt additional persons as necessary) be formed to plan and coordinate the 2015 NAA Conference in Adelaide and to report progress to the Society.

Correspondence: Email from OpenBook Howden advising **Paul Boggiano's** death on 17 April. Paul had been a tremendous help to the Society and to the NAA with the publication of the NAA Journals over a number of years A letter of Condolence to be sent on behalf of the NSSA and the NAA.

David R. advised that he had recently attended a **Numismatic Conference** in the **United Kingdom** and that the NAA Conferences in Australia were of equal or better standard.

Peter L. advised that papers for presentation at the **2013 Conference in Brisbane** on 9/10 November were progressing. Barrie had agreed to present a paper on the History of **Allan J Olson Pty Ltd**, South Australian Badgemakers and Medalists. Olsens strike the Society medallions.



Robby M. was elected a member of the Society. Welcome Robby. He showed 1969 Aust \$2-note obtained from amongst his father's collection – Phillips/Randall **GCH 1000000** showing the last “0” having been separately positioned due to numbering system unable to accommodate an additional “0”. It was commented that only a dozen or so decimal notes of 1000000 serial numbers have survived. In addition he showed four **early pistol/rifle shooting clubs badges** – a Scottish Rifle Assoc. cloth badge featuring a Lion Rampant, a Bisley National Rifle Assoc cloth badge 1891, a metal badge Amateur Pistol Shooters Union of Australia “National Postal Championship” and a metal badge “1903 Bisley” Grand Aggregate NRA. Cloth badge and Bisley metal badge illustrated above.

Neil showed **Royal Australian Mint** issues – a) 2013 unc Bicentenary of the Holey Dollar and Dump – four \$1 coins in a folder (one with Canberra Mintmark, one with Brisbane Privy Mark, one with Melbourne Privy Mark, one with Sydney Privy Mark), b) 2013 unc Bicentenary of the Holey Dollar and Dump - \$1 coin, with a Canberra Mintmark, on a card. He also showed 3 coins with **die cracks** – 1925 Aust. sixpence with a reverse crack from the rim through the 1, the scroll and the shield towards the emu's raised foot; 2008 Aust. 20 cent with a 1 cm reverse crack from the rim at 7.30 heading towards the platypus' left flipper; and 1942 **South African** three-pence with extensive obverse and reverse cracks.

Peter H. showed a pewter medallion produced for the 150th Anniversary of the Cessation of **Transportation 1853** featuring original obverse and reverse images of the 1853 medallion and with “1853 – 2003” added to the obverse below Queen Victoria's head. Photos following



Peter L. showed a) early metal fire plaque “**Norwich Union**” originally affixed to a building and indicating that the owners had paid their fire brigade premium (made in thin copper sheet with embossed “Scales of Justice and two clasped hands”), b) 4 South Australian registered **dog tags** – 2 x 1912, 1915, 1922 each with an Australian type coat-of-arms and numbered with the District number. Arnold showed a **1920 Aust. penny** with a dot above the top scroll.

Paul S. showed 1891 Scottish Agriculture medal “presented by **Mungo Cooper** for Straightest Ploughing”, 55mm with ring and eye. Picture below.



Peter F. showed **Art Gallery of South Australia** bound book “Bounty – Nineteenth-century South Australian gold and silver” featuring some of the Gallery’s collection and including an article written by our member, PL b) 10 x 1990s bronze oxidized **Flinders University medals**, 57mm, featuring *obv*: Flinders University; naked man holding a bowl of fire in his right hand; to right, PROMETHEUS in Greek and in small letters, “AK”. Below in small letters, “BRIM MELB”; *rev*: around top “University medal” – 3 not awarded, 7 awarded and engraved on reverse as follows:

- Jonathan P **Opie** / Humanities / 1991 [was awarded BA in 1991]
- Martin John **Duckmanton** / Humanities / 1993/ [was awarded BA in 1992]
- Maria Lucille **Gardiner** / Social Sciences / 1993 [was awarded BA in 1992]
- Johan **Hartog** / Humanities / 1993 [was awarded BA in 1992]
- Todd Michael **Maddern** / Physical Sciences / 1993 [was awarded BSc in 1992]
- Dawn Leonie **Thorp** / Nursing / 1993 [was awarded BNg in 1992]
- Patricia Jane **Yeadon** / Biology / 1993 [was awarded BSc in 1992]



Mick gave a talk on date collecting Australian **polymer notes** and displayed pairs of 1995 and 1997 \$20 notes. From 1993 Australian polymer note numbering has included the year the note was printed. These usually commence at e.g. AA12 and can proceed to JC or beyond, depending on how many are printed. \$5 notes usually start at BA. Not every denomination is printed every year - it depends on demand. The last year information has been published is **2011** where only 50 and 100 dollars were printed. In 2010 there were 20, 50 and 100, but in 2009 only \$50 notes. In 2008, all denominations were printed. Collecting notes by year can be a challenge. For a couple of years he had been looking for a consecutive pair of **1995 \$20** notes by checking dealers' stocks in lists or at coin fairs, without success. One large dealer had them listed at \$250 each. Not willing to pay \$500 the pair - patience was needed. Patience paid off with the last Noble auction where five \$20 notes were listed in a lot, two of which were 1995, and he was able to purchase them at just under estimate, or double face value. The morale of the story is - all good things come to those who wait - you just have to be patient and persistent. (**2012** just announced – only \$5, \$10, \$50 printed – Ed.)

NSSA meeting No. 883, Royal Society Room, 16 May 2013.

Harold Don Allen in **Canada** thanked the Society for awarding him “50 years Service” medallion, which he was delighted to receive. Richard O sent good wishes to members.



Mick showed a) 1964 Aust. mis-struck penny, b) 1959 Aust. **mis-struck** threepence, c) 3 Eng pennies with white crosses painted on reverses (tails) used for **Two-Up** (two were purloined from a two-up school in Whyalla in 1964) d) **\$100** Aust. polymer note with a **registration shift** showing a dark selvedge usually guillotined off, e) **\$5** Aust paper note with **green** colour caused by reaction from bleach or washing powder. (excessive sunlight can also cause the green effect), f) **Blank one pound** note paper with watermark of King **Edward VIII** (no notes were issued with this paper or watermark).



Neil showed 4 x **1948** Perth Halfpenny Mint Error coins – with **die cracks** and a CUD.)

Ray M. showed a) 1928 Aust. penny with **break** in letters “GEORGE and OMN”, spur on centre bar of “E”, broken bottom of D in “FD”, b) 1964 Aust. penny with image of head normal but letters in surround much lighter, due to die pressure adjustment.

Shane showed 200 Reichsmark **Nazi Bond** (4½ per cent), dated 2 January 1935, hand signed.



Paul J. showed a **Dutch Cape Colony** silvered medallion of Bonaparte sitting on a rock in the sea, the rock being St Helena. Bonaparte has his arm out showing the expanse of his domain. The inscription underneath is in Dutch and is a biblical quote from Exodus. The British came and took over the Dutch Cape Colony during the Napoleonic wars. Basically this medallion shows who is conquered, (diameter 26mm).

Kathryn showed a framed **wooden carving** of the platypus design on the **20c piece**. Part of a set of 5 wooden copies of reverses of the first Australian decimal currencies, the large heavy artwork is believed to have once adorned the walls of the boardroom in the ANZ Gothic Bank on Collins street in Melbourne.

Peter F. showed a) silver medal **Adelaide Shooting** Association “Adelaide Deutsche Shotzen Gesellschaft” awarded to “**J. Sobels** ‘Konig fur das Jahr 1874’”, (illustrated with Dutch Cape Colony above). b) a CD-ROM obtained this month via Roger McNeice, \$13.85 post paid, titled: **Tasmania’s Token Treasures: the souvenir token issues of Australia’s island State**. It was compiled by Graeme E. Petterwood and contains a 46 page read-only Microsoft Word 97-2004 document of 28.2 MB. The doc. is an illustrated catalogue of some 46 tourist dollars, historical and commemorative souvenir medals, redeemable tokens and a few trial strikings produced by: Tasmédals, Ozmint and Tassie Tokens between February 2000 and June 2006.

The colour photographs show original packaging and are accompanied by very basic descriptive /statistical details. Most of the items were on sale to the public by the organisations that issued them. Included are the South Australian packaged souvenir medal sets issued by Granite Island Nature Park (5), Adelaide Zoo (6), Monarto Zoological Park (4), and Victor Harbor (2), which were all produced by Ozmint.

This is a handy reference for those interested in collecting such modern medallic souvenirs. Many of the images are, however, disappointingly poorly reproduced and fine details of many appear blurred. The document also suffers from minor problems such as spacing errors and layout inconsistencies. The document is stated to be the copyright of the author. Although it is read-only, it can be altered or added to by copying and saving it with a different name.



Barrie showed a 1976 Sterling silver BiCentennial **American Independence** medallion struck by Allan J. Olson Associates Pty Ltd for Chamber-Castle Issues Pty Limited, Adelaide (48mm, 2.9oz Stg. silver) together with full page advertisement in Sunday Mail Oct 26, 1975. Created by medallistic artists, Donald Allnutt and Ernest Snook, the obverse features George Washington and the first “Stars and Stripes” American flag, while the reverse features the Liberty Bell and the dates 1776-1976.



Richard showed two each of gold, silver and bronze coins: Gold – a) **c400BC Persian** gold daric (8.35gms) depicting Persian king or hero in a kneeling/running stance holding transverse spear and bow, b) **1788 gold escudo** of Charles III of Spain; Silver – c) **c47BC Julius Caesar silver denarius**, d) **1662 Charles II** silver crown, Great Britain; Bronze – e) **1797 George III** cartwheel copper twopenny (First coin made on a steam press, Soho Mint, Watt & Boulton), f) 1923 Aust. halfpenny.

NSSA meeting No. 884, Royal Society Room, Adelaide 20 June 2013

Working Bee 1st. June was well supported with 8 members attending to clear John Downey’s auction catalogues and other memorabilia.

Correspondence: Circular from Printers Collectables Club re **show** on Sat **14 Sep** and SA Philatelic clubs advising shows, **Strathalbyn Sun 6 Oct** and **Woodside W/E 26/27 Oct**.

NAA Report: Peter L. advised that accommodation (special rates) was being finalized for the 2013 Conference in Brisbane on 9/10 November. There is still time for articles for the NAA Journal which would be printed towards the end of the year.

Matthew B. was elected a member of the Society. Welcome Matthew.

Melbourne Stamp & Coin Exhibition 10-15 May: David advised that he attended this exhibition and reported on the highlights.

Peter L. showed the tri-metal token issued to persons who attended the recent Centenary of the **ANS in Brisbane** which consisted of a 1913 shilling with copper surround as the reverse, and the obverse with Australian Numismatic Society wording on the copper surround with aluminium-pressed centre featuring kangaroo, emu and blackboy. Picture below.

He also advised that he had been invited to join an expedition to the **Wessels Islands** off Arnhem Land, NT, to focus on coins and other artifacts' finds that had been discovered by Australian soldiers stationed there during World War 2. [Note: One soldier found some coins on the beach; VOC copper coins and a base metal coin from Kilwa (Zanzibar). The latter coin is *circa* 12th century. The expedition is scheduled to visit Wessels Islands 15-21 July 2013. We look forward to hearing more from Peter on this interesting expedition]. Frank showed 24 silver coins from various US States.

Mark showed a **Turkish** 20 para from 1864-5, underweight with some design missing around the edges, it was probably struck on a smaller planchet intended for a 10 para coin.



Kathryn showed a) a **2008** “mob of roos” **one dollar** error coin that was **double struck**. The second strike was approximately 60% off centre, b) an unc. specimen set of 5 pre-decimal coins (halfpenny to two shillings – without a penny) encased in perspex supplied by The **Bank of Adelaide** immediately prior to the introduction of Decimal Currency with a card signed by the then General Manager, William P. Wright.



Barrie showed a) a tin badge of a kingfisher made in Japan, b) a pair of red powder-coated cuff-links made by The Adelaide Mint for **Christ Church Grammar School**, W.A. representing a robot-head which is featured on a metal totem pole presented to Christ Church Grammar School by its Old Boys. [Note: this was the first time powder-coating had been used by The Adelaide Mint in badge production].

Peter F. showed a) small bronze badge of “**Micky Mouse**”, b) a book on “The East India Company and its Coins” by Peter R Thompson. Photo previous page.



Paul J. showed a Captain James **Cook 1784 Bronze medal** by Pingo. They were sold at the time of minting for Half a Guinea (10s 6d) The Royal Society issued this medal in 1784 in the following quantities – Gold 19, Silver 291 and Bronzed Copper 574.



Neil showed the latest 2013 **Royal Australian Mint** issues a) Bicentenary of the Benevolent Society - \$1 coin on a card, b) Centenary of Australian Stamps – 50cent coin on a card, c) Centenary of Australian Banknotes – a set of two 20cent coins and a 50 cent coin on cards, d) 25th Anniversary of Parliament House – 20cent coin on a card, e) The “Australia Remembers” Series – 20cent coin on a card celebrating Australian Army Chaplains (This is the 5th in a yearly series paying tribute to Australian Defence Forces: 2009 Australian Service Nurses, 2010 Lost Soldiers of Fromelles, 2011 War Historians, 2012 Merchant Navy), f) Black Caviar PNC – with 60cent stamp and a \$1 coin celebrating the horse’s career, g) Black Caviar - \$1 coloured coin on a card featuring the colour of the silks: salmon pink and black dots.

Ray M. showed a **1911 Aust halfpenny** obtained from amongst his father’s collection that had apparently been kept entirely in a jacket or trouser pocket. The coin was **unusually thin**. Illustrated above previous item.

(I have seen similar coins resulting from being left in acid – Ed.)



Paul S. showed a set of 3 British War Medals awarded to **George Hopkins** a) Reward of Merit medal 4 Jul 1895 – **Marine Society** Instituted MDCCLVI, b) General Service Medal 1915-1918, c) Mercantile Marine for War Service medal.



8

Richard showed a) set of two World War Medals awarded to No 1770 A-Cpl E L **Roesler** 27 Inf Bn (a South Australian Regiment raised in Mar. 1915, left Aust Jun 1915, landed Gallipoli 12 Sep 1915) – 1914/15 Star and Victory Medal, b) 1914 medallion produced by the WA Government honouring the sinking of the **Emden** by HMAS Sydney on 9 Nov 1914 presented to H Page, c) token “PASS-WATER” c1800 with reverse featuring a hare on ground with shrubs, d) 1788 George III Pattern half-penny- copper/gilt, e) samples of **fake 1930** Aust. pennies [Note with caution: one recently sold on eBay for \$14500].

Dennis Y. showed a **\$10 Australian Bicentennial** note encased in perspex (180mm x 120mm – second issue) issued to collectors, encased in perspex by Note Printing Australia as an official NPA issue. (1 of 3 variations).

We are sorry to inform members of the death of **Richard Doty**, 2 June 2013, aged 71, author & senior numismatic curator at the Smithsonian Institute USA from 1986. Prior to that he was a curator with the American Numismatic Society in New York from 1974-1986. He produced numerous books and articles. His most recent, *Pictures from a Distant Country: Seeing America Through Old Paper Money*, was published in 2013.

Reference; email from Walter Bloom, 4 June 2013.

Canada wholly eliminates circulating cents while polymer dollars increasingly dominate,
by Harold don Allen.

Canada's venerable if lowly one-cent piece – “penny” is slang – was removed from circulation February 4, well past the point where its production cost exceeded its nominal monetary value. Banks will be rounding prices to the nearer 5 cents when such sums as 68 cents, \$1.12 and \$378.61 are encountered in transactions. Cents taken in during bank transactions are not being returned to circulation.

The cent originated as a half-penny-sized Province of Canada coin in 1858, and was struck for the Dominion from 1876. Such cents were struck with annual dates from 1890, with some interesting diversity of design, inscription, detail and metallic content.

Fresh polymer hundred, fifty and twenty dollar notes represent the opposite extreme. The \$100 note, the first such Canadian polymer release, was available from tellers; the \$50, which followed, from tellers or from automatic teller machines. Both these notes wholly replaced their paper forerunners. The Queen Elizabeth II \$20 was released alongside the paper \$20, the latter having been reissued until worn. The \$10 and \$5 polymers remain to be seen, with the \$10 (railroading commemorative) having potential for being a particularly attractive note.

CANADA OPTS FOR POLYMER NOTES by Harold Don Allen.

Canada, as the world has come to recognize, is joining the band of nations committed to polymer money, not paper money. The change-over to the new material rapidly approaches.

Five Bank of Canada polymer denominations, notes fashioned in the Australian material, have reached circulation. The \$100, first released, and \$50, featured prime ministers, and the \$20 Elizabeth II (as Queen of Canada). Two remaining values, the \$10 and \$5, also recognize political leaders, and should be in public hands by the end of 2013, recent Bank of Canada announcements confirm.

The long-awaited \$10 denomination will feature railroading, the outstanding bands of steel that, against all odds, serve to link east and west. Many nations depict rolling stock on national notes, some have for decades, and Canada's new polymer issues are awaited with eager anticipation. The depicted likeness of Canadian diesel “snaking through the Rocky Mountains” is distinctively apart from steam engines of yore, but the scene and setting appear to reflect present practices. Canada's proposed \$5 is to have a particularly interesting “space station” theme.

Canadian polymer notes were launched in November 2011 with the \$100 Sir Robert Borden note, which highlighted medical innovations. Canadian members of the Society have donated a dual set of the polymer denominations to the Powerhouse Museum in Sydney.

One unusual switch in the polymer series, so far not commented upon in print (we believe) is the complete elimination of the Canadian heraldic arms, a traditional feature. **END**

The **Bank of England** will place Winston Churchill on a new £5 note and Jane Austen has been recommended for a new £10 denomination – Ed.