



The Numismatic Society of South Australia Incorporated

NEWSLETTER 108 – March 2014.

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. Subs need to be renewed from November please.

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.

Coming events –

Postcard & Coin Show 3-4 May 2014 and visit to Freemasons 10 October 2014.

Meeting No. 891, Royal Society Room, Adelaide, 16 January 2014

The Secretary advised that Mick was in hospital after a triple by-pass operation. He had visited him on 16 Jan in Intensive Care and that he was in good spirits and progressing well. A “Get Well” card was signed by all members present and the Secretary said he would deliver it to Mick on his next visit to the hospital.

The Secretary handed copies of both new NAA Journals to members present and advised that he would post out copies to the other members.

Field Visits to Art Gallery of SA, Grand Lodge and Army Museum: Peter L. advised that he had arranged for visits of four members at a time to the Art Gallery of SA. Bookings to be made with and co-ordinated by the Secretary NSSA who would require names, addresses of each person attending. Secretary advised that he was able to arrange for visits to the Freemasons Grand Lodge Museum and the Army Museum, Keswick on an as required basis and it was agreed that the next Field Trip would be conducted in 3 or 4 months time.

Copies of Roger **McNeice’s** book on Jubilee of **Tasmania** and the Cessation of Transportation Medal were received and distributed to those members who had ordered copies.

NAA Report: Submissions were being sought for the next NAA Journal to be printed by the middle of the year. Our member, Richard from Melbourne, submitted a paper on Scottish Society medals - his third for NAA Journals. Paul S. commented favourably on the quality and cover design of the latest Journals - JNAA 23 & 24.

Peter L. showed the recent book ‘**Australasian Trade Tokens**’ by Simon Gray and commented on its comprehensive cataloguing of 19th and 20th Century as well as contemporary tokens and the quality of the images shown. It may be a suitable presentation item from the Society to the Art Gallery of SA in recognition of its support of the NSSA. (Cost \$75- to be discussed at a later meeting).



Frank showed a) 1822 silver thaler Francis I of **Austria** (39mm), b) 1994-1996 set of 6 silver coins (encased) boxed Australia’s **Olympic Heritage** Series featuring gold medalists.



Richard showed six British **Coronation Medals** a) 1661 silver Charles II – Restoration Medal (29mm), b) 1689 white metal William & Mary, c) 1702 silver Anne (35mm), d) 1714 silver George I (34mm), e) 1727 silver George II (34mm), f) 1885 silver James II (34mm) and discussed how the designs showed the differences between the times and eras of British History.



Paul J. showed 1887-1897 Queen Victoria white metal School's attendance medal with 1900 bar "Awarded to H. Hall for **Punctual Attendance during school year**". Number of white metal medals issued in 1900 was 23,305 (8.30% of students). He commented: "The School Board for London set out its scheme in March 1886 and was finished in 1920; it was decided to award a medal to every pupil attending school every time the school was opened during a complete school year. No exceptions were made, even one half day's unavoidable absence due to illness was enough to disqualify a child from receiving a medal. A 100 per cent attendance record would not automatically mean the award of a medal, the headmaster also had to certify that the pupil's conduct had been good. Even the headmaster's word was not to be accepted without a certification of accuracy by the school managers. Although these conditions were very severe, a large, and ever-growing number of children received medals."



Paul S. showed a) 1852 silver Scottish School medal – **Edinburgh** Southern Academy “James **Pedd**ie Dux Highest Class Junior English” (47mm) and an accompanying book on Silver Medals for Scottish & Irish Schools, b) 1762 brass George III medal (39mm).

Mark showed a **trial strike** of a 1962 **Thai** 1 baht coin on a squarish bronze or copper planchet. Trial strikes of these coins are not unknown and I’ve seen them in bronze, copper, brass, and copper nickel. The size and shape of the “planchet” used for these trial strikes can vary too. In numismatic terms a “trial strike” is a strike made for one of a number of reasons. These can include testing the appearance of the final struck coins, to help set up the coin press correctly, or to just test the operation of the press. [Barrie’s note: if the trial strike is to test for correctness of the image before hardening of the die, it is usually done on soft metal such as lead or copper to protect the die and to allow for additional corrections to be made before the die is hardened.]



Peter F. showed an extremely worn Australian **\$2 coin** with most of the images on both obv. and rev. smoothed away. Some semblance of “HH” could be discerned on the rev. indicating that it could be a 1988 or 1989 coin.

Meeting No. 892, Royal Society Room, Adelaide, 20 February 2014

Mick was welcomed back after his recent triple by-pass operation, resumed photographing material at the meeting and thanked Mark for doing so in January.

Field Visit to Art Gallery of SA: Members who attended the Art Gallery of SA thanked and congratulated Peter for arranging the visits which they found most interesting and rewarding.

The President advised that he had invited **Richard Phillips** from the Adelaide Society of Collectors to address the July meeting on a topic relating to **silverware** and silver medals. *Donation of Book to the Art Gallery of SA:* It was moved and passed that the Society donate the book “A Study of Australian Trade Tokens” costing \$75- to the Art Gallery of SA in recognition of our close ties with the Gallery.

Postcard & Coin Show 3-4 May 14: It was moved and carried that the Society have a table at the Postcard & Coin Show to be held at Torrens Training Depot to give added support to this event and to promote the Society.



Peter L. showed World War 1 **Forget-me-not token** “James to Florrie with love 387” engraved on the reverse of a Queen Victoria badly worn penny.



Richard showed a) bronze medallion obv. “**Sir Charles Kingsford Smith** Aviator 9 Feb 1897-9 Nov 1935”, rev “The Southern Cross” airplane (Stokes – 300 struck), b) 1st Century BC Tyre silver shekel featuring Phoenician Head and Eagle (temple tax e.g. “30 pieces of silver!”), c) miniature set of three WW1 medals + Military Cross.



Denis showed the latest medal issued at the keel-laying ceremony of the new Air Warfare Destroyer “**HMAS Brisbane**” Feb 2014 at ASC South Osborne, South Australia. In earlier times a keel-laying ceremony was the initial placement of the central timber making up the backbone of the vessel – the keel, and the ceremony was to bring luck to the ship during the rest of its construction and later to the captain and crew, by the placement of a newly minted coin there. In current times the ceremony marks the joining of the first modular components of the ship.

Frank showed a) 1933 **China** \$1- Sun Yat Sen coin, b) 1911-15 50c China Imperial silver coin, c) Maria Theresa silver thaler and two other coins.

Ray showed a medallion won by his grandfather “Thomas” (obv) “For the Best Box of Flowers grown in Window – presented by J.C. Wright” (51mm).



Paul S. showed a boxed bronze medallion “**Bristol Grammar School Prize won by S W Hancock for Boxing 1933**” (obv) with “**Founded by Robert Thorne 1532**” (rev) 43mm (Pleasance & Harper Ltd, The County Jewellers, Bristol).

Mick talked about the **Bank of Australasia, Murray Bridge** that opened around 1929 and closed in about 1942 for war rationalisation. This was done with agreement between the banks to close various branches to release more men for the war effort. He showed various cheques from other banks that had been altered for use with the Bank of Australasia, including a “pocket size” cheque form 1937, the only one he found among thousands of standard long forms. He also showed promissory notes or bills (usually for 3 months) signed by customers of firms promising to pay a certain amount with interest, remittances from other banks, a cheque for 10/- from the manager to pay for adhesives (stamps) and drafts from English banks.

Mick gave to each person present a collection of bank paperwork and cheques from the Bank of Australasia in Murray Bridge in the late 1930s including a Queen Mother stamped envelope that had contained vouchers (cheques) from Adelaide, turned inside out and used to wrap a day’s paperwork for the branch, and a list of serial numbers of cancelled banknotes sent to Adelaide. (*stamp from envelope illustrated above).



Kathryn showed a) miniature 1917 **Australia Day** aluminium badge in the shape and form of an envelope featuring a stamp format in the corner with red, white and blue ribbon, b) box of 11 various painted **tin button badges** issued for Australia Day 1916, 1917, 1918 with wording such as “Somewhere in France”, “For Honour & Liberty”, “Honour the Fallen”, “Cooee”, “The Farmers Button”, c) 2 x metal vitreous enamel badges, unspecified origins.





Barrie showed a) a World War 2 **dog-tag** “AW Bartholomew 32292 RAAF C.E.”, b) B Newman’s dog-tags (made in silver) after his deployment as a UN Military Observer to India & Pakistan (Kashmir 1964-65) “2905035 Barrie Malcolm Newman O Pos, CofE” and c) his dog-tags issued to him on his deployment to Vietnam in 1968 “Aust, 510812, BM Newman, CE, O POS”.

Meeting No. 893, Royal Society Room, Adelaide, 20 March 2014

It has now been decided that the NAA **Conference** will be held over the weekend 24-25 October 2015 at the Naval Military & Air Force Club, 111 Hutt Street, Adelaide. The venue is centrally located, with all conferencing facilities freely available, 60 car parking spaces within the Club’s grounds, the Club’s 4 double rooms with en-suite and a single room have been reserved and the Dinner on the Saturday night and lunches and morning/afternoon teas have been arranged at the Club as has the Friday night welcome. Final costings per person will be advised after discussions with the NAA.

Field Visit to Freemasons Grand Lodge Museum: It was suggested that this visit be arranged for the afternoon of Friday 10 October 2014 and the Secretary would arrange and advise details at the next meeting. *Future Field Visits:* A date for the visit to the Army Museum, Keswick will be considered in due course.

Australia/New Zealand Numismatic Conference, Wellington NZ 3-6 July 2014: The Secretary tabled a registration form to attend this conference, which has attracted a good response. Two of our members from South Australia are presenting papers to the Conference and their wives will also be attending.

Guest Speaker July meeting: The President confirmed that Richard Phillips will be giving a 30 mins presentation to the July meeting on the topic “Crossover of **silverware and currency**”. He advised that Richard Phillips has been interested in the silver-ware of Australia and Great Britain and its colonies for the last forty years or so, and is well read on this subject as well as on related areas. His address to be further publicised in the next newsletter.

Postcard & Coin Show 3-4 May 14: The Society will have a table at the Postcard & Coin Show to be held at Torrens Training Depot to give added support to this event and to promote the Society. Members are encouraged to support this undertaking by attending for a few hours and/or displaying any suitable items of interest on our table.

NSSA share of cost of book “A Study of Australian Trade Tokens” to be presented to the Art Gallery of SA is \$30.

NAA AGM was to be held in Sydney on 28 March 2014; (Secretary & Treasurer respectively) are stepping down from their positions at the AGM; suitable replacements have been nominated; the NAA website is being revamped; the Sydney firm, Drake Stirling Numismatics has been accepted as a bronze member and that the NAA had presented the Royal Society for the Blind with two of the bronze medallions from NAAC13 featuring details of the Conference in Braille on the reverse, in appreciation of their advice on the design for the medallion.

The **Art Gallery** of SA will have a display of **War Medals** leading up to and around ANZAC Day this year. Peter will provide details once the dates have been finalized.



Peter L. showed a) silver medallion with ring attachment obv. engraved with pyramids & palm trees incl. wording “**Souvenir of Egypt 1915**”, rev.”To Mother from Theo 2nd B.A.C 1st AIEF” (Sergeant Theodore Ronald Carson from Pymble (Sydney), enlisted 17 August 1914, landed at Gallipoli on the 25 April 1915 and was killed in Action on the 2 May 1915, aged 19, name recorded at Lone Pine Memorial, Gallipoli), b) medallion with side buckle attachments obv. laurel wreath with lion & rising sun centred and Arabic wording, rev. engraved “**S.E. Davis 17117 Wireless, Baghdad 1917-18-19**” (Stuart Evans Davis of Waverley (NSW) enlisted on 4 October 1916 in Sydney and was assigned to the Wireless Signal Squadron and spent all his overseas service in what is now Iraq: 28 January 1917 to 26 February 1919. Australian troops from the 1st Australian Wireless Signal Squadron provided communications for British forces during the Mesopotamian Campaign. They participated in a number of battles, including the Battle of Baghdad in March 1917), c) **Rejected Volunteers’ Association** (Victoria) Badge “For Empire – Victoria” with letters RVA centred. (A large number of men who volunteered to serve were rejected on medical or physical grounds. During the first year of the war approximately 33 per cent of all volunteers were rejected. The rejection rates lowered in later years of the war as the demand grew for volunteers. As the rejected men gave the appearance of being able they were abused and assaulted for being cowards. They formed an association with the aim of wearing a badge to show they supported the war effort and would not be abused in public. The association supported the YES vote for conscription).



Kathryn showed a **1919** Australian **sixpence** with obv. defaced showing the original head of King **George V** with hand engraved features added showing hat on his head and **riding a pushbike**, (photo previous page).

Frank showed a) 1971 proof set **US** coins - half dollar, quarter dollar, 1 dime, 5 cents, 1 cent, b) 1971 proof US Dollar “Eisenhower”.



Richard showed a) 1861 silver **China War medal** obv. Queen Victoria, rev. “Armis Expocere - China”, b) 1914 silver medallion issued by the Germans to commemorate the exploits of the German cruiser **SMS Emden** featuring the *Emden* on the obv. and Capt von Mueller on rev. c) silver medallion issued by the Germans to commemorate the exploits of the landing party from the *Emden* to destroy the wireless station on Cocos Is only to be stranded by the sinking of the *Emden* by HMAS *Sydney* and their escape on the sailing ship *Aeyshia* and journey back to Germany 9 Nov 1914 – 3 Feb 1915 obv, features sailing ship *Aeyshia* and rev. Leut Capt Von Mucke.



Neil showed a) **RAM 2014** unc Baby set featuring “Dot and the Kangaroo” with coloured reverses, b) RAM 2014 six-coin unc set with the \$1- coin rev. showing some of the kangaroos in colour, c) RAM 2014 proof set with the \$1- coin rev. showing coloured kangaroos.



Paul J. showed a) 500BC bronze coin (wheel money) from **Scythia**, b) Thrace 400BC Apollonia Pontika facing gorgoneion, obv., upright anchor with a crayfish flanking, rev.



David F. showed a 1924 bronze medallion 25th Anniversary of Givlio Luigi **Mascarello** (44mm), (photo previous page).



Paul S. showed a) silver **Royal Household Medal** obv. Kings crown & crest surrounded by letters G, V and R, rev. “1930 E.E. Allen, For Long & Faithful Service”, b) 1899-1900 silver medallion obv. head of Queen Victoria with wording on surround “**Transvaal War**”, rev. symbolic Aust Coat-of-Arms superimposed over Aust flag and rising sun at top with wording on surround “To Commemorate the departure of Australian Volunteers” and words “Broken Hill Sydney” on rim edge.



Mick advised that a new book on the special **N.P.A. note issues** 1988-2001 (his 79th) was about to go to the printers and showed a) uncut block of 8 x \$5 Aust notes with prefix “HK” year “97” numbers starting with “8” produced by NPA - “especially issued by RBA to commemorate the historic return of **Hong Kong** to Chinese Sovereignty” b) uncut **block of 4 x \$100 Aust notes** “Mawson” for “100th Anniversary of British Astronomical Association NSW 1895-1995” each note had the same numbers with prefixes A, B, C, and D.



Dear Customer,
We are happy to present you with this 50 cent Captain Cook Bi-Centenary Coin you have won as a prize in the recent **NESTLÉ**® Instant Coffee competition.
We feel that in years to come it will be of quite some historic interest and so suggest you keep it carefully in the special wallet we have provided.

We feel that in years to come it will be of quite some historic interest and so suggest you keep it carefully in the special wallet we have provided.
Congratulations,
The Nestlé Company (Australia) Limited.
*REGISTERED PERMIT No. TC1541



Peter F. showed a) copper medallion with ring affixed obv. **Adelaide GPO** bldg, rev. “R D McBeath from fellow officers PMG Dept SA in appreciation of services in the Great War 1914-19”, b) plastic folder issued by Nestle with descriptive card and Aust 1970 50c Capt Cook coin, c) 1940 Netherlands 1 gulden coin .720 silver, 28mm, 10gm and mentioned the date coincided with the Nazi invasion of the Netherlands on 10 May 1940.