



The Numismatic Society of South Australia Incorporated

NEWSLETTER 119 – December 2016.

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

NSSA web page -- sanumismatics.org.au

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, (above) or on mobile at **0417 212 906** on meeting nights for messages etc. Please do not send text, SMS or leave messages on Mick's phones.

Annual membership **subscriptions** are now due, \$30 for members in Australia and overseas. They can also be paid by **EFT** to 015 590 4981 20308 (ANZ) stating surname and/or postcode. If paying by EFT please advise Treasurer Mick when doing so. See NSSA website.

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 members who have the capacity to receive them. In this way you 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 by email.

FORWARD DIARY

General meetings, Thursdays - 19 January, 16 February, 16 March, 7.30 pm.

Please write these dates down in your calendar and/or diary NOW.

Meeting No. 924, Royal Society Room, Adelaide, 27 October 2016.

Present: Nine members, sixteen apologies.

Business Arising from Minutes: *Canadian \$20 Notes donated by D Allen and C Waites:* to be auctioned at our forthcoming Coin Show.

NSSA Coin Show 3-4 Dec - Torrens Training Depot – The President advised that he had contacted dealers from SA and interstate and so far he had bookings for 50 tables (maximum) @ \$100 per table. He suggested that we look at getting a Facebook Page to assist in widely promoting the event. He had produced flyers for distribution, had prepared advertisements for CAB Magazine, arranged Security and catering, had purchased some table lamps for added lighting and produced a floor plan for dealers' tables set-up. The Secretary had booked the Naval Military & Air Force Club, 111 Hutt Street, Adelaide for a "Coin Show" Dinner on the night of Sat 3 Dec @ \$55 per head for 2 course meal. The Club will provide vegetarian and gluten-free meals for those who advise such requirements. 10 members volunteered to assist.

Support for Stampex16 held at Torrens Training Depot 7-9 Oct: Eight members assisted at our stand with possibly 2 new members indicating interest in joining the NSSA.

Ray showed 1988 polished copper **Brisbane World Expo** (Apr 30 – Oct 30 1988) medallion issued to commemorate the Bi-Centenary (35mm).

Neil showed further 2016 **RAM issues:** a) **Australia at War program** Part 3 – set of 6 cu-ni unc. 50 cents coins issued this year depicting post 1945 conflicts. Each coin is presented on a 9.5 x6 cm card. 3 are coloured and none will be released into circulation. The reverses of the coins depict a scene from each conflict – Korean War, Malayan Emergency, Indonesian Confrontation, Vietnam War, Gulf Wars, Afghanistan; b) 100 years since the Battles of Pozieres and Fromelles, Western Front 1916 – Two 50 cents cu-ni coins on cards, each depicts a scene from each battle. Neither coin will be released into circulation. He also advised that RAM had produced 332 special issues of \$1- coins since 1984.

Virginia showed a **double sided mirror pendant** in gun-metal that she had purchased from an antique dealer in Paris in 1966. She has attached it to a silver chain.



A member showed a) a "**Junior Auxiliary**" badge with those words around surround with dark blue vitreous enamel background. In centre, letters "CSG" in light blue enamel (**Combat Support Group**). Rev. shows Schlank Adelaide with pin attachment and ring at bottom – possibly World War I fund raising badge; b) stick-pin badge "The **Sergeant Dan Junior Club**" with cartoon figure of child eating a lolly on a stick – blue and red enamel background – distributed by Creamota Porridge; c) copper stick-pin badge with bee in centre and on surround "**EVD Young Workers Patriotic Guild**" issued during World War I influencing children to keep busy as bees to help doing odd jobs to raise funds for the War effort. "EVD" refers to Education Department of Victoria which was involved in this project.

Helen showed boxed proof set of 8 coins (Macquarie Mint) “**History of Australian Coinage Collection**” – Holey Dollar (copper), 1855 Sydney Mint sovereign (silver, gold-plated), Cartwheel Penny (silver, rose-gold tinting), 1909 One Florin (silver), 1852 Adelaide Assay Office 5 pound (silver, gold-plated), 1860 Hogarth threepence (silver), 1919 Kookaburra square penny (copper, silver-plated), 1850 Advance Australia Penny (copper, rose-gold tinting). Very attractive.



Mick presented our two new lady members with their **NSSA badge** and then discussed two 7cm diameter cast copper medallions struck for the 150th jubilees of the commencement of copper mining in two South Australian towns, **Kapunda and Burra**. They are large and heavy and can best be described as chunky. The Kapunda medallion commemorates 1844 to 1994 and the Burra issue 1845 to 1995. Both medallions were crudely cast in copper approx. 50 mm in diameter. State Library of SA records a 7 cm gold Burra medallion donated. Each medallion is numbered – those illustrated being Kapunda 124 and Burra 620. He showed a Burra medallion, numbered 24, in its packaging (68mm). It shows as being sponsored by Adelaide Chemical Company, which operated a chemical plant alongside the old mining area in Burra.



Richard showed a George V **double headed** penny, both heads crudely struck together.

Annual General Meeting and Monthly Meeting No. 925, Adelaide, 17 November 2016

Present: 13 members, 8 apologies.

Correspondence: Letter, Seasons Greetings from Don Allen in Canada including small items for auctioning at the Coin Show; Letter from the Museum of SA outlining arrangements for 2017 (Secretary to contact and finalise).

Treasurer's and Auditor's Reports for Past Year: The Treasurer presented the audited Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year ended 30 September 2016.



President's Award for Best Numismatic Presentations During Year: The President announced that Mick was the recipient of the award for his many interesting presentations and supply of samples and various copies of unusual items during the year. Picture, page 11.



President's Report and Numismatic Address: The President gave a short Report highlighting the achievements of the Society during the past year, culminating in the planned Coin Show in 2 weeks time; the setting up the website; the well attended monthly meetings and the enthusiasm of members shown at the meetings, and thanked those who had assisted in the running of the Society over the past year, particularly the Treasurer and the Secretary as well as thanks to Denis and another member for their support in providing suppers and to Mark and Kathryn for their work on the website. He then presented his Address which linked special iconic Australian poems with four interesting coin issues - a) **silver drachm 250BC**, obv. Apollo rev. showing strong image of horse – Richard then recited A.B."Banjo" Paterson's poem "**The Man from Snowy River**"; b) **1878 sovereign** (1/4 oz gold) rev, showing St George slaying the dragon – Richard then recited off by heart Ned Kelly by Redgum "Poor Ned"; c) Edward VII two-up penny with white cross painted to show "Tails" – Richard then recited "Dust" by Redgum about the Cockatoo Is Docks, Sydney and the brother in 1941 from 3rd Light Horse Brigade who played two-up from Tobruk to El Alamein; d) 1930-31 **NW Frontier medal** awarded to an Indian driver – Richard then recited "Gunga Din" by Rudyard Kipling. His Address was warmly received as an innovative, outstanding and unique linking of the coins with the respective poems, with appropriate acclamation.

Election of Officers for ensuing year: The following officers were nominated and duly elected:

President: Neil, Secretary: Barrie, Treasurer: Mick.

Vice-Presidents: Paul S. and Kathryn. Councillors, attending members.

NAA Representative: Peter L., Public Officer: Barrie, Editor of Newsletter and Occasional Journal: Mick, Auditor: Paul J. **Subscriptions** to remain at \$30 for all members, now due.

General Business: Christmas Meeting: Members were asked to bring a plate and some refreshments for supper for the December meeting.

NAA Report: Barrie advised that the articles for this year's NAA Journal had all been received and were being refereed and it was expected that they would be typeset and laid out for publishing early in the New Year in digital format. One of the authors requested hard copies and Barrie was currently obtaining quotes for some printed copies.



Neil showed the latest RAM issues for 2016; a) 90th birthday QEII frosted unc. 3 cupro-nickel set. b) 400th anniversary of **Dirk Hartog's** landfall 20c. not released for circulation. He also showed a **CORNISH FESTIVAL MEDALLION**; A silver coloured medallion produced by the Northern York Peninsula Coin Club for the 1975 Cornish Festival "Kernewek Lowender". 2000 silver coloured style, 60 silver and 6 gold medallions were minted.



Helen showed two Banco de **Guatemala banknotes** a) unquetzal (featuring a bank building) and b) ½ quetzal (featuring a temple). She advised, "The quetzal is the most popular currency in Central America. It is divided into centavos (cents) and 100 centavos = 1 quetzal. The quetzal is a bird found in the mountainous tropical forests of Central America. This bird was sacred to the Mayans as it symbolized freedom and wealth and the bird was viewed as 'God of the Air'. Its tail feathers were used as a form of currency. In the Mesoamerican language the term quetzal means precious or sacred. I was told the bird could not be held captive for any length of time as it would kill itself. For this reason it is a traditional symbol of liberty. These two notes are no longer in circulation but are still recognized. The Q0.50 (cincuenta centavos) is a brown note and shows Tecum Uman, Prince & Commander and Chief of the Quiche Realm during the Spanish Conquest and on the reverse is Tikal's Temple I, commonly known as the Temple of the Great Jaguar. This temple rises in 9 stepped levels, being symbolic of the 9 levels of the underworld. I was fortunate to climb the extremely steep staircase of this temple to the summit shrine. The tomb of Ah Cacao, under the temple was not discovered until 1962 and is known as Burial 116 by archaeologists. The King's remains had been laid on a woven mat and the tomb contained offerings of jaguar skins, jade objects, painted ceramics, rare shells, pearls, mirrors and more. His body was covered with large quantities of jade ornaments

including a huge necklace with 114 very large beads as depicted in sculptured portraits of the King, and weighing 3.9kg. The Q1 green note shows Jose Maria Orellana, President of Guatemala during the Currency Reform that introduced the Q as the official currency in 1925, replacing the Peso. The building is the Central Bank of Guatemala. This note was re-introduced on 20 August 2007 as a polymer banknote. The Guatemala currency comprises 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, & 200 quetzal notes and coins 1, 5, 10, 25, 50 centavos and 1Q.”

Kathryn commented that the **New Zealand 2004 10cents mule** of a dollar coin shown at the 17 March 2016 meeting was being included in an article in the forthcoming CAB magazine.

A member showed a) **St Peters Youth Centre Badge**, 23mm gilt bronze enamelled (paint) badge, brooch clasp on reverse. Inscription in centre: YOUTH / CENTRE, and around rim: F.W. SYMONS MEMORIAL / ST. PETERS. Reverse: SCHLANK / ADELAIDE. The present St Peters Youth Centre is located in Dunstone Grove, 2 Cornish Street, Stepney SA, but use of the name FW Symons has lapsed. The FW Symons Memorial Centre was controlled by a Management Committee and the badge may have belonged to one of the committee members. Frederick W Symons (1903-1962) was educated at Adelaide Technical High School and graduated as a Civil Engineer from the University of Adelaide. He worked in turn for the Burnside District Council, the Dept. of Main Roads and was appointed engineer of St Peters Council from 1938 until 1962. He was Town Clerk of St Peters Council (c. late 1940s) and part-time lecturer in town planning at the School of Mines. The then new youth facility was named in his honour. b) **5CL Bluebird Girls' Club Badge**, 32mm coloured tinnie badge. A blue swallow flying above water in the centre, with gold wording around: 5CL BLUEBIRD GIRLS' CLUB / MAKE OTHERS HAPPY. Regd Design No. 6993. Maker: A.W. Patrick, Unley SA. The badge was produced c.1920s by the Adelaide radio station 5CL and was given to any member of the club who gained ten new members. The club was seemingly formed at a time when people were experiencing hardship in life—the economic depression, WW11—and hence the appropriate motto: “Make Others Happy”. The club formed a choir through which money was raised, club members visited homes and gave gifts and the badge itself was at least during one period sold as a fundraiser for the SPCA (Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals). c) a metal **membership badge (unknown)** featuring obv. a black & white shrike in vitreous enamel with above, a cup design with cross, and letters “A”, “U”, “S”, “A” in corners, rev. “Not Transferable No 90”, as below.



Mick discussed **TELSTRA PHONECARDS**: In 1991 and 1992 Telecom Finance produced calendars with enlarged images of 26 Australian pre-decimal banknotes in the Vort-Ronald Collection as gifts for their corporate customers. Using some of the images again around May 1997 Telstra produced 1,000 limited presentation packs with sets of 5 phone-cards to be used as corporate gifts, which were not available for sale to the general public. Notes featured in the phone cards were:

\$2	National Bank of Australasia Superscribed £1 note	Card	0148200118
\$5	Coombs-Wilson Commonwealth Bank £5		0148300118
\$10	Collins-Allen non mosaic £5		0118400118
\$20	Coombs-Wilson Commonwealth Bank £10		0148500118
\$50	Collins-Allen £20		0148600148



Virginia showed an Australian **2016 commemorative** issued by RAM to celebrate 50 years Queen's Accession to the Throne featuring the Queen's head on both sides with one side depicting a threepence wheat sheaf and the rev. showing a kangaroo within a similar threepence surround. Another member produced the penny version.



Barrie showed the **Vermeil medallion** that was awarded to him by the Mandurah 2016 Fair for his entry "Development of the Three Stampex 14 PNCs".

Meeting No. 926, Royal Society Room, Adelaide, 15 December 2016

Present: 15 members, 11 apologies.

SA History Month May 2017: The Secretary advised that he had registered our May 2017 meeting, with Peter L. as our Guest Speaker, with the organisers of SA History Week activities. It was agreed that an article be sent to CAB to promote the activity.

Report on NSSA Coin Show 3-4 Dec - Torrens Training Depot – Richard advised that the Show had been quite successful with good numbers attending both days and all stall holders were quite happy with their involvement and said they would be happy to attend another Show next year.

He submitted an income and expenditure statement showing a net profit of \$1500- and handed the Treasurer a cheque for that amount payable to the NSSA. He advised that he had on hand table lamps and electrical equipment valued at approx \$1000- which could be made available for future shows to be rented out to stall holders. The Raffle raised \$365, Auction raised \$140 and catering profit was \$120. Peter L. agreed that it was a good affordable Show with a great

venue and free parking for attendees and that the Dinner held at the Naval Military & Air Force Club on the Saturday evening was most appropriate and successful. Kathryn commented that it was wonderful to raise \$1500 for the Society from this one event and congratulated everyone who contributed to the event. The President stated that the event had been a resounding success, two new members had joined the NSSA with a number of others indicating interest, the event had been an excellent bonding exercise for members of the NSSA especially as it was the first public Coin Show arranged and held by the Society and that the profit was the “icing on the cake”. He thanked everyone who had assisted in setting up, manning the official arrangements and winding up the Show afterwards and stated that without the enthusiasm, dedication and organisation of Richard in proposing, organising and running the Show it could not have been the success it was.

In proposing a vote of thanks, seconded by the Secretary, to Richard for his fine efforts, the President presented Richard with a special NSSA medallion “**Award for Excellence**” – carried with acclamation, as below. Mick advised that he had taken photos and written an article about the Coin Show for CAB magazine. The President suggested that if we were to hold another event next year, a special committee should be set up to organise the Show based on all that had been learned from this year and that we should also look at having a major sponsor to support the Show. Picture of presentation on page 11.



New members: Steve of Mitcham, Victoria and Nick of Belgrave Victoria, having been proposed and seconded by members at the Coin Show and paid their subscriptions were duly elected members of the NSSA.



Mick showed two **Adelaide Gem and Mineral Club** competition medallions, one in bronze and one gold coated. On one side were depicted two large and 10 small quartz crystals with the recipient's name (G. Voskamp) engraved below the crystals. The other side was blank in the centre surrounded by a wreath and engraved with the name of the competition/s.

Quartz is a very common mineral, silicon dioxide, with a hardness of 7, with talc being 1 and diamond 10, and is hard enough to scratch steel. It mostly crystallises in hexagonal form with a pointed termination. When clear it is called "rock crystal", purple amethyst, honey

coloured citrine or cairngorm, black or brown smokey quartz. Crystals with inclusions can display other colours or forms and images were shown of various types of inclusions including needles of rutile (titanium oxide). A "phantom" quartz crystal was handed around showing outlines of previous crystals in the centre (image previous page), and various coloured images of quartz and crystals were also shown.



Peter L. showed 5 discs found by a metal detectorist and acquired from a member of the public by The Purple Penny who brought them to the *NSSA Coin Fair* held at the Torrens Parade Ground, in November 2016. These were then passed on to a member of the NSSA: a) July 1, 1904 to June 30, **1905, Regd. Dog**, unofficial colonial style Australian Coat of Arms, kangaroo and emu facing in, District 58 Registration number 14, brass, shape; shield, single hole. **District** 58: Willunga; b) 1 July 1927 to 30 June 1928, Regd. Dog, unofficial colonial style Australian Coat of Arms, Kangaroo and emu facing out. Registration number 92, District 54, brass, shape; oval, two holes. **District** 54: Glenelg; c) 1935 – 30 June, Registered Dog, 1908 Australian Coat of Arms, [replaced in 1912], Registration number 09, District 131, brass, Shape; diamond, two holes. **District** 131: Kadina; d) 1 July, 1950 to 30 Jun, 1951, Regd. Dog, 1908 Australian Coat of Arms, [replaced in 1912 – but same as six pence of the registration period], Registration 48, District 162, brass, shape; octagon, two holes. **District** 162: Lucindale; e) 1 July 1981 to 30 June 1982, S.A. Regd. Dog, Registration number 00488, District 14, green-anodised aluminium; round, one hole. **District**: 14: Mitcham.



Helen showed a) 1966 Australian Coin Catalogue; b) 1966 key ring "Berenice Ladies' Hairdressing Salons" showing **currency changes** from pounds, shillings, pence to decimal currency equivalents, when key ring turned slightly; c) 1966 key ring "Readymix Group SA" showing currency changes as for b) above.



Richard showed a) 336-323BC silver tetradrachm, obv. **Alexander the Great**, rev. Heracles/Zeus holding bird; b) 165BC (circa) silver tetradrachm **Aelois-Kyme** (coastal city now modern Turkey) obv. head of Amazon Kyme, rev. horse within wreath; c) 180-165BC ancient silver tetradrachm **Baktريا** (now modern Afghanistan) obv. Antimachos I, rev. Poseidon standing, holding trident.



Michael showed a) 160BC **silver Menandry**; b) 350BC silver drachm **ancient Greece**, obv. Goddess Tyche, rev. owl standing facing; c) 110BC silver **Melqart**.

Coral showed a .999silver **Perth Mint token** personally struck and inscribed "Today is the first day of the rest of my life – Coral 27th October 2011".

Neil showed three items that he purchased at the 2016 NSSA Coin Show: a) An aluminium medallion of 35mm and weighing 7.92g struck by Amor Mint on behalf of the Australian Numismatic Society for the **Rockhampton Capricornia Festival** of 1966. The obverse features the kangaroo and emu logo of the Australian Numismatic Society with the text THE AUSTRALIAN NUMISMATIC SOCIETY around the rim. The reverse features the text ROCKHAMPTON CAPRICORNIA FESTIVAL around the rim with the text AUGUST 27 - SEPTEMBER 3 1966 in the centre; b) A Cadmium plated (?) medallion of 35mm and weighing 18.24g struck on behalf of the **Sydney Coin Club** for its first anniversary and for Australian Coin Week. The obverse features the Australian Coat of Arms with the text SYDNEY COIN CLUB on the scroll and the text 1ST ANNIVERSARY SYDNEY COIN CLUB EXHIBITION SYDNEY TOWN HALL around the rim. The reverse features the crown coin design as used on the 1937 and 1938 Australian Crowns with the text AUSTRALIAN COIN WEEK 14-20 NOVEMBER 1965 around the rim. Medallions were struck in silver, copper and cadmium plated; c) A copper(?) diamond shape medallion weighing 7.61g. It features a blind girl with a guide dog surrounded by a circular text **ROYAL BLIND SOCIETY GUIDE DOGS ASSOC. \$10**. There is nothing on the reverse.



Presidents award from Richard to Mick in November.



Half of the coin show venue in December, image, David. Story, CAB, Feb. 2017.



Society medal from Neil to Richard for organizing the coin show in December.