



The Numismatic Society of South Australia Incorporated

OCCASIONAL NEWSLETTER – 30 March 2020

Dear Members,

While the NSSA is unable to hold its regular monthly meetings of the Society due to the Corona Virus pandemic, it is important that we continue to keep in touch with our members during these unprecedented times.

I will endeavor to email you any items of numismatic interest from our associated bodies and ask, that if you have any numismatic items that could be of interest to members, please forward them to me so that they may be included in future NSSA Occasional Newsletters.

As you have already been informed, our meetings for March, April and May 2020 have already been cancelled and it is most likely that our June meeting will also be cancelled.

Following my request last week for members to submit numismatic items of interest, I have already received:



From Vice-President, Helen Buller:

Perhaps to kick off the next circular to all, I got this non-coloured \$2 coin in change yesterday, anyone else seen one? No, it's not coloured on the other side!!!

From Peter Lane, a Past President, Fellow and Life Member of the NSSA:

The Numismatic Society of South Australia has been in recess before, although not by a Pandemic.

I have attached a segment of an article written by Ron Appleyard, the Secretary and treasurer of the NSSA – It's from the The South Australian Numismatic Journal, September 1950.

Incidentally Appleyard later became the Assistant Director of the Art Gallery of South Australia.

as Australia
The growth of the Society has not been without its problems, severe set-backs were experienced during the years of the depression and of World War II. The Society was in recess from January, 1931, until September, 1938, and then, after a strong revival followed by several years' full-scale activity, the seriousness of the War made itself felt, firstly with the absence of many members on Active Service, and later by the black-outs which restricted the Society to lunch-hour meetings. As the War situation improved, so did the Society endeavour to revert to its former activity. This was not achieved, however, until mid-1947, after the cessation of hostilities, when some of the immediate post-war confusion had abated and members were returning to their civilian occupations and interests.

Since then the Society has gone from strength to strength, and has begun to enjoy the fruits of the firm foundation laid by its early planners. From 1929 it has issued a yearly Programme or Programme-Membership Card listing the subjects to be discussed at its monthly meetings, and in January, 1947, recognising the requirements of an increasing membership, commenced the publication of a monthly news-sheet and report which has developed into The South Australian Numismatic Journal.

R. G. APPLEYARD.

An update on the final Vickers Vimy Centenary Celebrations

The 23rd of March 1920 was the actual date of the arrival at Northfield, South Australia of the Vickers Vimy flown by Sir Ross and Sir Keith Smith at the conclusion of their historic epic flight from England to Australia. To celebrate the Centenary of this event arrangements were made for Light Aircraft flight activities at Gawler Airfield on Sat 21 March and at Aldinga Airfield on Sun 22 March and a fly-over of the Northfield landing site by the RAAF on Mon 24 March 2020 with special speeches to the many persons expected to be present.

Unfortunately, with gatherings at public events being cancelled due to the Corona Virus outbreak only the local pilots and officials were allowed to be present at these events and only those few, including the Secretary of the NSSA, were privileged to hear from Mike Smith, of the interesting coincidences that he had with the original flight, when he flew solo from England to Darwin on the same route as the Smith Brothers, leaving England on the same day, 12 November, and arriving Darwin on the same day and time, 10 December, 100 years later. Barrie Newman, presented Mike with a miniature Vickers Vimy badge and medallion made by The Adelaide Mint.

Best wishes and keep well during these trying times.

Kind regards,
Barrie Newman
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