



The Numismatic Society of South Australia Incorporated

NEWSLETTER 152, March 2025.

Society meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of the month, SAPHIL House 22 Gray Court, Adelaide 7.30 pm., visitors welcome.

Postal address **P.O. Box 312 Magill 5072.**

For further information, contact the Secretary, Richard Welling; secretary@sanumismatics.org.au

NSSA web page -- sanumismatics.org.au Webmaster: Mark.

Newsletter edited and illustrated by Mick Vort-Ronald, primarily from minutes of Society meetings recorded by the Secretary. Contact details for Mick are; phone (08) 8522 4490, mobile 0417 212 906, no text or SMS messages please, or P.O. Box 653 Willaston S.A. 5118. email vortronald@yp-connect.net

Annual membership **subscriptions now fall due in January** each year, \$30 for members in Australia and overseas. They can also be paid by EFT to BSB 015 590 A/c 4981 20308 (ANZ) stating surname and/or postcode. If paying by EFT please email Treasurer Virginia, at treasurer@sanumismatics.org.au

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 preferably sent by email 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. Most items are photographed by Mick at meetings, but members can also send text and images of their items direct to Mick.

Newsletters are sent via email to members who have the capacity to receive them. In this way you get your newsletter quicker and better than a printed version, **AND IN COLOUR**. Please advise the Secretary 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 receive their emailed newsletters and these are also being forwarded on to our financial members by email.

NEXT MEETING

A.G.M. 7.30 pm. Thursday 17th April 2023, Saphil House.

Please nominate or be nominated for office bearers or committee.

Meeting 1017 held at SAPHIL House 16th January 2025.

Present: 22 members, 8 apologies, 1 visitor R.S.

Peter L. sent info about Viking exhibition to be held at SA Museum 8th Feb to 27th July. Perhaps the NSSA can attend as a group? We will discuss it at next meeting.

NAA 2025 conference will be held in Melbourne at University House, Helen St Carlton, 28th and 29th July 2025. If you would like to attend this conference, booking cut off is 31st March. Please see NAA website for more details and booking procedure.

Coin Expo report: We have made a tentative booking for the venue, same time (October long weekend) next year. The Royal Australian Mint will not be attending any shows this year.

Door Prizes: Harry kindly donated two bottles of wine, winners included our visitor, Peter F. and Steve.

Numismatics:



Mick spoke about and showed a split ten shilling note he purchased on eBay. He currently has 7 articles awaiting publication by the Australian Coin Review.

Junius 145BC & Scaurus, Hypsaeus 58BC

Paul J. spoke about and showed a pair of silver denarius ancient coins from Rome, minted during the Republican period. The first with head of Roma on obverse and reverse showing Discouri on horseback and dated from 145 BCE whilst the second showed a camel and the king of Nabataea and dated from approximately 58 BC.



Roman Republic, M. Junius, Silver Denarius (3.88g, 18mm), Rome mint 145 BC.

Obverse: Head of Roma facing to the right, wearing winged Attic helmet, mark of value to right field, ass's head to left field.

Reverse: The Dioscuri, Castor and Pollux (Castor and Pollux were twins known as the Dioscuri who protect soldiers in war) on horseback in gallop to the right, each wearing Phrygian cap (the Romans adopted this cap from Greece but today it stands for Liberty especially in France) and chlamys (ancient cloak) and wielding spear, moneyers name "M·IVNI" (Marcus Junius Silanus) below, "ROMA" in exergue.

This coin was minted at the start of the third and final Punic wars where the Romans outnumbered the Carthaginians by about 2 to 1. This led to the complete destruction of Carthage over six days, systematically the Romans destroyed the city and killed its inhabitants and only on the last day did they take prisoners, totalling 50,000, which were sold into slavery.

What could you buy with a Denaris which is worth approximately \$3 in today's money.

Product	Price
Average wine glass	1 as (0.1 denarii)
Loaf of bread	2 as (0.2 denarii)
1 kg/2lbs of butter	8 as (0.8 denarii)
Modius (8.73 litres) of grain	3 denarii
Pot	1 as (0.1 denarii)
Plate	1 as (0.1 denarii)
Drinking cup	2 as (0.2 denarii)
Bucket	9 a (0.9 denarii)
Tunic cleaning	4 sesterces (1 denarius)
New tunic	15 sesterces (4 denarii)
1 mule	130 denarii
1 slave	630 denarii



M. Aemilius Scaurus & P. Plautius Hypsaeus, Moneyers of the Roman Republic, Silver Denarius (3.94g, 18mm), Rome mint 58 BC.

Obverse: King Aretas of Nabataea kneeling to the right, holding olive branch aloft in left hand and the reins of camel beside him in right, "M SCAVR AED CVR" (translated to Marcus Scaurus, Aedile Curule with agreement of the Senate, King Aretas) in two lines above, "EX" to left field, "SC" to right field, "REX ARETAS" in exergue.

Reverse: Jupiter commanding quadriga to the left, holding reins with one hand and raising a thunderbolt above in other, scorpion below horses, "P HVPSAE AED CVR" in two lines above, "[CA]PTV" upward to right, "[C HVPSAE COS PREIVER]" in two lines in exergue (translated to Publius Hypsaeus Aedile Curule, Consul Gaius Ypsaeus captured Privernum).

This coin was minted as Julius Caesar invaded Gaul while Pompey invaded the Arabian Peninsula. Pompey conquered the Armenians in Damascus in the mid-60s B.C. after the Armenians acquired control of the city from the Nabataeans in around 70 B.C. Pompey then turned his attention to Petra. The Nabateans had an army of about 10,000 warriors to protect their trade routes. Their wealth came from frankincense, myrrh and spices from Arabia as well as a trade with Egypt in bitumen from the Dead Sea. What set Nabataean apart from other countries some till today was that women had equal rights across all spectrums of society. Nabataea and Rome would soon join forces, with Nabataea becoming Rome's vassal state and paying taxes to it. Rome and Nabataea collaborated as military allies in Egypt and Arabia at this time. The Nabataean monarch, Aretas III, was permitted to continue in office and keep Damascus by General Pompey rather than simply conquering the people. In exchange, the Nabataean state agreed to pay taxes to Rome as an imperial vassal state.

Reference. en.wikipedia.org commons.wikimedia.org ancienttimes.blogspot.com
gallery.respublicacoins.com www.worldhistory.org en.numista.com www.thearchaeologist.org
atlasmythica.com



Alan spoke about and showed Australian Open 2025 \$2 coloured coin, commemorating 120 years of the Australian Open Tennis.

Steve spoke about and showed Australian 60th Anniversary of Royal Australian Mint 5 x \$1 coin set that you can Mint Your Own at the Canberra Mint.



David spoke about and showed and impressive APF Matches medal measuring 80mm and weighing 219 grams of bronze.



Richard spoke about and showed medals of Captain Cook produced in 1784 and Joseph Banks (produced from 1820) and also a Guinea brass coin weight from 1772.



Barrie spoke about and showed the die for the Maurice Keain medal. This medal was awarded by the SA Historical Society for research and is intricately engraved.

What's On.

SA Farmers Market, 7am-noon, cost \$1.50 Held every Sunday.

Brighton Market, 8am – noon, free entry, every 2nd and 4th Sunday.

McClaren swap Meet. Sunday 2nd February from 7.30 am, cost \$5

Rotary Club of Murray Bridge Swap Meet. Sunday 10th Feb 6am – 1pm, cost \$7

Meeting 1018 held at SAPHIL House 20th February 2025.

Present: 27 members, 7 apologies.

Door Prizes: Harry kindly donated two bottles of wine, Gerry kindly donated a coin set and winners included K.S. G.R. and David.

Numismatics:

Venice. Paul J. spoke about and showed a pair of Italian gold coins, the first being a gold ducat from 14th century Venice and a Napoleon I 19th century gold 40 lire coin.



Michele Steno, Gold Ducato, 1400-1413 AD and Napoleonic Kingdom of Italy, 40 Lire Napoléon I

These two coins show the wealth of Venice from its height to the end of Italian city states. Republic of Venice, Michele Steno, the 63rd Doge of Venice 1400-1413 AD, Gold Ducato (3.43g, 21mm), Venice city mint. Obverse: Saint Mark, wearing nimbus crown and vestments and holding Book of Gospels in left hand, presenting staff with pennant to Doge Michele Steno kneeling before him and raising head, "DVX" downward between them (meaning the title of the Doge), legend surrounds, "MICHÆL STEN · S·M· VENETI" (English translation of "Duke/Doge Michele Steno, Saint Marcus of Venetia"). Reverse: Christ, wearing nimbus crown and vestments and holding Book of Gospels in left hand and raising right in benediction, stands facing forward surrounded by nine stars, all within mandorla, legend surrounds, "·SIT· T· XPC· DAT' Q· TV REGIS ISTE DVCAT'" (English translation of "To you, Christ, this Duchy you rule given").

Venice emerged as a city-state after 998 and began a five-hundred-year period of peace and prosperity.

This coin was minted at the birth of the renaissance, it is appropriate then that in 1400 Johannes Gutenberg was born. His printing presses were able to disseminate information on a wider scale. Steno was born in Venice into a family of some wealth, and had got into trouble as a youth using graffiti to mock the Doge and his wife. He would also break into convents to force himself onto the nuns. For these transgressions he was nearly executed. He later served as a local District Governor of Venice and proved a capable diplomat.

In 1400 he was elected as doge as a compromise choice, since previous votes had become deadlocked. In his accession's year, Venice began a successful war against Padua which came under the rule of the Republic of Venice in 1405 and mostly remained that way until the fall of the republic in 1797. During the Christian schism of 1408, Venice sided with Pope Alexander V of Rome against Pope Benedict XIII of Avignon France, this was resolved when the French King withdrew his support for Benedict.



Napoleonic Kingdom of Italy, 40 Lire Napoléon I of the House of Bonaparte, Emperor of the French 1804-1814 AD, Gold Forty Lire (12.83g, 26mm), 1814 M, Milan mint. Obverse: Head of Emperor Napoleon I facing to the left, date and mintmark between assayer's marks below, legend surrounds, "NAPOLEONE IMPERATORE E RE" (English translation of "Napoleon, Emperor and King"). Reverse: Royal Coat of Arms of the Napoleonic Kingdom of Italy (1804-1814), denomination below, country surrounds. Edge: Inscription in incuse lettering, "DIO PROTEGGE L'ITALIA" (English translation of "God, protect Italy").

The Kingdom of Italy was declared on 17 March 1805, when the Italian Republic, whose president was Napoleon Bonaparte, became the Kingdom of Italy, with the same man (now styled Napoleon I) as the new King of Italy. Napoleon I was crowned at the Milan Cathedral. His title was "Emperor of the French and King of Italy"

Reference. en.wikipedia.org commons.wikimedia.org www.famousbirthdays.com
www.encyclopedia.com/www.bing.com venipedia.it



Mick spoke about and showed a defaced or faded \$2 paper and \$5 and \$20 polymer notes being passed off as "errors". He also showed a \$50 note fade out where the printing machine had run low on ink and "faceless Queen" vandalized notes. Buyers of his 2024 banknote sales book are also offered a free copy of the first banknote sales volume in 2005.



A member spoke about and showed three medalets including Kilkenny Music competitions, Thebarton Music competitions and Croydon competitions, one from Roger Brown Adelaide, jeweler, and another of F. Bassor and Co., Jewellers.



Gerry spoke about and showed St. Peters college General Efficiency Medal awarded to Neville Swift who was later Killed In Action, aged 22, during WW1.



Peter L. spoke about and showed a metal detector copper and bronze hoard of old coins and tradesman tokens found in South Australia, typical of the 19th century gold rushes.

What's On.

SA Farmers Market, 7am-noon, cost \$1.50, held every Sunday.

Brighton Market, 8am – noon, free entry, every 2nd and 4th Sunday.

Tarlee Country Market, Tarlee Oval, Monday 10th March 9am-2pm, cost \$5

Woodside Swap Meet, Woodside Oval, Sunday 16th March, from 7am, cost \$5

Clare Swap Meet, at Racecourse 4 km from Clare, Sunday 16th March, from 7.30am, cost \$5

Meeting 1019 held at SAPHIL House 20th March 2025.

A numismatic bourse preceded this meeting, held from 6.15pm.

Present: 22 members, meeting chaired by Mick, 6 apologies, one visitor T.S.

NAA Journal 33 has been issued and features amongst other things, an interesting article about Roman coin blanks.

Coin Expo report: Anyone who wants a table for this show, please let secretary know. Table fee is \$225

Door Prizes:

Harry kindly donated two bottles of wine. 2 x ACR magazines. Winners included Helen, Neil, and Joe.

General Business:

A motion was passed to look at transferring some of the NSSA funds from non-interest bearing account to an interest bearing account. President/Secretary/Treasurer will discuss this and advise society of arrangements. Another motion was passed for the NSSA to fund production of a medal for our 2026th 100th anniversary.

The NSSA will attempt to organize a tour of the Viking Exhibition currently being held at the Museum for members to attend. We are seeing if we can also view some of the Art Gallery Coin collection and will have further details for members at the next meeting.

Numismatics:

Paul J. spoke about and showed Republic of Poland gold twenty złotych from 1925. Boleslaw Chrobry 900th anniversary commemorative coin.



Republic of Poland, Gold Twenty Złoty (6.44g, 21mm), 1925, Warsaw mint, Bolesław Chrobry 900-year anniversary commemorative.

Obverse: Heraldic elements of the armorial of the Republic of Poland, denomination surrounds below, country surrounds above.

Reverse: Crowned and cuirassed bust of King Bolesław Chrobry I 'the Brave', the first king of Poland, facing to the left, legend surrounds, "BOLESŁAW CHROBRY 1025-1925". KM Y-33; Friedberg-115. Mintage of 27,240.

Boleslaw I the Brave died in 1025 AD and this coin commemorates his anniversary of his death as a way of instilling national pride in Poland which was invaded in 14 years later. Today Poland has the largest and most modern armies in Europe.

Boleslas I was the first Polish ruler to hold the title of King. Because of the martyrdom of Bishop Adalbert, Bolesław's successful attempt to ransom the bishop's remains, paying for their weight in gold, consolidated Poland's autonomy from the Holy Roman Empire.

Boleslaw fought many wars against the Bishopricks that the Holly Roman Empire had set up as he did not want to pay tribute to them, this led to him capturing Kiev. Where he installed his son in law as ruler. Boleslaw rebuilt Poland's forts and waterways, rebuilding the military as well as laying the foundation for future government.

Reference. Wikipedia Wikipedia Commons



Mick spoke about faded notes in auctions, several Provincial and Suburban Bank in auctions, one presented for payment in 1931 and another with the name altered to National Bank of Victoria, showed the differences between green and emerald green one-pound backs, and his latest books on banknote sales, shinplasters and errors.



Barrie spoke about and showed a Marcus Aurelius silver denarius copy memento by Adelaide Mint in .925 silver, reverse showing Salus. Presented to debating society of SA and reflecting the interest in Stoic Philosophy held by this Emperor.



T. W. spoke about and showed Chinese coin of Dowager Empress 1861-1908 and China silver dollars showing the five prosperities.



V. P. spoke about and showed Australian \$2 Bluey coins from circulation with Charles III portrait.