



The Numismatic Society of South Australia Incorporated



100th Anniversary Edition

Issue 157

Quarter Two 2026

April – June

Welcome to the quarterly newsletter of the Numismatic Society of South Australia Ltd.

Society Details and Meetings

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

NEXT MEETING Thursday 16 July 2026, 7.30 pm, Saphil House, 22 Gray Court, Adelaide.

Secretary, Richard W; secretary@sanumismatics.org.au

Postal address P.O. Box 312 Magill 5072.

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

Annual Membership

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

Annual membership fees now due please, unless exempt.

Newsletter

The Society's Quarterly Newsletter is edited and illustrated by Alun G. and Mark H., primarily from minutes of Society meetings recorded by the Secretary and content provided by members during numismatic presentations at the society's monthly meetings.

Contact details are

Alun mobile 0418 418 999 email ajgallie@bigpond.com

Mark mobile 409 181 428 email hoepfl.mark@gmail.com

Members presenting at meetings are encouraged to provide the Secretary and Editors with a summary of their topic and, where possible, a copy of their presentation notes by email. This helps ensure accurate reporting in Society minutes and newsletters. Members may also send additional text or images directly to Alun and Mark.

Newsletters are emailed to financial members who can receive them electronically, allowing faster delivery and full-colour copies while reducing Society costs. Members are asked to advise the Secretary of their email address. Printed black-and-white copies will still be available on request for those without internet access or who prefer hard copies.

By exchanging newsletters with clubs across Australia and New Zealand, we are also able to forward newsletters from other clubs to our financial members by email

April 2026

SAPHIL House 20-22 Gray Court, Adelaide,

16th April 2026 commenced at 7.30pm.

Attendance 31 Apologies 5 Visitors 1

Door Prizes:

Hardeep generously donated two bottles of wine, and we gave away the ACR magazine.

NSSA Centenary Dinner

It is the intention of the NSSA to hold a Centenary Dinner for the June 18th 2026 meeting at the Naval & Military Club, Hutt St Adelaide from 6pm. This cost of this dinner will be PAID FOR by the NSSA.

Medals for the Centenary will be presented to members at the dinner.

The president is generously putting some money on the bar for a drink. A one cabinet display of coins or numismatics from a few members would be nice to have at the event.

If you are bringing a partner, please let the secretary know, so we know the final numbers. If you are not sure whether you are on the dinner list, contact the secretary.

NSSA Expo– 3rd and 4th October 2026 at Torrens Parade Ground.

All dealer tables for this Expo have been booked. If anyone can volunteer to help with set up, take down and car park marshals and staffing the NSSA desk this would be greatly appreciated. Your subscription will be paid for and food/drink provided. Please contact the secretary if you can assist.

Changing of the guard NSSA Newsletter

Mick V-R has advised of his retirement from producing the NSSA newsletter.

Mick has been responsible for many issues and has done a fantastic job over many years which the Society is extremely grateful for.

Mark H and Alun G have offered to take over the newsletter editing commencing with the June issue (Apr – Jun Issue 157)

Numismatics

History of Kadina Currency Museum

Mick .V-R



Mick provided members with an overview of the background of, and some of the exhibits displayed at, the award-winning Kadina Currency Museum Mick owned and operated from 1988 until 2008.



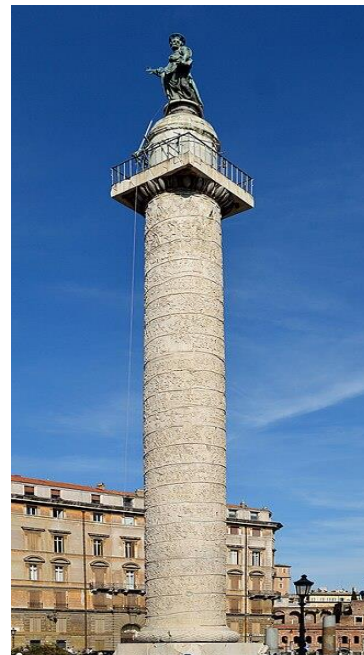
The museum displayed the history and banking memorabilia of all banks, building societies and credit unions. It featured a large collection of moneyboxes, passbooks, ledgers, bank equipment and signage in the collection, which covered the history of Australian currency with particular emphasis on the last century. There were collections of notes and coins not featured in any Government museum.

Five Good Emperors – Trajan

Paul J.

Paul continued his presentations on the Five Good Emperors, with this month's presentation focussed on Trajan. Trajan ruled from 98 to 117 AD. Born in Spain circa A.D. 52. Trajan started his career as a tribune in the northern provinces, became a legate and was appointed Governor of Upper Germany by Nerva who later adopted him as heir to the throne to satisfy the Praetorian Guard and the Army. Trajan conquered Dacia, which then became a Roman Province. The famous column which was erected to mark Trajan's Dacian Wars still stands in Rome today.

He also undertook a large building and repair programme throughout the Empire, projects such as the forum named after him, the expansion of social welfare policies. In the later part of his reign, Trajan fought several campaigns in the East and annexed Nabataea and incorporated Armenia, Mesopotamia, and Assyria as Roman provinces, but these provinces were in turmoil. Trajan also fought a war against the Parthians. Trajan died on a journey in Cilicia whilst directing operations against these revolts in August 117AD.





ROME, Trajan silver denarius (18mm, 2.94g), Rome mint, issued 104 AD, obverse, laureate bust facing right, slight drapery over far shoulder and bare chest showing, IMP TRAIANO AVG GER DAC P M TR P COS V P P translated to (Supreme commander (Imperator), of Trajan, emperor (Augustus), conqueror of the Germans, conqueror of the Dacians, high priest, holder of tribunician power), reverse, Dacian captive seated in mourning at foot of trophy of arms, SPQR OPTIMO PRINCIPI translated to (The senate and the Roman people to the best of princes).



ROME, Trajan Silver denarius (18mm, 3.02 grams.) Issued 114-116AD, obverse laureate & draped bust facing right, rev Bonus Eventus translated to good outcome standing left holding patera (a round shallow dish used by the Romans for their religious ceremonies in making libations of wine to the gods & 2 grain ears

Research into Seleucid Tetradrachm

Piero J.

Piero gave a presentation on a recent acquisition of a silver Seleucid Empire tetradrachm of Alexander Balas, circa 148-147 BC, made at the prolific Antioch Mint. He purchased it via an online website where it had been incorrectly identified based on the die mark.

His research through online records and previous auction listings allowed the correct identification of the coin and the identification that all known photographed examples are of the same die



Honey Bees on UK and Australian Coins

Allan K.

Allan shared with members a Great Britain One Pound coin which features a Honeybee. This is part of the first series of King Charles circulating coins in the UK and feature Flora and Fauna. He obtained the coin during a recent visit to the UK in Tintagel, Cornwall. For comparison he also presented a 2022 Australian Two-dollar Honeybee issued by the RAB to celebrate the bicentenary of the Australian Honeybee industry and won the Best Circulating Coin award at the 2023 International Coin of the Year Awards



1929/1945 Ten Reichsmark

Shane S.

Spoke about and showed a 1929 dated Ten Reichsmark but actually produced in 1945.



Fake 1887 Sovereign

Mark H.

Mark spoke about and showed a fake 1887 half sovereign, cleverly done and with good detail, in 9 carat (instead of the usual 18 carat) gold.



Mark has kindly offered to help organize a tour of the Adelaide Old Treasury and Tunnels which is held on a Sunday at either 1pm or 3pm.

If you would like to go on this tour, please contact hoepfl.mark@gmail.com It is \$30 for adults, \$25 with a concession, but we might be able to organize a cheaper price for NSSA Members, depending on the numbers.

Halfpenny Die Cap Variety

Rod E

Rod spoke about and showed a halfpenny die cap variety on a QE coin produced in the 1953-1964 period.

Apologies no photos available

Association of Portuguese Phillumenists Medal

David F.:

David spoke about and showed a Portuguese 5th APF Anniversary medal. 219 grams, 80mm in diameter, Association of Portuguese Phillumenists. This is the study of matches and matchmaking.



Counterfeit Coin Detector and SAGA WWI medal

Paul S.

Paul spoke about and showed an interesting counterfeit coin detector from the 1920s period, also a SAGA War Medal from WW1 1915.



May 2026

SAPHIL House 20-22 Gray Court, Adelaide,

21st May 2026 commenced at 7.30pm.

Attendance 32 Apologies 7 Visitors 1

Door Prizes:

Hardeep generously donated two bottles of wine and we gave away the ACR magazine. Gerry also kindly donated some give aways for members.

NSSA Centenary Dinner

It is the intention of the NSSA to hold a Centenary Dinner for the June 18th 2026 meeting at the Naval & Military Club, Hutt St Adelaide from 6pm. This cost of this dinner will be PAID FOR by the NSSA. Medals for the Centenary will be presented to members at the dinner.

Numbers were confirmed and discussion held as to the catering style.

Members were reminded of the required dress code.

NSSA Expo– 3rd and 4th October 2026 at Torrens Parade Ground.

All dealer tables for this Expo have been booked. Still seeking anyone can volunteer to help with set up, take down and car park marshals and staffing the NSSA desk this would be greatly appreciated. Your subscription will be paid for and food/drink provided. Please contact the secretary if you can assist.

Members Welfare

The NSSA extends sympathy to E.Mingay for his illness and wishes him a speedy recovery.

In Memorium

The NSSA notes with sadness the passing of John Watson of Victoria, coin dealer right up to the end of his 77 years. Rest peacefully John, you will be missed.

Numismatics

USA St Gaudens \$20

Mark H.

Mark spoke about and showed a 2009 restrike of the legendary and beautiful USA St Gaudens \$20 gold piece.

In early 1905, President Theodore Roosevelt charged sculptor Augustus Saint-Gaudens with beautifying America's coinage.

After a series of revisions, the Ultra High Relief Saint-Gaudens design test strikes were delivered to Mint Director George Evan Roberts on February 15, 1907. Additional impressions were made, but soon the reverse die cracked. Each finished coin took a total of seven strikes to complete.

Eventually, the design was modified to lower relief and put into production. Augustus Saint-Gaudens did not live to see his work completed and likely would not have approved.

For the 2009 release, then-Mint Director Edmund C. Moy tasked the Mint to use 21st-century technology to realize Saint-Gaudens' vision. The original coin plasters were digitally mapped by the United States Mint, and digital design tools were used to create new ultra-high relief dies.

The Mint also leaned on the expertise of the Perth Mint in Australia, which had experience striking coins in such Ultra High-Relief. Receiving gold from the United States Mint, Gold Corp (the Perth Mint) produced special planchets that it then shipped to the U.S. Mint for striking. Fancy that? An Aussie mint provides know-how to the American mint!

In November 2008, the entire mintage of 2009 Ultra High Relief \$20 gold coins was struck at the West Point Mint. The finished product was the closest approximation of the original design and is considered by many to be the most beautiful coin struck by the United States.

The coin was released in a luxury box with a book and this example is a rare First Strike example graded by PCGS as MS-70 (Mint State) PL (Proof Like). Many say it is the most beautiful coin in the world and this 2009 example is simply gorgeous.



Bourse Finds

Peter L.

Peter spoke about and showed a couple of items of interest he had procured at the bourse preceding the meeting, highlighting the interest inexpensive finds can often bring.

10 Cent Ship Money c 1947

Obverse: In centre: BOORDGELD / 10, around N.V.STOOMV.MIJ. „NEDERLAND” * AMSTERDAM *.
Translation: Public Limited Company STOOMVAART MAATSCHAPPIJ “NEDERLAND” BOARD MONEY
10 (cents) AMSTERDAM.

Reverse: SMN logo of the Stoomvaart shipping line.

Currency: 10 cents (Gulden – decimalized 1817-2001)

Metal: Bronze **Diameter:** 20 mm

Most were struck in 1947, after earlier used paper vouchers were found to wear out too quickly.

After the second world war, the gulden was not convertible, and the economy was in a shambles. Unemployment was quite high. Many chose to emigrate, rather than wait for things to get better. Emigration countries were mostly Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Netherlands Antilles and Surinam.

MSN had regular services to most of these countries and what is now Indonesia, which became unsafe quickly. They could not accept Dutch currency on board, as it was not allowed to import or export Dutch money, but they did want people to spend money on board. These tokens could be bought before boarding and spent on the ships. Values are 5, 10, 25 (square), 25 (round), 50 cents, 1, 2-1/2 gulden. A 5 gulden piece was added in 1948.

Source: Numista



Spencer Coy quality bodies Adelaide brass label. C 1920s

Size: 28 x 61 mm

The founder, Richard Spencer, an engineer, was born in 1839 at Preston, Lancashire and in 1863 migrated to South Australia on the *Adamant*. In 1866 he established Richard Spencer Carriage and Wagon Manufacturers, and the business grew until he became one of the leading coach builders in Australia. For 15 years he was a Royal Show senior judge of vehicles. He died in 1916 and his four sons worked for the company and between them became directors.



In 1927 the firm was contracted to design and build the custom timber and metal car bodies for Chryslers. The business was based at the corner of Union and Grenfell Streets Adelaide and closed around 1938.

Five Good Emperors – Hadrian

Paul J.

Paul continued his presentations on the Five Good Emperors, with this month's presentation focussed on Hadrian. Trajan ruled from 117 to 138 AD. Hadrian visited almost every province of the Empire and overruled the governors in imperial and provincial affairs specially when it came to building projects. He is particularly known for building Hadrian's Wall, which marked the northern limit of Britannia. Hadrian rebuilt the Pantheon and constructed the Temple of Venus. It is reported that he may have rebuilt the Serapeum of Alexandria temple in Egypt.



Hadrian was an admirer of Greek culture to the extent that he promoted Athens as the cultural capital of the Empire. His relationship with a Greek youth named Antinous and his subsequent death, led Hadrian to establish a widespread, popular cult. Late in Hadrian's reign, he suppressed the Bar Kokhba revolt. Which was a revolt by the Jews against Rome's attempt to impose Hellenic values on them, Hadrian believed this to be a failure of his universal project and philhellenic ideal.

In Hadrian's latter years he suffered an unknown chronic illness. His marriage had been both unhappy and childless. In 138, he adopted Antoninus Pius and nominated him as a successor, on condition that Antoninus adopt Marcus Aurelius and Lucius Verus as his own heirs. Hadrian died the same year at Baiae, and Antoninus had him deified, despite opposition from the Senate. Even though he was seen as a benevolent autocrat, historians counted him as one of Rome's so-called "Five Good Emperors". Like all autocrats he had a capacity for both generosity and extreme cruelty as well as being driven by ambition.



ROME - Hadrian, (A.D. 117-138), silver denarius. Rome Mint issued A.D. 117, (18mm, 3.22 g), obverse, laureate head of Hadrian facing right, around IMP CAESAR TRAIAN HADRIANVS AVG (Supreme commander, Caesar, Trajan Hadrian, emperor), reverse, PM TR P COS III (High priest, holder of tribunician power, consul for the third time. Eternity of the emperor) around, SALVS AVG (health of the August) in exergue, Salus (goddess of safety, welfare, health and prosperity) seated facing to the left seated on throne feeding serpent arising from altar.



Rome – Hadrian 117 – 138AD, Denarius victory Obverse, HADRIANVS AVGVSTVS; bare head of Hadrian facing to the right. Reverse, CLEMENTIA AVGV COS III P P (clemency of the emperor (Augustus). Consul for the third time, father of the nation. Decree of the senate). Clementia (goddess of clemency and mercy) standing facing to the left, holding patera (shallow bowl for offering wine to the gods) in extended right hand and sceptre in her left.

A Collection of interesting pieces

Paul S.

Paul spoke about and showed a range of interesting items from his collection.

A KGV penny, with one side smoothed and engraved with a coat of arms.



A Queensland Japanese Association silver piece A.J.Parkes, circa 1920s



Military button to trooper Smith, taken from the last fight between British troops and the Boers in 1902.



Inscription on original card attached to button

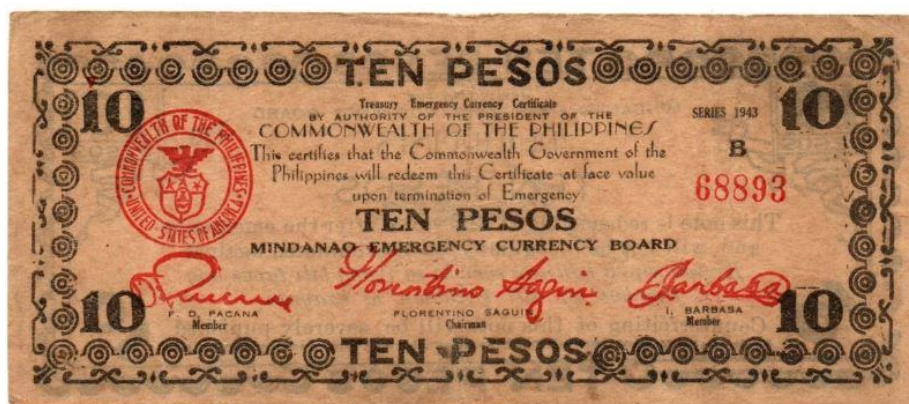
WWII Currency in the Pacific Theatre

Alun G.

Alun gave a presentation on the strategic role of military currency in the Pacific during WW2 and provided an overview of the various types of currency issued during the Occupation, Resistance and Liberation phases of the war by both Allied and Axis participants.



Japanese Invasion Money Malaysian \$5 overprinted as contemporary war souvenir



10 Peso Guerilla currency from Mindanao, Philippines

RAM strike error

Steve H.

Steve spoke about and showed a ram strike error of a 1979 fifty cent coin with a rotated die.

Apologies no photos available

Early one pound note.

Mick VR.

Mick spoke about early Australian circa 1910s one-pound banknote showing drilling for gold at Bendigo.

Apologies no photos available

June 2026

Naval, Military and Airforce Club, Adelaide,

18th June 2026 commenced at 7.00pm.

Attendance Members and Partners 54 Apologies 9

NSSA Centenary Dinner

NSSA Centenary Dinner was held in conjunction with the meeting

The President, Gerry McG, made some comments, presented a gift to and thanked Helen B, Virginia D and Barry N for their service to the NSSA.

NSSA Centenary Medallion

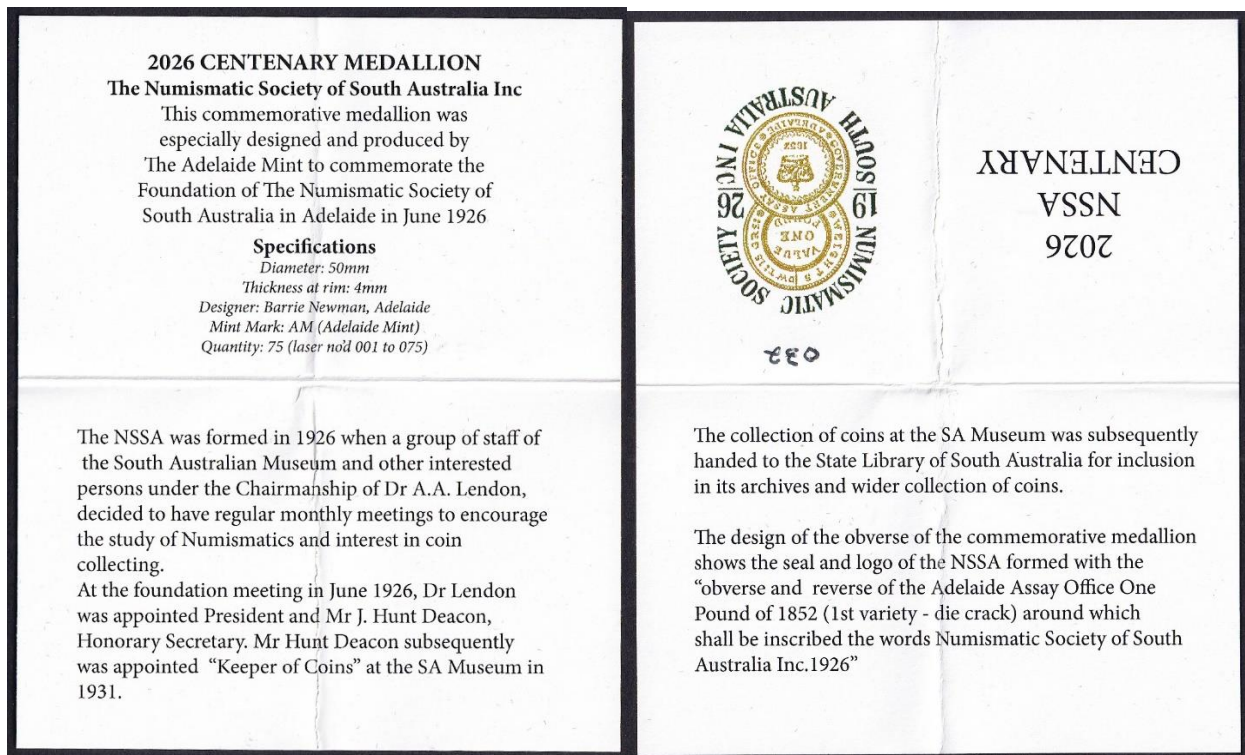
All members present at the dinner were presented with a commemorative medallion to celebrate the Society's centenary. The medallion was cased and accompanied by a card with the following information regarding the medallion.

This commemorative medallion was specially designed and produced by The Adelaide Mint to commemorate the Foundation of The Numismatic Society of South Australia in Adelaide in June 1926.

The design of the obverse of the commemorative medallion shows the seal and logo of the NSSA formed with the 'obverse and reverse of the Adelaide Assay Office One Pound of 1852 (1st variety - die crack) around which shall be inscribed the words Numismatic Society of South Australia Inc. 1926.



NSSA Centenary Medallion (Photos with thanks M Nemtsas & K Harris)



NSSA Centenary Medallion Information Card (Photos with thanks M Nemtsas & K Harris)



NSSA Members at Centenary Diner hosted at Naval, Military and Airforce Club, 18 June 2026.

Numismatics

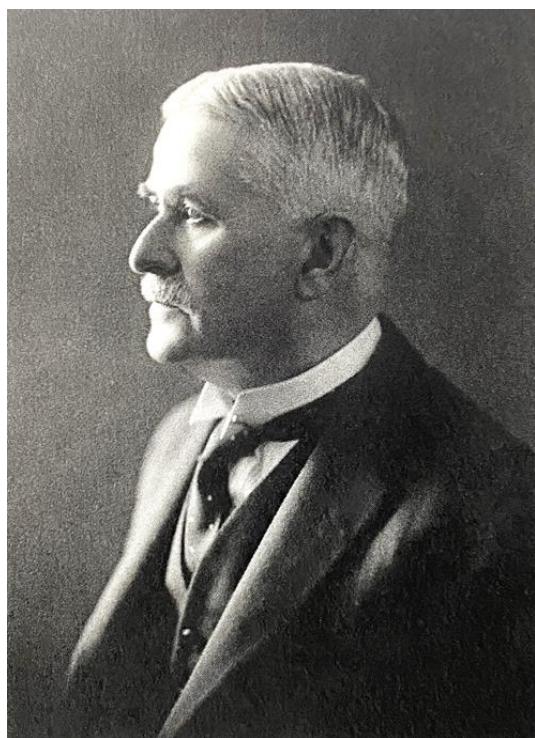
A Century of the Numismatic Society of South Australia

Editor's Note: The below is extracted from the presentation given by Peter L at the Centenary dinner on the 18th June 2026. It is compiled by the editor for the newsletter and any errors or omissions are the editors. Peter's full power point presentation and notes from the evening are available to be circulated in a 7.5 mb PDF. I am not sending to all due to file size but if you wish to be forwarded a copy, please email ajgallie@bigpond.com

In 2026, the Numismatic Society of South Australia (NSSA) celebrates its centenary, marking one hundred years of organised numismatic study, collecting and fellowship in our state.

The roots of South Australian numismatics stretch well beyond the Society's foundation in 1926. As early as the 1860s, significant coin collections were being assembled and preserved within the South Australian Institute, the precursor to today's Art Gallery of South Australia and South Australian Museum. The state's numismatic heritage owes much to generous early benefactors such as William Paxton, who made the first major donation in 1863, followed by Adolf Vosz, whose collection was bequeathed to the Institute in 1868.

Another milestone came in 1890 when the remarkable Heinrich Heuzenroeder collection of 10,000 coins was donated by W.A. Horn. These early gifts established one of Australia's most important public numismatic collections and created a foundation for future generations of researchers and collectors.



NSSA First President Dr Alfred Lendon

The development of the collection was guided by dedicated curators and scholars. Frederick George Waterhouse accepted the earliest major donations, while Johann Gottlieb Otto Tepper combined his roles as entomologist and numismatist at the turn of the twentieth century. Harry Pelling Gill, better known as an art educator, also contributed to the growth of numismatic studies during the Edwardian era.

A pivotal figure was Alfred Chitty, appointed as the state's first full-time numismatist in 1912. Chitty's pioneering work included the publication of catalogues of Australasian tokens in 1917 and 1918, works that remain important references today.

The Society itself emerged from the vibrant community that gathered in the Museum's Coin Room. Between 1917 and 1926, more than 300 meetings were held there, fostering friendships and a shared enthusiasm for coins, medals and tokens.

The inaugural meeting of the Numismatic Society of South Australia was reported in *The News* on 29 June 1926. Dr Alfred Lendon, a noted collector of classical coins, became the Society's first president, while long-serving curator James Hunt Deacon took on the role of honorary secretary. Among the

foundation members was Sedley Marianne Towler, whose dedication to the Coin Room began in 1917 and continued until her death. In 1928, she became the Society's third president.



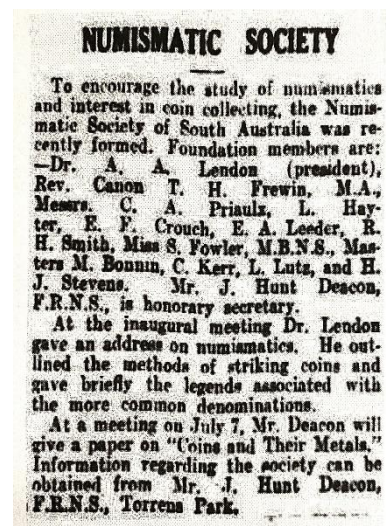
Sedley Marianne Towler, Founding Member and 3rd President

Like many organisations, the NSSA faced challenges during the Great Depression and entered recess in 1931. The Society was successfully revived in October 1938, and by July 1939 it had launched its first newsletter.

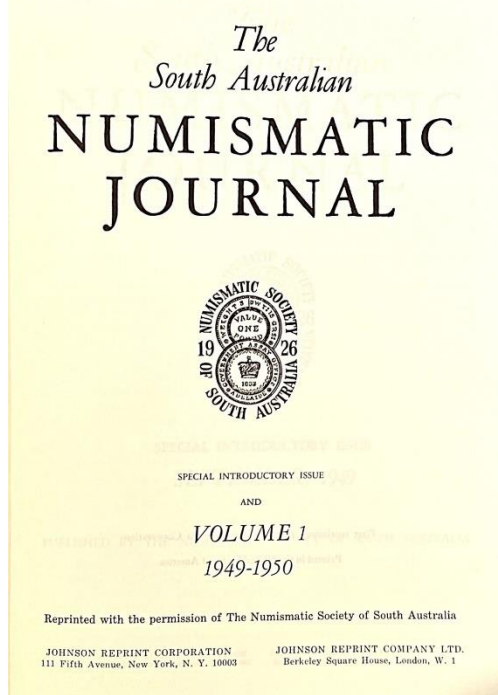
Throughout the decades that followed, the NSSA flourished through publications, research and the efforts of dedicated members.

Figures such as Syd Hagley, owner of a proof 1930 penny, Ron Greig, David Matthews, Peter Fleig, Peter Lane and Mick Vort-Ronald helped maintain the Society's reputation for scholarship and collecting excellence.

Today, as we celebrate one hundred years of the NSSA, we honour not only the coins, medals and tokens that inspire us, but also the collectors, curators, authors and volunteers whose passion has preserved South Australia's rich numismatic heritage for future generations.



Newspaper article about formation of NSSA



Cover of SA Numismatic Journal

Centenary Dinner Displays

A Display of Numismatic items were presented at the Centenary Dinner by Gerry McG and Richard W.

