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The *CCNB Newsletter* is supported by the British Museum, the Royal Numismatic Society and the British Numismatic Society. The Newsletter appears three times a year and is received by those members of the RNS and BNS resident in the United Kingdom, and by others with an interest in numismatics. Under an agreement with the British Numismatic Trade Association, copies are also sent to the BNTA for despatch to its members.

Contributions and information will be gratefully received. Items for the next issue should arrive by 26th March, and should be sent to Virginia Hewitt or Louisa Selby, Department of Coins and Medals, British Museum, London WC1B 3DG, tel: 020 7323 8228/8269, fax: 020 7323 8171, e-mail: coins@thebritishmuseum.ac.uk.

Anyone in the UK wishing to be added to the *CCNB Newsletter* mailing list should send their name and address to Louisa Selby at the above address, or alternatively e-mail her at lselby@thebritishmuseum.ac.uk

FOCUS ON CELEBRATING THE PAST

Last November's meeting of the British Numismatic Society marked the 100th anniversary of the Society's first meeting in 1903. This edition of the Newsletter acknowledges that significant numismatic birthday with a look at the Society's origin and development, and the artist's insights into creating an anniversary medal.

Discovering the past through archaeology now attracts growing public interest. A glimpse into the British Museum exhibition *Buried Treasure* reveals a range of objects found in Britain's soil, including the stunning Hoxne hoard. Catch it at the BM until mid-March, or four touring venues after that. Finally an article on extending the Portable Antiquities scheme explains how recording objects found across England and Wales can contribute to historical knowledge and research.

THE BRITISH NUMISMATIC SOCIETY 1903-2003

Tradition has it that the idea of forming a national society to promote the study of British numismatics was conceived by three passengers in a railway carriage on the Waterloo to Winchester line in the summer of 1903. What underlay the travellers' thinking - and notably that of their prime mover, the combative P. W. P. Carlyon-Britton - was dissatisfaction with what they perceived to be the classical and continental bias of the Royal Numismatic Society and its seemingly perverse indifference to post-Roman British coinage. Whatever the rights and wrongs of their case, by the November of that year the British Numismatic Society had been established with a membership of close on four hundred and fifty and with the widest of remits to promote the study of the numismatics of Great Britain, British territories overseas and 'of the English-speaking races of the world'.

One of Carlyon-Britton's cardinal aims was to advance British numismatic scholarship through the pages of the Society's periodical, *The British Numismatic Journal*. His aspiration has been amply fulfilled, especially over the past half-century or so, through the quality and variety of the papers appearing in the *Journal* and latterly also through the Society's 'Special Publications' series. While perhaps the most notable advances have been in Anglo-Saxon and medieval numismatics, more modern periods have by no means been neglected and the *Journal* continues to make significant contributions to the study of British numismatics in wide-ranging diversity. Its achievement and the ways in which it has helped to transform our understanding of British numismatics over the past century are surveyed in a special volume of the *Journal* published as part of the Society's centenary celebrations. From its earliest days, too, the Society has provided a lively focus for the dissemination of the fruits of new and on-going research through an active programme of lecture meetings. These are held at the Warburg Institute in London with, in addition, a special summer meeting at a non-metropolitan centre. With a membership now of over six hundred, drawn from a constituency representative of scholars, collectors and professional numismatists world-wide, the Society continues to uphold the ambitions of its founding fathers and to preserve the best of the traditions built up over its first century, but it is looking to the future too. It is actively examining new directions, in the promotion of research, in education and the encouragement of young numismatists, and not least in the ways in which new computer technology can be effectively harnessed to achieve these ends. The old rivalry with the Royal Numismatic Society is long a thing of the past; there is a healthy common membership and at institutional level



The President and past Presidents of the British Numismatic Society at the Centenary Celebrations at the British Museum on 4 July 2003. Left to right: Stuart Lyon (1966-70), Christopher Challis (1989-93), David Dykes (1999-2003), Peter Woodhead (1976-80), Graham Dyer (1994-98) and Hugh Pagan (1984-88).

the societies share their Library holdings and work together in a variety of numismatic concerns. As it celebrates its centenary the British Numismatic Society can look back on its past record with pride and forward to the future with confidence, a duality captured by Danuta Solowiej-Wedderburn's commemorative medal, traditional in its format yet striking and innovative in its design.

David Dykes

Information about the Society together with details of its current programme of meetings, publications and activities may be found on the Society's web-site, www.britnumsoc.org.uk. Enquiries about membership should be addressed to the Honorary Secretary (C. R. S. Farthing, Esq), c/o The Warburg Institute, Woburn Square, London, WC1H 0AB).

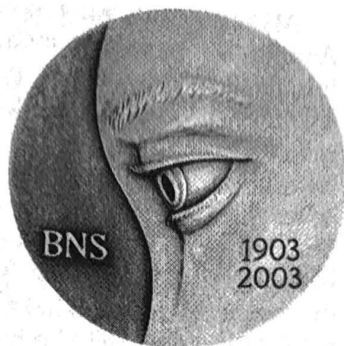
IN RETROSPECT: THE BNS CENTENARY MEDAL

The brief for the Centenary Medal of the British Numismatic Society was short and clear but with some restrictions – no portraits, even as cameos, and no reference to one single coin or period in time. Encouragement to draw inspiration from the figure of Britannia, which appears on the Society's Seal, was given with the proviso that artists avoid a resemblance to the Society's Sanford Saltus Medal or the Membership

Medal. The name of the Society had to be included on one side and, apart from one or two technical requirements, artists were otherwise given a free hand to approach the subject in whatever way they wished.

I enjoyed devising a circular space and, although it would be tricky to align, I was looking for ways of orienting the medal by introducing focus points rather than horizontal lines. For the content my initial research was directed towards definitions of the collector and collecting. In order to accumulate, collectors have to study their subject, they also have to be vigilant for objects of interest and, although sometimes solitary, it can be a passionate affair. A visit to the British Museum's Department of Coins and Medal and to the Simmons Gallery crystallised and confirmed my initial concept. I thought that the face tilted forward, with focus on the eye, the most crucial instrument of all, best symbolised the idea of studying and being vigilant. As for the reverse, the instruments to study coins vary but what they all have in common is magnification, hence the choice of a traditional magnifying glass above a coin tray. The figure of Britannia is seen through the magnifying glass, representing the attributes of the Society, and I decided to depict her in profile, strong and proud, seeming to be on guard and watchful.

Accepting the invitation to take part in a competition means accepting and respecting a dialogue with the client, and I welcomed the ideas for changes that were suggested to me. One alteration was to reduce the



The British Numismatic Society Centenary Medal

Society's name to its initials and, although I was sad to lose the lettering, the result was a more balanced, spacious and universal design, thus proving the paradox that less is more.

Preparing a plaster model for a struck medal is the most complex of all techniques I have come across but the visits to the Royal Mint were of great help. The way I worked the plaster, which requires discipline and precision, was in intaglio and in reverse, and some days I felt lost in the sea of whiteness. There were one or two unforeseen obstacles, for example, in modelling the Union Flag, where working out the best way of interpreting the colours and proportions into relief took longer than I expected. But being the author is a fortunate position to be in, allowing for interpretation and elaboration while translating the design into a low-relief model. When the approved designs were struck as medals I continued to collaborate with the Mint on the patination, which departed from a uniform finish, the difference in planes allowing for a finish I am more familiar with – that of a cast medal.

The evening reception to mark the Society's centenary at the British Museum in July was an emotional occasion and was an opportunity to meet the people the medal was celebrating. I was very touched to

be presented with a silver specimen of the medal and nearly gave an Oscar speech followed by a flood of tears. Fortunately I did not, but I would like now to thank everyone who supported the project along the way and who gave me this opportunity.

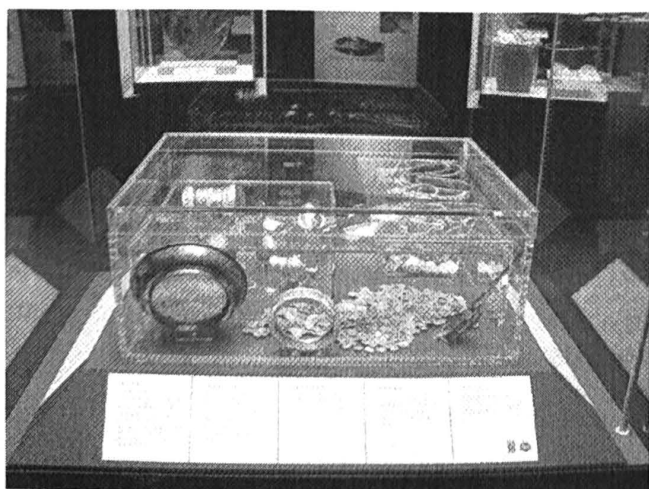
Danuta Solowiej-Wedderburn

SEARCHING FOR OUR PAST: BURIED TREASURE AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM

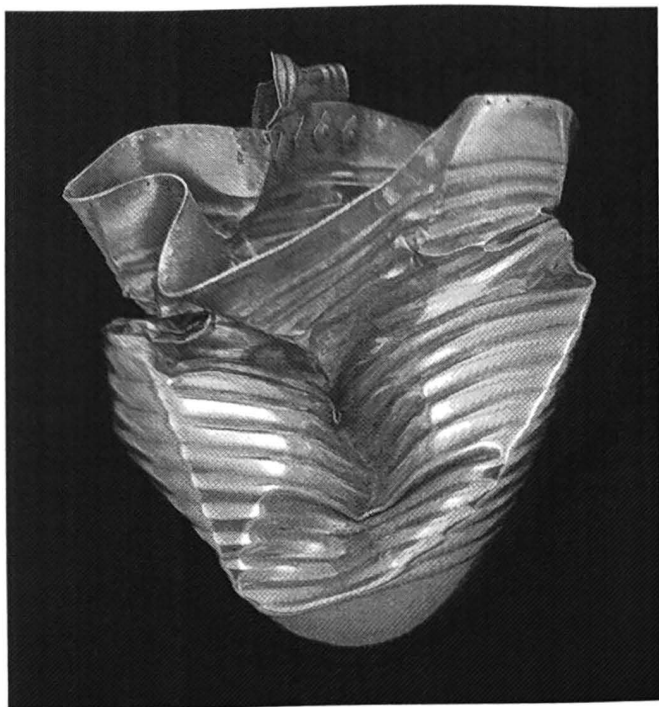
The Hoxne hoard, consisting of over 15,000 gold and silver coins and more than 200 pieces of precious metal jewellery and tableware, is one of the most stunning archaeological discoveries ever made in this country. Together, these objects represent the accumulated wealth of an individual living in Britain during the last decades of the Roman occupation. This treasure was not recovered by archaeologists, but by a Suffolk farmer who was using a metal detector to search for a lost hammer. *Buried Treasure: Finding our Past* is a temporary exhibition at the British Museum that sheds light on this phenomenon – the contribution of discoveries made by people other than professional archaeologists to our understanding of the past.

For most people, the word *treasure* conjures images of pirates, sunken galleons, treasure chests and desert islands. Positioned at the entrance of the exhibition, the Hoxne hoard, found complete with traces of its wooden treasure chest, appears to fit this bill. However, the visitor is quickly guided to an understanding of the other things that are classed as archaeological treasures and how the real value of these objects comes not from their financial value but from the stories that they can tell about our ancestors.

Under the now redundant common law of Treasure Trove, which originated more than 800 years ago, a discovery of precious metal objects would have been claimed by the crown. For all but the last century the law offered no rewards and little incentive to the finder to declare their discovery. A find may have been of more value to its finder as a source of melted-down bullion. The recognition of the real value of archaeological finds (particularly with the development of museums like the British Museum), the proliferation of finds with the advent of the metal detector in the 1960s, and a growth in public interest in archaeology combined to necessitate change.

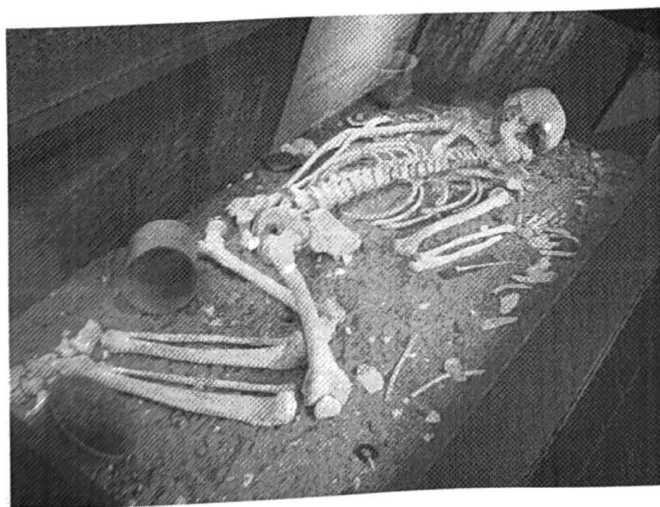


Part of the Late Roman Hoxne hoard (buried in the early fifth century AD). In the exhibition it is displayed in a perspex reconstruction of the chest in which it was thought to be buried. It was not discovered by professional archaeologists but by a farmer.



This Bronze Age cup from Ringlemere in Kent was discovered by metal-detector user Mr Cliff Bradshaw in 2001. It is only the second bronze age cup of its kind ever discovered in Britain. The other was found at Rillaton in Cornwall in 1837.

In 1997 the new Treasure Act came into force in England and Wales: widening the legal definition of treasure, providing museums with the opportunity to acquire interesting finds and compensating finders through the award of the full market value of the treasure (normally shared with the landowner). A ten-fold increase in the number of reported cases of potential treasure finds followed. The exhibition includes many recent finds reported under the Treasure Act: for example, the massive East Leicestershire hoard of Iron Age gold and silver coins and a Roman cavalry helmet, the beautiful Bronze Age gold cup from Ringlemere in Kent, and the early Bronze Age burial known as the 'Amesbury Archer'.



The 'Amesbury Archer', an early Bronze Age burial, would not have been Treasure Trove. Under the new Treasure Act; bones and other non-metallic finds can be classed as Treasure if they are found associated with a Treasure object.

Also acknowledged is the role of the Portable Antiquities Scheme. Piloted at the time of the introduction of the new Treasure Act, and gradually extended to cover the whole of England and Wales, the scheme aims to identify and record archaeological finds that fall outside the definition of 'treasure'. As a voluntary scheme it is dependent on the goodwill of the finders, and the hard work of a network of 37 Finds Liaison Officers based across the country. The value of the scheme is demonstrated by a number of objects included in the exhibition: a polished flint hand-axe from Norfolk which is at least 550,000 years old and probably the earliest man-made object found in Britain, and the ornate enamel-decorated Roman bronze pan that identifies four forts on Hadrian's Wall are two of the most important.

While many of the objects displayed in the exhibition have been excavated by professional archaeologists, visitors may be surprised to discover just how many of these spectacular and historically significant finds have been made and reported by ordinary people. *Buried Treasure* highlights the advancement of our understanding of different periods and different parts of the country made possible by a new spirit of cooperation between the professional and the amateur enthusiast.

Ian Leins

Finds Adviser, Portable Antiquities Scheme

If you wish to see the Treasure exhibition it tours the following venues:

The British Museum, London:

21 Nov 2003 – 14 Mar 2004

The National Museums and Galleries of Wales, Cardiff:

14 May 2004 – 5 Sep 2004

The Manchester Museum, Manchester:

1 Oct 2004 – 15 Jan 2005

The Hancock Museum, Newcastle:

12 Feb 2005 – 26 June 2005

The Castle Museum and Art Gallery, Norwich:

25 July 2005 – 13 Jan 2006

Two publications are available to accompany the exhibition:

R Hobbs, *Treasure: Finding our Past*, BMP, London 2003, price £9.99,

and for children,

I Leins, *The Treasure Activity Book*, BMP, London, 2003, price £3.99

For more information about Treasure and the Portable Antiquities Scheme see:

<http://www.finds.org.uk>

THE PORTABLE ANTIQUITIES SCHEME GOES NATIONAL

In December 2003 the Portable Antiquities Scheme celebrated its expansion across the whole of England and Wales when a final batch of staff came into post, completing a network of 37 locally-based Finds Liaison Officers, supported by four Finds Advisers and five other central support posts. The project is headed by Resource: the Council for Museums, Archives and Libraries and is based at the British Museum, with funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Government, and it contains 63 national and local partners – museums, archaeological services and universities.

This means that we can at last offer a service across the whole country to encourage anyone who discovers archaeological objects – whether coins, metal artefacts, pottery or flint – to report them to their local Finds Liaison Officer who will record them and enter the information on a database which is available for all to see on the internet, at www.finds.org.uk

The Scheme started in September 1997 when the Government agreed to fund six pilot projects to encourage the voluntary reporting of all archaeological finds, to complement the Treasure Act which had just come into force. These pilots were joined two years later by a further six, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund. The pilot schemes amply demonstrated the potential of the Scheme and the latest Annual Report, covering the 18 months up to April 2003, shows that 49,950 objects were recorded during that period, 23,433 (27%) of which were coins.

The Portable Antiquities Scheme has always laid great stress on recording the findspots of objects as accurately as possible and this is leading to the discovery of many new archaeological sites. A good example is provided by the very careful recording of Roman coins and other artefacts by a detector user on a site in Surrey: over several seasons, some 400 coins have now been recorded and these have all been plotted very carefully on enlarged OS maps of the area. There is no doubt that these discoveries indicate a hitherto unknown Roman site, and in autumn 2003 English Heritage funded a geophysical survey of the site. We hope that it will be possible to carry out further work during 2004.

The online database on the website was relaunched in September 2003, now updated on a daily basis, and it currently (January 2004) contains records of nearly 23,000 coins, distributed as follows:

		%
Iron Age	1,157	5.0
Roman	14,563	63.4
Anglo-Saxon	340	1.5
Medieval	3,742	16.3
Post-medieval	2,286	10.0
Unassigned	878	3.8
Total	22,966	

Of course two online databases of coin finds from this country already exist – the Celtic Coin Index, (<http://www.athens.arch.ox.ac.uk/coins>) and the Corpus

of Early Medieval Coin Finds (<http://www-cm.fitzmuseum.ac.uk/emc>) and these provide much more detail on the coins of their periods. The Portable Antiquities Scheme, which exchanges data with both of these projects, attempts to record all finds of coins, jetons and tokens to the end of hammered coinage in the late 17th century, including Roman and later medieval and early post-medieval coins which are so common that they have defeated previous attempts to record them systematically.

Many of the records on www.finds.org.uk are quite sketchy and we are now giving priority to improving the quality of the data. Few of the earlier records contained images and the overall proportion of coin records with images is still quite low (2,641 out of 22,966) but it is a priority to increase this and 40% of the coins currently being recorded include images.

In December two numismatic specialists were appointed as Finds Advisers to the Scheme: Ian Leins, based at the Coin Department at the British Museum, will cover Iron Age and Roman coins, while Julian Baker (who starts on 1 March), at the Ashmolean and Fitzwilliam museums, specialises in medieval and late-medieval coins. Their remit is to monitor and correct all the coin records on the database, to train the Finds Liaison Officers in coin identification and to promote the study of coin finds to a wider audience. It is already clear that the Portable Antiquities database has great potential as a research tool for coin finds from England and Wales and this year should see that potential starting to be realised.

Roger Bland

Co-ordinator, Portable Antiquities Scheme

NEWS

BNS NEWS

The Anniversary meeting on 25 November 2003 marked the formal commemoration of the Society's Centenary, its inaugural meeting having been held on 30th November 1903. After holding office for five years, David Dykes stood down as President. In recognition of his work for the Society he was elected an Honorary Member, and he continues to serve on the Council. The Society welcomed as its new President Mark Blackburn, keeper of the Department of Coins and Medals at the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge. The meeting was followed by a champagne reception to celebrate the centenary.

The Society's centenary year has also been distinguished by the production of two volumes of the *British Numismatic Journal*: Vol. 72, the next in the annual series; and Vol. 73, a special Centenary volume reflecting on the development of the study of British numismatics of all periods, over the past century.

BANS AUTUMN WEEKEND 2003

The 2003 Autumn Weekend of the British Association of Numismatic Societies was held at Ashburne Hall, University of Manchester, from 5 – 7 September. After

dinner on the Friday evening, a convoy of cars ferried delegates to Manchester Museum, where, after a short introduction by Keith Sugden entitled "Not another Money gallery?", they enjoyed a private viewing of the new gallery, followed by a glass or two of wine.

Two papers were given on Saturday morning: Dr Mike Nevell, Director of the University's Archaeological Unit, on "From farmer to factory – a brief review of archaeology in the North West"; and Philip Attwood, who delivered the Royal Mint Lecture, an enlightening and entertaining romp through modern art in medals – "The development of British art medals in recent years". Delegates were left to amuse themselves on Saturday afternoon, but returned in force for dinner and Dr Christopher Challis's "Coin blanking in Tudor and Stuart England".

Sunday morning's talks were by Dr Kevin Clancy, who produced some surprising information, beautifully illustrated, during "In pursuit of perfection: the crown piece of George III", and Dr Michael Robinson, co-author of the standard work, who gave a masterful review of recent research in "A survey of Burmese currency since the 16th century".

Although there were a few hiccups with the projection facilities, and accommodation was in a "dry" hall of residence, delegates departed after lunch feeling that they had not been let down by the weather (as happened last time in Manchester) or the organiser: they had eaten well and enjoyed a wide range of stimulating papers. The organiser would like to thank the Royal Mint for its continuing generous sponsorship of this annual event.

Keith Sugden

RNS NEWS

The Lhotka Prize, for the book or article in English judged most helpful to beginners in numismatics, has been awarded to Philip Attwood for *British Art Medals 1982-2002*, published by the British Art Medal Trust, 2002.

SEVENTH CENTURY SYRIAN ROUND TABLE

In 1992 a group of collectors of early Islamic coinage and the related Byzantine series got together to pool their knowledge about the enigmatic Umayyad coins of the pre-reform period. They decided to organise a symposium on the subject under the auspices of the Oriental Numismatic Society, and the first meeting at which informal papers were given took place in the Department of Coins and Medals in the British Museum in April of that year. About twenty people attended, and the 'core' group was motivated to organise a follow-up meeting in July 1993. The third symposium was held in November 1994, and by the time of the fourth in December 1995 there had been a declaration of independence from the ONS and *The Seventh Century Syrian Numismatic Round Table* was 'born'.

Since then, symposia have been held at the British Museum in December 1996, April 1998, March 2000, and

October 2001. However, the ninth symposium in November 2002 was held at the University of Birmingham and hosted by John Haldon and Eurydiké Georgiantelis and subtitled 'Coinage and History in the 7th century Near East'. This recognised what had been happening for some years – a widening of the subject matter to include the archaeology and history of 'Syria' in the seventh century AD, and a widening of the geographical boundaries to include Egypt and N Africa on the one hand and Iran and Iraq on the other.

The most recent meeting was held in Oxford on 29 and 30 November 2003 and hosted by James Howard-Johnson and Luke Treadwell. Nine papers were given over the two days, with plenty of time for discussion. The introduction by Clive Foss was entitled *Arab-Byzantine coins and history: some problems and suggestions* in which he divided the Pseudo Byzantine coinage into 'Imitative' and 'Derivative' and associated the derivative coins with those small, often square, coins saying Mohammed on both the obverse and reverse. He also suggested that the large folles with TWO standing caliphs and the name of 'Abd al-Malik on the reverse were struck early in the reign when 'Abd al-Malik's brother, 'Abd al-'Aziz was his designated heir.

The next paper was by Wolfgang Schulze who described the Heraclian countermarks associated with the period of the Arab conquest of Syria and classified their various types. Dr Schulze was followed by Tasha Vorderstrasse with a paper entitled *Arab-Byzantine coins from the plain of Antioch in their regional context* in which she listed and discussed excavation finds of Arab-Byzantine coins. The paper showed how very scarce Proto Umayyad coins are among excavated coins.

Tony Goodwin then reviewed the 7th century coinage of Egypt and shed light on which coins might, or might not, be attributed to the Persian period and then to the early Arab period. Andrew Oddy described the coinage that copies folles of Justin and Sophie, most of which can be attributed to either Scythopolis or to Gerasa. However, he has found a small number of similar coins that he suggested were minted in Abila.

The second day was devoted to coinages outside Syria. First, Rika Gyselen discussed *Coinage in its historical context in 7th C. Iran* and she was followed by Susan Tyler-Smith on *What happened in Khusrav II's twelfth year (601-602)?*

The final paper by Tim Greenwood broke new ground for this round table by transporting those present to seventh century Armenia and discussing the Byzantine coins that have been found there. He provided a very valuable handout listing the finds and the relevant publications.

It is obvious that *The Seventh Century Syrian Numismatic Round Table* is flourishing and the meetings are open to all those with a genuine interest in the numismatics, history and archaeology of the Middle East at the end of the Byzantine rule in the area and the beginning of the Islamic empire. The group as a whole has no secretariat and is quite informal. If you would like to be placed on the mailing list please contact one of the

following: Marcus Phillips and Susan Tyler-Smith at senmerv@freenet.co.uk Tony Goodwin at a.goodwin2@btopenworld.com or Andrew Oddy at elymais@ntlworld.com

Andrew Oddy

UK NUMISMATIC TRUST

The UK Numismatic Trust currently has £1500 available in grants for British-based numismatic research or research in the field of British numismatics. The maximum individual grant that will be awarded is £500; the desired amount would be rather less than this, to accommodate a greater number of projects. Researchers should contact the Secretary of the Trust, Keith Sugden (Dept. of Numismatics, Manchester Museum, Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9PL; email: keith.sugden@man.ac.uk; tel: 0161-275-2661).

TEMPORARY EXHIBITIONS

Buried Treasure: Finding our past

British Museum, Gallery 35, 21 November 2003 – 14 March 2004

Public Image: Portraits on coins and medals

British Museum, Gallery 69a, 22 January – 18 July 2004

LECTURES, SEMINARS, COLLOQUIA AND CONFERENCES

BANS CONGRESS 2004

This year's BANS Congress will be held in Chester, from 2nd to 4th April. Speakers include Peter Clayton, Stephen Skellern, Keith Sugden, Christopher Challis, Christopher Comber, Andrew Andison, Peter Thompson and Simon Bean. On Saturday afternoon there will be free time to explore the Roman and medieval city of Chester, with the Grosvenor Museum, Heritage Centre, the Deva Experience and the Rows.

Accommodation is in single study-bedrooms, all with en-suite facilities, in Chester College, which is a few minutes' walk from the city centre. The inclusive fee is £105; deposit to reserve a place, £30. For further information or an application form, contact Jonathan Morris, Congress Secretary, 3 Queen Street, Bunbury, Nr Tamworth, Cheshire, CW6 9QY; tel: (day) 07968 112239, (home) 01829 260897. Details are also available on the BANS website, at www.coinclubs.freemove.co.uk

BAMS ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2004

The British Art Medal Society conference for 2004 will be held from 11th to 13th June in the beautiful surroundings of West Dean college, near Chichester. The weekend will include talks by working artists, lectures on historical subjects, displays of current work, and a practical

workshop in which the secrets of finishing and patinating medals will be revealed. For further details and booking form, go to the BAMS website at www.bams.org.uk and click on 'Noticeboard', or contact the Membership Secretary, BAMS, PO Box 26, South View Road, Crowborough, East Sussex TN6 1HG; tel/fax: 01892 613370; e-mail: peter@purefoy.fsnet.co.uk

BRITISH NUMISMATIC SOCIETY SUMMER MEETING

This year's Summer Meeting of the BNS takes place on Saturday 3rd July, at Canterbury Christchurch University College. The theme is the Art and Symbolism of Coinage Design, and speakers include Andrew Burnett, Christopher Challis, Kate Eustace, Geraldine Chimirri-Russell, Mark Stocker, and Clive Cheesman. The cost, including buffet lunch, is £12.50. For further details or to register, contact Kevin Clancy, Director, the British Numismatic Society, c/o Royal Mint, Llantrisant, Pontyclun CF72 8YT; tel: 01443 623005; e-mail: kevin.clancy@royalmint.gov.uk (Cheques should be made payable to the British Numismatic Society.)

LECTURE DIARY

February

- 3 RNS *Silver coins in Late Iron Age East Anglia: What, who, how, when, where and why?*, Megan Dennis
- 10 BAMS *Light and Shade*, Nigel Hall
- 17 RNS *The Brussels Tetradrachm of Aitna, the most valuable ancient coin in the world*, Francois de Callatay.
- NB This meeting will take place in the Sackler Room, Clore Education Centre, The British Museum.
- 24 BNS *The currency of medieval Guernsey: evidence from the Lihou excavations*, Barrie Cook and Heather Sebire.

March

- 23 RNS *King John's Irish Coinage Revisited*, David Dykes
- 30 BNS *Marks, oras, pounds and sterlings: an international retrospective*.

April

- 20 BNS *Coinage and warfare in the ancient and modern world*, John Sills.
- 27 RNS *Monetary transactions and cultural encounters in the Eastern Mediterranean, 12th - 14th centuries*, Vicky Georgantelis

May

- 18 RNS *A currency without a coinage: the Ricardo gold ingot plan of 1819*, Kevin Clancy
- 25 BNS *The 1928 Free State coinage*, Colm Gallagher. This will be followed by the Council sherry party.

Contacts:

British Art Medal Society (BAMS)

Mr Philip Attwood, Department of Coins and Medals, British Museum, London WC1B 3DG, tel: 020 7323 8260. Unless otherwise stated, all meetings held at 5.30pm, Cutler's Hall, Warwick Lane, London EC4.

British Association of Numismatic Societies (BANS)

Mr P. H. Mernick, 42 Campbell Road, London E3 4DT, tel: 020 8980 5672.

British Numismatic Society (BNS)

Mr Charles Farthing, c/o Warburg Institute, Woburn Square, London WC1H 0AB, tel: 01329 284 661. Unless otherwise stated all meetings held at 6.00pm at the Warburg Institute, Woburn Square, London WC1.

British Numismatic Trade Association (BNTA)

Mrs Carol Carter, General Secretary, P. O. Box 33, Hayling Island, PO11 9WF, tel/fax: 023 9246 3131.

Oriental Numismatic Society (ONS)

Mr Peter Smith, 9 Grandison Road, London SW11 6LS, tel: 020 7228 2826.

Royal Numismatic Society (RNS)

Mr A. Meadows, Department of Coins and Medals, British Museum, London WC1 3DG, tel: 020 7323 8577. Unless otherwise stated all meetings held at 5.30pm, Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London WC1.

AUCTIONS AND FAIRS

Unless stated otherwise all auctions are held at the addresses listed. Dates may be subject to alteration.

February

- 7 *The London Coin Fair*, Holiday Inn, Bloomsbury, London. 9.30am – 5pm.
Simmons, 020 8989 8097, info@simmonsgallery.co.uk
- 7 *The Spring Argentum*, Auction. British and world coins, tokens, commemorative medals and banknotes, bulk lots and modern sets. Held in conjunction with the London Coin Fair, Holiday Inn, Bloomsbury, London.
Baldwins Auctions, tel: 020 7930 9808, fax: 020 7930 9450, e-mail: auctions@baldwin.sh.
- 8 *The Midland Coin Fair*. The Manor Hotel, Meriden, tel: 024 7671 6587, www.midlandcoinfair.co.uk.
- 21 *Coin Fair*, Coins, medals, banknotes, tokens.
Davidson Monk Fairs, tel: 0208 656 4583

March

- 10 *Auction*, British and worldwide coins and banknotes. Court House, Warwick.
Warwick & Warwick, tel: 01926 499031, e-mail: info@warwickandwarwick.com
- 11 *Auction*, British and worldwide coins and banknotes. Court House, Warwick.
Warwick & Warwick, tel: 01926 499031, e-mail: info@warwickandwarwick.com
- 14 *The Midland Coin Fair*. The Manor Hotel, Meriden, tel: 024 7671 6587, www.midlandcoinfair.co.uk.
- 16 *Auction*, Croydon Coin Auctions, tel: 0208 656 4583, www.croydoncoinauctions.co.uk
- 17 *Auction*, Coins, tokens, historical and art medals, numismatic books.
Dix Noonan Webb, tel: 020 7499 5022, fax: 020 7499 5023, www.dnw.co.uk.
- 20 *Coin Fair*, Coins, medals, banknotes, tokens.
Davidson Monk Fairs, tel: 0208 656 4583

April

- 11 *The Midland Coin Fair*. The Manor Hotel, Meriden, tel: 024 76716587, www.midlandcoinfair.co.uk.
- 17 *Coin Fair*, Coins, medals, banknotes, tokens.
Davidson Monk Fairs, tel: 0208 656 4583

Baldwin's: Royal Society of Arts, John Adam St, London.

Christie's/Spink & Son: 69 Southampton Row, Bloomsbury, London WC1B 4ET.

Croydon Coin Auctions: United Reformed Church Hall, Addiscombe Grove, East Croydon.

Davidson Monk Fairs: Commonwealth Institute, High St. Kensington, London.

Dix Noonan Webb: The New Connaught Rooms, 61-65 Great Queen St, London WC2

Glendining's: 101 New Bond St, London W1Y 9LG.

Morton & Eden Ltd: 45 Maddox Street, London W1S 2PE.

Warwick & Warwick Ltd: Chalon House, Scar Bank, Millers Road, Warwick CV34 5DB.

Classical Numismatic Group: Hold electronic auctions on www.cngcoins.com