

MONEY & MEDALS



The Newsletter for Numismatics in Britain

63 | December 2014

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Money & Medals is the numismatic publication associated with the Money and Medals Network based at the British Museum and in association with the RNS, BNS and a number of key partners. The Network aims to act as an information exchange for curators within the UK whose collections include coins, medals

and other objects relating to monetary and economic history and numismatics.

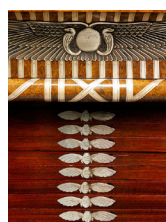
To contribute information or articles to the Newsletter or to subscribe by email please send your name and email address to the editor at newsletter@moneyandmedals.org.uk or by post to Department of Coins and Medals, British Museum, Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3DG, fax: 020 7323 8171. Auction and fair details for inclusion in the next edition should be sent to Peter Preston-Morley at ppm@dnw.co.uk



The British
Museum



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The V&A Medal Cabinet Appeal

The Victoria and Albert Museum in London has been successful in raising £534,000 in time to save a rare and remarkable medal cabinet from export. The government placed a temporary export bar on the cabinet and the museum only had until July 2014 to acquire it and ensure its place in the national collections.

This medal cabinet is perhaps the finest piece of French Empire furniture in Britain today. It is also a superlative example of the Egyptian taste that was fashionable throughout Europe in the period 1800-1815. Newly struck medals, of the sort this cabinet



Medal cabinet in the Egyptian taste, about 1810, Paris, after a design attributed to Charles Percier (1764-1813), © Victoria and Albert Museum, London

would have stored, were a significant element of Napoleon's propaganda and used to commemorate his major achievements. The silver mounts were made by the firm Martin Guillaume Biennais, whose signature is engraved on the lockplate.

Biennais, who may have made the cabinet in its entirety, was goldsmith to the Imperial family. There are few works by Biennais in Britain; these are limited to smaller travelling cases or metalwork and certainly include nothing of this size, design-historical importance or quality. The cabinet's architectural form and craftsmanship are striking. Its rich amboyna wood is adorned with intricate figured veneers as a background to silver mounts of the highest quality. The design of inlaid bees on each individual drawer front, with hinged wings that flip forward to function as handles, are particularly sophisticated. Due to open in early 2015, the V&A's new Europe 1600-1800 Galleries would be an ideal permanent home for this object and the museum plans to exhibit it as part of a dedicated display on Napoleon.



Money Matters at the Harris, Preston

Matthew Ball

Coins were a founding collection of the Harris back in the 1880s. Today, the museum's comprehensive numismatic collection is over 12,000 strong, charting the development of money from antiquity to the present day. Thanks to the Esmée Fairbairn Collections Fund, the Harris has taken me on as Project Officer on its 'Money Matters' project. My main job is to curate this hitherto-neglected collection, and with the aid of volunteers, to ensure it is stored and documented to museum standards. At the other end of the scale, I am working in conjunction with local charities and larger national organisations like the Royal Mint to design young peoples' programmes centred on financial management, which should have some very rewarding outcomes. Apart from that, I spend my time generally making sure that numismatics plays an ever increasing role in the life of the museum! A big goal is to install dedicated numismatics displays in the museum. I recently re-discovered the Rossall/Fleetwood Hoard of



late Roman silver – a wonderful collection that will be the subject of an exhibition and further research as of December. Peter Vickers, our medals volunteer, also warrants a well-deserved mention. Since 2011, Peter has thoroughly audited and documented the Harris’ extensive medal collection, none of which was recorded on the museum’s database.

In the course of his researches Peter is hoping to track down every medal produced for the Preston Guild (founded 1179), the country’s oldest functioning Guild association.

NEWS FROM SCOTLAND

Hunterian Moves

Donal Bateson

The Hunterian, including the numismatic collections, is moving to a new location at Kelvin Hall close to its current site on the main University of Glasgow campus at Gilmorehill. This is a joint project with Glasgow City Council and the National Library of Scotland, supported by a major Heritage Lottery Fund grant. In Phase 1 new stores and laboratories, teaching and research facilities and staff accommodation will open in September 2016 for the start of the new academic year.

The Hunterian Museum was first located in the house of its founder, Dr. William Hunter (1718-1783), in Great Windmill Street, London. Bequeathed to the University of Glasgow, it arrived in 1807 on the completion of a specially designed building by William Stark on the Old College site in the city centre near the cathedral.

The University vacated this in 1870 for the more pleasant surroundings of the West End where George Gilbert Scott’s magnificent gothic building was constructed on Gilmorehill. This incorporated a new museum which continues to be the centre of the Hunterian collections. The Hunterian at Kelvin Hall will thus be its fourth home.

Currently, however, collections and staff are unsatisfactorily scattered over a number of locations. Apart from the Hunterian Museum in the Gilbert Scott building, there is the 1980s Hunterian Art Gallery and museums in Zoology and Anatomy. The bulk of the collection is housed in three major stores with limited facilities. At Kelvin Hall objects and staff will be together again for the first time in over a century.

The coins and medals are the only collection still stored in the Hunterian Museum. They are kept in the Coin Room which was

specifically designed and built for this purpose in the 1870s. It must be one of the earliest examples of a purpose built public coin room. Those who have visited will recall the climb up the stone staircase, the large metal door and the huge walk-in safe. The latter leads to one of the most frequently asked questions, “How was that brought in?” – in bits and welded seems to be the answer. In this safe is housed most of William Hunter’s own collection of over 30,000 specimens, the finest collection in late 18th century Britain and, as is often quoted, “second only to that of the French king”. As part of the original fittings of a listed building the safe will stay.

Kelvin Hall was originally part of the 1901 Glasgow International Exhibition. It was made of wood and survived until 1927 when it caught fire. However it was rebuilt on a more magnificent scale in stone and over the years has held many prestigious events though its main use was as a sports facility and also later the Transport Museum. Both sport and transport have recently been relocated and Kelvin Hall is being redeveloped as a cultural heritage centre.

The ground floor will house the reception area, some sporting facilities, a café, a joint store for large objects, a University conference suite and the Scottish Screen Archive. The main Hunterian store will be on the first floor along with appropriate preparation, conservation and research laboratories as well as teaching laboratories and seminar rooms. The main store will hold all the Hunterian collections together with the exception of the coins and medals. A new coin room will be constructed outside this. It will consist of an inner strong-room and curatorial work space connected to a coin library on

the same level where students, researchers and visitors will be accommodated.

Overall the size is much the same as at present in the Hunterian Museum but the new facility will be more convenient and pleasant to work in. Staff accommodation will be on a third floor.

A decant team has now been appointed and over the next two years everything will be packed, stored where necessary, moved and unpacked. However, the numismatic collections are not scheduled for moving until late in the programme.

Although there will be prior preparation, packing will not commence until June 2016. The coins and medals will then be moved, probably not with an escort of “six trusty men well versed in the use of fire-arms” as in

1807, immediately to the new coin room and unpacked in time for the September opening. Disruption for visitors will therefore be of short duration but any planned visit should be avoided over the summer of 2016. Equally it may not be possible to answer enquiries during this period.



From late 2016 the Hunter Coin Cabinet will be an important part of The Hunterian's centralised storage serving this new purpose designed Collections Study Centre. Meanwhile The Hunterian's current exhibition spaces in the Museum and Art Gallery will be retained. Kelvin Hall Phase 1 will occupy around one third of the building and it is planned that Phase 2 will see the rest turned mainly into new permanent and temporary exhibition galleries. This will occur sometime after the major celebration and events of 2018 commemorating the tercentenary of the birth of William Hunter.

Current developments with the coin cabinet at National Museums Scotland

David S. Forsyth

Over the past two years National Museums Scotland (NMS) has undergone a comprehensive review and restructure of the curatorial departments as the organisation progresses its ambitious Masterplan to modernise and redevelop the Chambers Street museum complex. In 2012 a new Department of Scottish History and Archaeology was created with *inter alia* the purpose of leading the research, development and curation of the future redevelopment of the Scotland galleries within the National Museum of Scotland. These are the displays which are housed in the modernist extension to the Chambers Street complex and designed by the architectural partnership of Benson and Forsyth, and which were opened by HM the Queen on 30 November 1998.

As any readers of this newsletter, who have visited the National Museum of Scotland, might recall numerous specimens from our coin cabinet are peppered throughout the Scotland galleries. Their own inherent interest and importance aside, coins have been liberally used to help to augment the permanent displays and enhance both the interpretation and the narrative of special exhibitions. In 2013 as curator of the NMS exhibition *Mary, Queen of Scots* held at the National Museum of Scotland, I was delighted to be able to use key objects drawn from our numismatic collection including the extremely rare Marriage Ryal of 1565 (above). This being the one with the then notorious design of the portraits of Mary and her husband facing each other and the legend beginning with the name of Mary's consort Henry before that of the Queen of Scots.

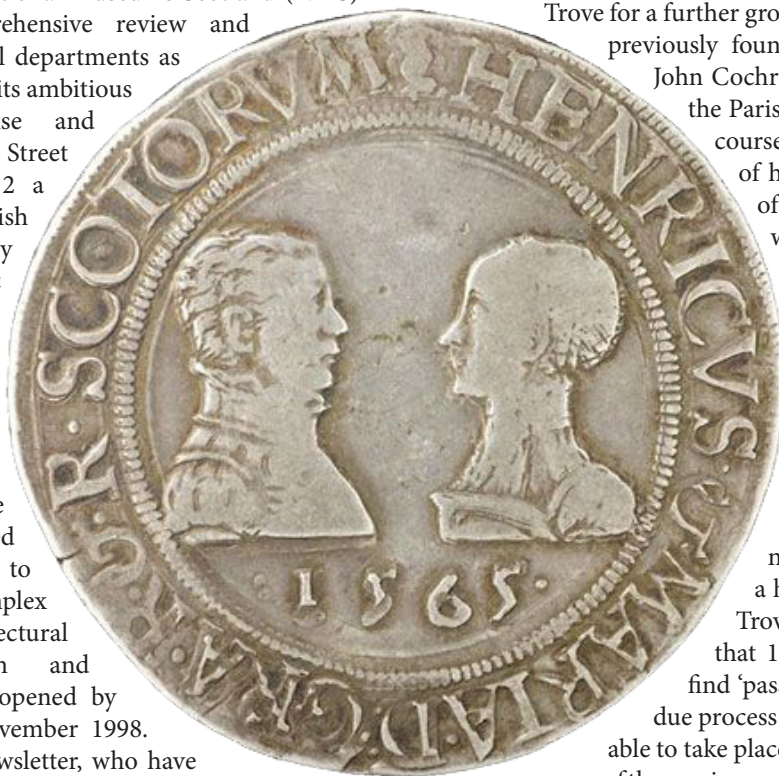
Under the new departmental structure the management of the numismatic collection will fall under the aegis of the Medieval-Early Modern Section, although specific elements of the collection will have curatorial input from the other relevant chronological sections within the Department. However, at present the first points of contact for the numismatic collection are as follows: David Forsyth, Principal Curator, Medieval-Early Modern Collections, Department of Scottish History and Archaeology (d.forsyth@nms.ac.uk) and Lyndsay McGill, Curator, Medieval-Early Modern Collections, Department of Scottish History and Archaeology (l.mcgill@nms.ac.uk).

Currently the Medieval-Early Modern Section is the most active sectional collector in terms numismatics. The majority of these acquisitions are made through cases which come before the Scottish Archaeological Finds Allocation Panel. Indeed through this Scottish Treasure Trove process in more recent months we have made some rare and interesting numismatic acquisitions. We successfully bid for a specimen which constitutes a previously unrecorded variety of Malcolm IV's coinage. This coin is particularly exciting due to the fact that coins of Malcolm IV are rare, additionally the facing bust of the king on this example is currently known on only a handful of specimens. However, most significantly the reverse design is one previously unknown in combination with this particular obverse. It is similar to a design used on some sterling of David I, save that the stalks in the angles of the cross on the latter are shorter and thinner. We are also pleased to have made a successful bid through Treasure

Trove for a further group of 14 coins from the hoard previously found on 6 September 1922 by John Cochrane, farmer at Auchenbart in the Parish of Galston, Ayrshire, in the course of repairing drainage in one of his fields. Of the original find of around 240-250 coins, 216 were examined for Treasure Trove purposes while a selection of 45 were retained by the then National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland (NMA), one of the predecessor institutions of today's NMS. This is in stark contrast to the current situation where it is now customary for all coins in a hoard to be declared Treasure Trove. This is reflected in the fact that 12 specimens in the original find 'passed into private hands' before due process by the Crown authorities was able to take place. As was common at the time many of these coins were never declared by the finders

This hoard was highly unusual as it comprised of a majority of continental issues (there being only seven English issues, and not even a single Scottish example). The more recent find continues to reflect this fact, as all of the 14 coins are varieties of continental sterling. The significance of this addition to the Auchenbart hoard is that it imbues the 1922 find with a more highly accurate findspot.

In recent weeks we actively sought to purchase by auction a rare David I Silver Penny, Quadrilateral on Cross Fleury type, by the moneyer Erebald of the Carlisle Mint. Although we were outbid on this sale NMS is keen to ensure that we continue to acquire for our coin cabinet whenever ever-decreasing resources allow. At the time of writing (November 2014) the department is in the process of moving the bulk of its history and archaeology collections to a new bespoke building within the National Museums Collections Centre at Granton, our main storage, conservation and research facility situated in the north of Edinburgh. This means that access to our collections is seriously limited until this major task is accomplished. However, this project is scheduled to be completed by the end of March 2015. That being said, we continue to engage with and welcome enquires from the numismatic world. The author is grateful to Stuart Campbell, Treasure Trove Manager at NMS for his advice in the preparation of this note.



FOCUS

SCIENCE IN NUMISMATICS

This month we hear about two new projects that reveal how scientific methodologies can counter received numismatic wisdom.

A third century crisis? The composition and metallurgy of Roman Silver coinage; Septimius Severus to Valerian and Gallienus

Kevin Butcher & Matthew Ponting

The quality of Roman silver coinage is often taken as an index of the economic health of the empire, with a fall in silver content being taken as an indication of fiscal inadequacy. During the third century AD debased silver coinage came to dominate the currency system of the Roman world, coinciding with a period that historians have dubbed the 'third century crisis'. Between AD 194 and 260 the silver content of the coinage was reduced from just under 50% to less than 10%, and previous studies have proposed that this decline in quality was almost continuous. By about AD 260 new technologies had to be employed to make the coins look silvery and to disguise the fact that they were made mainly of copper. The continuous decline is thought to signify perpetual fiscal crisis, where revenues and resources could not match Rome's expenditure on its armies. It is generally thought that public confidence in the coinage waned, leading to inflation and the collapse of the monetary system.

However, the evidence on which this account of monetary crisis is based is seriously flawed. Until about AD 260 Roman mints were able to disguise the extent of debasement by deliberately enhancing the silvery surfaces of the coins using a technique known as depletion silvering, and previous analyses did not take this fact into account. Consequently we do not know anything for certain about the full extent of debasement between AD 194 and 260, or about the frequency of debasement. We do not know whether there were long periods of stability or even improvements during this period. While there can be no doubt that



the silver content in AD 260 was much lower than in AD 194, the way in which the decline occurred - and thus the reasons for the decline - remain obscure.

In May 2014 Dr Matthew Ponting of the University of Liverpool and Professor Kevin Butcher of the University of Warwick were awarded a grant of £653,689.00 by the Arts and Humanities Research Council of Great Britain to study the coinage of this

period. Their previous work, conducted on the Roman imperial coinage of the first and second centuries AD, was also funded by the AHRC. This has overturned the picture of continuous decline and perpetual fiscal crisis for those periods, showing that there was instead a long period of stability, with only a few reductions and even a number of improvements, and no clear evidence that there was a shortage of silver. It remains to be seen whether one of the cornerstones of the 'third century crisis', the collapse of the coinage, is a sustainable narrative.

The project will be analysing 2,250 Roman silver coins for the period AD 194 to 260, to determine not only the fineness of the coins, but also to use minor and trace elements, and lead isotope analyses, in order to inform us about sources of raw materials and the technologies of coin production. One explanation for the dramatic fall in the silver content of the coinage is that the Roman empire ran out of stocks of fresh silver. If this is so, evidence of recycling should be readily apparent. In addition, weight standards will also be scrutinised. These are important for drawing comparisons between different denominations of silver coinage, but they are also an important component of the concept of monetary standards.

To enable comparison of different coinages, particularly the imperial with the contemporary provincial, it will be necessary to determine the weight standards of each issue. This is more difficult than it sounds, because the 'silver' coinage of the period is actually an alloy of silver and copper. The copper corrodes out more readily than the silver, resulting in a weight loss. All ancient coins have suffered in this way, as a result of corrosion during centuries of burial and cleaning after discovery. The more corroded the coin, the less accurately its current weight reflects its original weight. Debased coins are more subject to this process of weight depletion than finer ones. Previous studies have not managed to take this fully into account when estimating weights. A new perspective on the alleged decline of weight standards in this period is likely to emerge from the study.

Two PhD studentships are attached to the project. A study of hoards by project PhD student Nathan Murphy will look for evidence that the public was aware of changes made to the coinage. Meanwhile, project PhD student Nicola George will undertake metallurgical studies of select coins to investigate the manufacturing techniques used, as well as performing experimental work on the production of coin blanks to recreate the depletion silvering process and to look at the effects of corrosion on the weights of the blanks.

Currently we know almost nothing about the condition of Roman silver coinage between AD 194 and 260, the period leading to the presumed collapse of the currency. Through interdisciplinary study, this project will bring together metrology, fineness standards, hoard evidence, metal supply and production technology to provide a comprehensive picture of Roman silver coinage at a crucial point in the monetary history of the Roman empire.

Further details about the project can be found at <http://sace.liv.ac.uk/romansilver/home/>. A short video explaining about the depletion silvering process can be found at http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/classics/research/outreach/podcast/vodcast/?podcastItem=depletion_silvering.mp4. The results of the analyses will be hosted by Archaeology Data Services (for the results of earlier projects, see http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archives/view/coins_lt_2005/). A Cambridge University Press monograph, covering the first century AD, is currently in press (<http://www.cambridge.org/gb/academic/subjects/classical-studies/ancient-history/metallurgy-roman-silver-coinage-reform-nero-reform-trajan>).



Was Henry VIII faking his own coins?

Megan Gooch

In 1913, the numismatist Henry Symonds did the unthinkable: he destroyed some coins. He took small samples from eleven Tudor coins and melted them to test the fineness of the alloys used throughout the Great Debasement period, one of the darkest moments in British coinage. You'd think such barbarity towards coins would not be used today, but a collaborative experiment between the British Museum, English Heritage and Historic Royal Palaces has followed in Symonds' footsteps to analyse the coins of Henry VIII, and has achieved some surprising results. It is well known amongst numismatists that the coins of Henry VIII and Edward VI are some of the most debased



coins of English currency. It is the scale and extent of the Great Debasement of 1542-51, as well as the drastic measures Elizabeth I had to take to restore the currency to its full value, that left a long and deep legacy on English currency and cultural memory for at least the next 150 years. In 1913, using similar technology to that used by mint assayers in the 1500s, Symonds tested the fineness of the coin alloys by a process called fire assay, also known as cupellation. A sliver of metal was cut from the coins, which had been specially bought to be sacrificial victims on the altar of numismatic and metallurgical science. The sample was weighed, then wrapped in lead and melted in an assay furnace until only the silver was left, and the base metals had been absorbed in the furnace. This silver was then weighed again and its fineness calculated. Symonds discovered there were discrepancies between the alloys of his small sample of coins, and the alloys prescribed by mint indentures throughout the period.

Today, cupellation is still used at the London Assay Office, but there are other methods at our disposal to investigate the composition of coins. Energy dispersive X-ray Fluorescence (XRF) analysis is a fairly non-destructive technique which can be used to determine the alloy components. However, this only analyses the surface of the coin, which is often affected by corrosion, we had to turn once more to destructive techniques to get to the heart of Henry VIII's coins.

Scientists at the British Museum and Historic Royal Palaces used Symonds' original test coins for the new experiments, as they had been bought originally for scientific analysis. A thin section was cut from each coin and then examined under powerful microscopes using techniques called optical microscopy and scanning electron microscopy (SEM). The aim was to analyse the compositions of both the surface and interiors and the manufacturing process of the coins. Some of the results were unsurprising; some coins showed evidence of surface enrichment. This was probably achieved by the well-attested process of blanching coins after striking, which removed grime from the manufacturing process, and also removed the base metals from the surface of the coin. Henry VIII was known to contemporaries as 'Old Copper nose' because of the tendency of his coins to turn copper when the purer exterior

surface of the coins wore away through use, revealing the silver-copper alloy beneath and establishing the coin's true composition.

More surprisingly, some coins exhibit higher than average traces of mercury, and patterns from the SEM analysis which are consistent with plating technology rather than surface enrichment from blanching. We are still working on our analysis, but this is tantalising evidence that Henry VIII's mint workers may have had to resort to more desperate means of debasing the coins than we previously thought. The research team are preparing an article on the project and these intriguing results, which should be available next year.

British Numismatic Society interns at York

York Museums Trust (YMT) played host to two British Numismatic Society interns in 2014. Dakota Bagley-Sweet worked on the coinage from the excavations at Catterick, a hugely important Roman site, for which we have the archive. Carl Savage worked on the Bootham School hoard, a neglected but very important fourteenth-century hoard. The two interns that YMT has hosted have been of a very high standard and have helped the trust to achieve a number of things that it would not have been able to do without them. Between them they have added more than 1000 coins to our collections database and taken very high standard photographs of 400 of these coins. This documentation is available for the public to see on our website (<http://www.yorkmuseumstrust.org.uk/collections>). It is more documentation than has been achieved in the numismatic collection for quite some time and is a great achievement. They have made inaccessible material available for the public, in some cases for the first time.

Dakota took part in our 'Researchers' Night', talking about the coins at an evening event with over 700 Museum visitors. He also pulled together a temporary display which has showcased his work in our temporary case in the Museum's entrance. Carl has recatalogued the coins from the Bootham School hoard, bringing their identifications up to date. He has researched the provenance of the hoard and has also written the first analysis of its deposition in the 60 years since it was unearthed. This will feed into a new publication of the hoard, incorporating the new perspectives uncovered during the course of the internships. In brief, both interns have been excellent, helping the museum to achieve new things and bring the numismatic collection to a new audience. To read the testimonies of the two York interns plus the one hosted at the Fitwilliam Museum go to <http://britnumsoc.org/mpandf/bursaries/2014.shtml>.



FIDEM XXXIII

For the first time in its seventy-seven-year history, the Fédération Internationale de la Médaille d'Art (FIDEM) travelled to Bulgaria for its

biennial congress and international exhibition of contemporary medals. Around 130 participants from three continents gathering together in Sofia in September for a packed round of talks on both historical and contemporary subjects, visits, exhibitions and social gatherings. The congress – FIDEM's 33rd – was organised by Bulgaria's foremost medallist, Professor Bogomil Nikolov of the National Academy of Art, Sofia, and was dedicated to the recently deceased Claude Arthus-Bertrand, a member of the celebrated medal manufacturing firm of that name and for many years FIDEM's general secretary. The next FIDEM congress will be held in Belgium on 6-11 September 2016



Money and Medals Training Event in Brighton

Henry Flynn

Money and Medals Network training events continue to be held around the UK and one of the most recent ones was held in Brighton for the benefit of museums in the South East and beyond. A very productive working relationship has developed between MMN and Brighton & Hove Museums which is how the selection of the hosting venue came about. The event was held not in Brighton Museum, however, but Brighton Pavilion – possibly the most grandiose setting for a training day so far!

The programme of seminars followed the established format of Money and Medals training with Dr Ian Leins giving an introduction to Iron Age and Roman coinage, Ben Alsop talking about the display of numismatics in the BM's Citi Money Gallery and me giving some advice on the storage of coins, medals and banknotes. MMN training is always adaptable to the needs of the hosting region though, and I was able to give a short talk on the display of coin hoards at the request of Brighton Museum. We were once again joined by Penny Bull in a continuation of the Art Fund's support of MMN work.

Thanks as ever go to those who came to speak and attend, and extra thanks must go to our enthusiastic hosts Chris Drake, Andy Maxted and everyone at Brighton & Hove Museums. Interest has already been shown in holding similar follow-up events so hopefully numismatic training will become a regular feature in the South East of England.



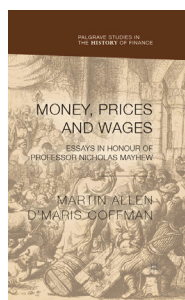
The British Museum

New appointments in Roman Numismatics

Vincent Drost joined the British Museum last June as Project Curator for Romano-British coin finds (Department of Britain, Europe & Prehistory). His main role is to study hoards coming in as part of the Treasure Act as well as single finds voluntarily submitted by finders and recorded on the Portable Antiquities Scheme database (<http://finds.org.uk>). Vincent has been studying Roman numismatics since the late 1990s. He had his education and first professional experience in France. He defended his doctoral thesis on the coinage of the emperor Maxentius in 2011 at the Sorbonne (published in 2013 by the Swiss Numismatic Society). Vincent worked at the Coin Cabinet of the Bibliothèque nationale de France in Paris (2003-2012) and was a post doctorate at the French National Centre for Scientific Research in Lyon (2012-2014). Additionally, he used to

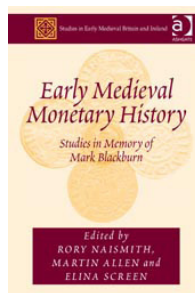
be the secretary of the Société française de numismatique and he is currently one of the editors of the *Revue Numismatique*.

Benedict Sayers is currently the Project Curator for the Beau Street Hoard at the British Museum, where his role is to catalogue the Beau Street Hoard for its forthcoming publication. In addition to this, he is also responsible for its labelling, packing and transportation to the Roman Baths at Bath where the hoard will be housed and displayed. The hoard itself comprises of over 17,000 Roman coins, predominantly (although by no means exclusively) featuring radiates dating between AD 200 – 270. The hoard was discovered in eight separate bags of varying size and Ben is currently cataloguing the largest bag of the hoard, bag one. So far the radiates have been in great condition and it has been a delight to catalogue them. Prior to this appointment Ben studied Ancient History at Swansea University, and recently finished his MA in Museum studies with Leicester University. He has volunteered extensively across heritage services in Gloucestershire, at Tewkesbury Museum and Gloucester Archaeology Service with the local finds liaison officer. He has also worked at the Community Heritage Access Centre in Yeovil, Somerset, where a major part of his role was to catalogue and store the Stevens-Cox collection, a large collection of Roman archaeology and numismatics from nearby Ilchester.



Money, Prices and Wages: Essays in Honour of Professor Nicholas Mayhew

Professor Nicholas Mayhew is Professor of Numismatics and Monetary History at Oxford, a former Deputy Director of the Ashmolean Museum, Director of the Winton Institute for Monetary History and Fellow of St Cross College. Over the course of his forty-year career, Mayhew has made key contributions to fields as diverse as medieval European monetary history, numismatics, financial history, price and wage history, and macroeconomic history. His recent analysis of the Price Revolution is the most influential account of one of the defining features of early modern English economic life. He has been instrumental in debunking notions of a pre-monetary, feudal past, and in the application of the Fisher Equation to historical data. Mayhew has inspired two generations of medieval historians and many colleagues in related disciplines. These essays, in his honour, edited by Martin Allen and D'Maris Coffman, demonstrate the analytical power and chronological reach of the novel interdisciplinary approach he has nurtured in himself and others.



Early Medieval Monetary History: Studies in Memory of Mark Blackburn

This November sees the publication of a volume of essays written in memory of Dr Mark Blackburn (1953–2011), a leading scholar of Anglo-Saxon and Viking coinage and formerly Keeper of Coins and Medals at the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge. Entitled *Early Medieval Monetary History: Studies in Memory of Mark Blackburn* and edited by Rory Naismith, Martin Allen and Elina Screen, it includes the work of twenty-eight archaeologists, historians

and numismatists who knew and worked with Mark. The twenty-five chapters the volume contains cover the coinage and monetary history of various parts of Europe between the fifth and twelfth centuries, including Viking coinages in the British Isles, Anglo-Saxon and Norman England, Scandinavia, the Carolingian Empire, Spain and elsewhere. These chapters include surveys and re-evaluations of specific coinages, as well as studies of the written record of money, analyses of new hoards and reports on exceptional specimens. Early Medieval Monetary History promises to be a major scholarly resource for years to come, and a lasting tribute to Mark's contribution to the field. Copies of the volume may be ordered via the website of the publisher, Ashgate (www.ashgate.com/). A launch party is due to be held in Cambridge on 15 January; anyone wishing to attend should contact the editors by e-mail for details.

TEMPORARY EXHIBITIONS

1914: War and Money

Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge | Gallery 17 | 30 Sept 2014 – 25 January 2015

World War I consumed vast quantities of money as well as lives. This display of coins, medals, banknotes and government bonds provides an insight into the desperate measures that had to be used to maintain a supply of money, from the transition of gold coinage at the outbreak of war in 1914 to inflationary paper money by 1918 when the great European empires fell.

Connecting continents: Indian Ocean trade and exchange

British Museum | Room 69a | 27 November 2014 – 31 May 2015

This small display features objects showing the long and complex history of Indian Ocean trade and exchange, from ancient times to the present. For thousands of years, the Indian Ocean has been a space through which people, objects and ideas have circulated. The navigable monsoon winds enabled merchants to travel between Africa, the Middle East and Asia, exchanging valuable commodities such as textiles, spices and ceramics. From early coastal trade between the great ancient civilisations of the Indus Valley and Mesopotamia through to the heyday of European East India Companies and to the present, the Indian Ocean has remained a dynamic economic maritime zone. This display presents objects from across different sections of the British Museum's collection, including a 19th-century boat from Indonesia, created entirely from cloves and a Roman necklace made from sapphires and garnets, to tell this long and fascinating history of global interaction.

Inheriting Rome: the imperial legacy in coinage and culture

Barber Institute of Fine Arts, Birmingham | Coin Gallery | 27 February 2015 – 24 January 2016

Starting from the image of Britannia removed from the UK fifty-pence piece in 2008, this new exhibition will show how different states, most especially the Byzantine Empire in whose coinage the Barber Collection is famously rich, have reckoned with the weight of imperial tradition and what political purposes Roman imagery has served. The exhibition is in the care of the Barber's new Interim Curator of Coins, Jonathan Jarrett.

LECTURES, SEMINARS, COLLOQUIA AND CONFERENCES

For listings in your local area go to: www.moneyandmedals.org.uk/#/events/4564409875

January

- 16 BAMS Peter D.S. Waddell, 'Northampton and Northamptonshire education medals'
- 20 RNS Richard Kelleher, 'The Monetisation of England and Wales in the Later Middle Ages: New Interpretations from Single Find Data'
- 27 BNS Philip Mernick, 'Medieval English Jettons'

February

- 12 BAMS Ruth Cribb, 'A rare artist and a rare teacher: Sydney Carline, 1888-1929'
- 17 RNS Keith Rutter, 'Ancient Sicily: coins and history'
- 24 BNS Sam Moorhead, 'Carausius, Allectus and the Golden Age'

March

- 17 RNS George Watson, 'The System of Coin Production in southern Asia Minor in the 3rd century AD'
- 24 BNS Chris Scull and John Naylor, 'Sceattas in Anglo-Saxon Graves'

April

- 10-12 BAMS Weekend conference and AGM
- 21 RNS Tom Hockenull, "'Stamped all over the king's head": defaced pennies and the campaign for women's suffrage'
- 22-24 Assembly Rooms and Roman Baths | Beau Street Hoard two-day symposium (visit www.romanbaths.co.uk)
- 28 BNS Murray Andrews, 'Coins, containers and contexts - some archaeological aspects of medieval coin hoards from England and Wales'

DIARY

Please note: Dates may be subject to alteration. For later updates on auctions, see the international auction calendar at www.dnw.co.uk

January

- 3 Bloomsbury Coin Fair. 16 Great Russell Street, London WC1. www.coinfairs.co.uk
- 11 Midland Coin Fair. National Motorcycle Museum, Bickenhill, Birmingham. www.coinfairs.co.uk
- 16-17 York Stamp & Coin Fair. The Grandstand, York Racecourse, York. www.stampshows.net
- 24-25 Lockdales. Coins, Medals and Banknotes. 52 Barrack Square, Martlesham Heath, Ipswich. www.lockdales.com
- 25 Wakefield Fair. Cedar Court Hotel, Denby Dale Road, Calder Grove, Wakefield, W. Yorkshire.

February

- 1 Wakefield Medal Fair. Outwood Memorial Hall, Victoria Street, Outwood, Wakefield, W. Yorkshire. www.themedalcentre.co.uk
- 7 London Coin Fair. Holiday Inn, Coram Street, London WC1. www.coinfairs.co.uk
- 7 Baldwin's Auctions. Argentum Auction. Holiday Inn, Coram Street, London WC1. www.baldwin.co.uk
- 7 B. Frank & Son. Coins, Tokens, Medals and Banknotes. Royal Station Hotel, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. www.bfrankandson.com
- 8 Midland Coin Fair. National Motorcycle Museum, Bickenhill, Birmingham. www.coinfairs.co.uk
- 11 Dix Noonan Webb. Ancient, British and World Coins, Tokens, Historical Medals. www.dnw.co.uk

- 12 Timeline Auctions. Coins. Swedenborg Hall, 20 Bloomsbury Way, London WC1. www.timelineauctions.com
- 18 Warwick & Warwick. Medals, Banknotes and Coins. Lord Leycester Hotel, Warwick. www.warwickandwarwick.com
- 20 International Coin Exchange. Ancient, French and World Coins. Dublin, Eire. www.ice-auction.com
- 22 Wakefield Fair. Cedar Court Hotel, Denby Dale Road, Calder Grove, Wakefield, W. Yorkshire.
- 25 Dix Noonan Webb. Orders, Decorations, Medals and Militaria. www.dnw.co.uk
- 26 Thomson Roddick Scottish. Coins, Medals and Exonumia. 118 Carnethie Street, Rosewell, Edinburgh. www.trscottishauctions.com

March

- 1 Wakefield Medal Fair. Outwood Memorial Hall, Victoria Street, Outwood, Wakefield, W. Yorkshire. www.themedalcentre.co.uk
- 4 Bosleys. Medals and Militaria. Court Gardens, Marlow, Bucks. www.bosleys.co.uk
- 7 Bloomsbury Coin Fair. 16 Great Russell Street, London WC1. www.coinfairs.co.uk
- 8 Midland Coin Fair. National Motorcycle Museum, Bickenhill, Birmingham. www.coinfairs.co.uk
- 21-22 Lockdales. Coins, Medals and Banknotes. 52 Barrack Square, Martlesham Heath, Ipswich. www.lockdales.com
- 25 Bonhams. Coins and Banknotes. Montpelier Street, London SW1. www.bonhams.com
- 25 Dix Noonan Webb. Orders, Decorations and Medals. Washington Hotel, 5 Curzon Street, London W1. www.dnw.co.uk
- 25-26 Spink. Ancient, British and World Coins, Historical Medals. 69 Southampton Row, London WC1. www.spink.com
- 29 Wakefield Fair. Cedar Court Hotel, Denby Dale Road, Calder Grove, Wakefield, W. Yorkshire.

April

- 5 Wakefield Medal Fair. Outwood Memorial Hall, Victoria Street, Outwood, Wakefield, W. Yorkshire. www.themedalcentre.co.uk
- 12 Midland Coin Fair. National Motorcycle Museum, Bickenhill, Birmingham. www.coinfairs.co.uk
- 22 Warwick & Warwick. Medals, Banknotes and Coins. Lord Leycester Hotel, Warwick. www.warwickandwarwick.com
- 23 Spink. Orders, Decorations, Medals and Militaria. 69 Southampton Row, London WC1. www.spink.com
- 26 Wakefield Fair. Cedar Court Hotel, Denby Dale Road, Calder Grove, Wakefield, W. Yorkshire.
- 28-30 Spink. World Banknotes. 69 Southampton Row, London WC1. www.spink.com

Contacts:

British Art Medal Society (BAMS)

Janet Larkin, Department of Coins and Medals, British Museum, London WC1B 3DG, tel: 020 7323 8568. Unless otherwise stated, all meetings held at 5.30pm, Cutlers Hall, Warwick Lane, London EC4. www.bams.org.uk

British Association of Numismatic Societies (BANS)

Phyllis Stoddart, Department of Numismatics, The Manchester Museum, The University of Manchester, Oxford Rd, Manchester M13 9PL. My email address is, phyllis.stoddart@manchester.ac.uk I can be reached by phone on 0161 275 2643 during the day.

British Numismatic Society (BNS)

Peter Preston-Morley, Dix Noonan Webb, 16 Bolton St, Mayfair, London, W1J 8BQ, Telephone: 020 7016 1700. E-mail: secretary@britnumsoc.org. Membership secretary, Philip Skingley, c/o Spink and Son, 69 Southampton Row, Bloomsbury, London WC1B 4ET, tel: 020 7563 4000. E-mail: membershipsecretary@britnumsoc.org. Unless otherwise stated all meetings held at 6.00pm at the Warburg Institute, Woburn Square, London WC1. www.britnumsoc.org

British Numismatic Trade Association (BNTA)

Rosemary Cooke, General Secretary, P.O. Box 2, Rye, East Sussex, TN31 7WE, tel: 01797 229988; fax: 01797 229988; e-mail: secretary@bnta.net website: www.bnta.net

Oriental Numismatic Society (ONS)

Mr Peter Smith. Email pnsmith755@aol.com, ONS website at <http://orientalnumismaticssociety.org/>; and on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/OrientalNumismaticSociety?ref=hl>

Royal Numismatic Society (RNS)

Dr Helen Wang, Department of Coins and Medals, British Museum, London WC1 3DG, tel: 020 7323 8172. Unless otherwise stated all meetings held at 5.30pm at the Warburg Institute, Woburn Square, London WC1H 0AB. E-mail: hwang@thebritishmuseum.ac.uk; website: www.numismatics.org.uk

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Baldwin's: 11 Adelphi Terrace, London, WC2N 6BJ. www.baldwin.co.uk, auctions@baldwin.co.uk

Bonham's: Montpelier Street, London, SW7 1HH. www.bonhams.com/coins

Classical Numismatic Group: Electronic auctions on www.cngcoins.com

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

Dix Noonan Webb: Washington Hotel, 5 Curzon Street, Mayfair, London W1., www.dnw.co.uk, auctions@dnw.co.uk

Douglas Saville - Numismatic Books: Chiltern Thameside, 37c St Peters Avenue, Caversham, Reading, Berks. RG4 7DH. info@douglassaville.com, www.douglassaville.com

Harrogate Spring Coin Fair: Old Swan Hotel, Swan Road, Harrogate HG1 2SR Simon Monks 01234 270260. simonmonks@supanet.com

Linda Monk Fairs: Jury's Hotel, Great Russell St, London. www.lindamonkfairs.co.uk (also incorporating Pam West's Paper Money Fair, www.londonpapermoneyfair.co.uk)

Lockdales: 37 Upper Orwell Street, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP4 1HP (01473 218588). www.lockdales.com

Midland Coin Fair. Mike Veissid. Midland Coin fair, Coin & Medal Fairs Ltd, Hobsley House, Frodesley, Shrewsbury SY5 7HD. Tel: 01694 731439 www.midlandcoinfair.com

Morton & Eden Ltd: 45 Maddox Street, London W1S 2PE. info@mortonandeden.com

St James's Auctions, 43 Duke Street, St. James's, London SW1Y 6DD. Tel: 0207 930 7597

Spink & Son: 69 Southampton Row, Bloomsbury, London WC1B 4ET. www.spink.com. Tel: 0207 563 4000

Warwick & Warwick Ltd: Chalon House, Scar Bank, Millers Road, Warwick CV34 5DB. www.warwickandwarwick.com, info@warwickandwarwick.com.

WISHING ALL OUR READERS A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!



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