

MONEY & MEDALS

The Newsletter for Numismatics in Britain

52 | May 2011

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Money & Medals is the numismatic publication formerly known as the *CCNB Newsletter*. The name change has come about in order to integrate the newsletter with the online Money and Medals Network currently being developed by the British Museum, RNS, BNS and a number of key partner museums with significant numismatic collections. The Network has a number of aims; 1) 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; 2) Provide information on best practice, new research and news items relating to the understanding, care and public access of those collections; 3) Encourage and facilitate collaborative ventures between the curators of those collections and to nurture links between those curators and individuals outside museums with an interest in related subject areas; 4) Make the broad case for the potential of those collections and the importance of numismatic expertise for bringing them effectively to a wide audience and; 5) Work to identify

new and exciting ways in which those collections can be presented to the public. We hope this Newsletter will be a key tool in drawing in new audiences to our subject.

The Newsletter is supported by the British Museum, the Royal Numismatic Society, the British Numismatic Society, the British Art Medal Society and the British Numismatic Trade Association. It appears triannually, and is received by those members of the RNS, BNS, BAMS and BNTA resident in the United Kingdom, and by others with an interest in numismatics and related fields. Overseas and non-society members may receive the Newsletter via email. Please send your name and email address to Richard Kelleher at rkelleher@thebritishmuseum.ac.uk.

Contributions and information will be gratefully received. Items for the next issue should be sent to Richard Kelleher, Department of Coins and Medals, British Museum, Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3DG, fax: 020 7323 8171, e-mail: rkelleher@thebritishmuseum.ac.uk or Megan Gooch, 4B Casemates, HM Tower of London, London, EC3N 4AB, email: megan.gooch@hrp.org.uk. 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



NEWS

Museums and the Future of UK Numismatics Conference, 18th February 2011 | A Review

To celebrate the 150th birthday of the Department of Coins and Medals, the British Museum held a conference on the future of numismatics in the UK. Featuring eminent speakers and delegates from the UK and further afield, the one-day conference was well attended and filled the Stevenson Lecture theatre in the Museum's Clore Centre.

The proceedings were opened by the Museum's Director, Neil McGregor, and followed by an overview of the role of the British Museum from inside the institution and without. The central role of the BM was emphasised by all three speakers in the session; Andrew Burnett gave a brief history of the BM and the department, and Nick Mayhew from the Ashmolean and Christel Schollaart from the Geldmuseum in the Netherlands both praised the BM for its role in national and international numismatic community, but also highlighted the need for cooperation between numismatic museums, and those museums with no specialist numismatic expertise. This cooperation, they suggested, could take the form of

sharing of knowledge in traditional BM catalogues as well as online, by sharing temporary exhibitions between museums, and the need for continual BM representation on various international committees such as ICOMON, the INC and FIDEM.

In the next session highlighting the growth of numismatic knowledge, the range of the BM's work in coins and medals was highlighted when Richard Kelleher presented a paper on the relationship between archaeology and numismatics and suggested some future directions. Ellen van Bork and Duncan Hook then gave an insight into the work of the museum conservator and scientist, showing the tools used to investigate and preserve coins. Gareth Williams discussed how the BM collects today: the ideal of 'completeness' in the collection is now nigh on impossible, so curators focus on collective a representative sample and nationally important objects. The range of objects collected was aptly illustrated by a Barbie credit card reader, this being an example of a modern object which may help future generations understand our twenty-first century attitudes to money. He also outlined new ways of acquiring objects in a much more collaborative way with smaller museums, a prime example being the joint acquisition of the Vale of York hoard by the BM and Yorkshire Museums so that objects could be displayed close to where they were found as well as in

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London.

After lunch the conference continued with some past and present members of BM staff taking us on a tour of the possibilities of numismatic enquiry. Using South Indian coins Robert Bracey talked on how the past is used by different people for different purposes and not merely the preserve of the academic or curator. Luke Syson explored the role of medallic art in wider artistic narratives, and how medals had a key place in art historical study. Catherine Eagleton explored how numismatic research could work on many levels by involving African museums and scholars, as well as children in the UK as part of her long running *Money in Africa* research programme.

The final session expanded upon Dr Eagleton's use of numismatic research to interact with the public by exploring the role of money collections in museums, and how they could be used to link past objects to the familiar currency of today. The fact that coins in themselves may not interest the public, but the stories which could be told from those objects, was an important point highlighted by John Orna-Ornstein. Looking to the future, Eleanor Ghey outlined the BM's collections online project and demonstrated how to use the sometimes-tricky BM online database to access some of the millions of objects, including coins, which are accessible online. Dan Pett showed a glimpse of what is possible with a little technical knowledge and the wealth of numismatic data already available online, and showcased new ways of combining and analysing that data.

The day was summarised by the Keeper of Coins and Medals, Philip Attwood, who drew the themes of the day together. He discussed the worrying trends in numismatics and museums in general, especially since the recent government cuts were announced, but also the longer term decline of numismatic specialists employed in museums. But it was not all doom and gloom, and the day ended with hopes of a healthy future for numismatics in museums, with keen public interest thanks to high profile finds such as the Frome hoard, and the coin trade still vibrant, Philip hoped to foster the role of the BM as a hub of knowledge and national and international collaborative projects for a long time to come – hopefully at least another 150 years.

Megan Gooch, Historic Royal Palaces

The papers presented at the conference are to be published in the BM's Occasional Paper Series by the end of 2011.

'Sacred and Profane' at the Barber Institute of Fine Arts, University of Birmingham | A review

The Barber Institute of Fine Arts is currently exhibiting a small collection of ancient Egyptian artifacts on loan from Eton College. It was collected by Major William Joseph Myers during his service in the British Army and donated to Eton after his death at the Battle of Ladysmith in 1899. During recent years the collection has toured around the world and the objects exhibited at the Barber Institute constitute a fraction of the whole group. A greater proportion is on display at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, USA, and another portion has been retained by Eton College.

While the collection at the Barber Institute is small, the pieces are of exceptional quality. Together they exhibit the themes of 'Sacred and Profane', taking the visitor into the private realms of the Egyptian cosmos. Upon arrival in the gallery visitors can gaze into the eyes of Amenhotep, the 18th Dynasty Master Builders', coffin. The timeless stare is accentuated by the gilded golden features of his face, and the resin drenched torso. The sky goddess Nut decorates the inside of his coffin, promising Amenhotep acceptance into the afterworld.

Two display cases toward the back of the exhibit contain a number

of objects of personal and private use, with religious connotations. Brilliant blue faience bowls and chalices from the Hathoric cults set aside simple wooden statues of offering bearers and stone cosmetic palettes exhibit the breadth of Myers' aesthetic interest. His true love was clearly for Egyptian blue faience and this can be seen in numerous objects in the displays. Perhaps one of the most astounding objects on show is the faience cosmetic palette in the form of the god Seth. Seth is shown in his guise as an oryx, with its legs bound together – to subdue his potential power of corruption. Ideologically, every time the palette was used to grind pigment the god Seth would be controlled and punished for his misdeeds. The personal element of this object really offers the visitor an insight into Egyptian attitudes to the realms of 'Sacred and Profane'.



Mummy mask made of gilded cartonnage

Moving thematically around the exhibition, some of the later objects on show are papyrus fragments. One piece is an unusual dinner invitation dating to the Greek period of rule in Egypt, probably found at Oxyrhynchus. This invite was sent by Chairemon asking a friend to dine with him in the temple of the local god, Serapis. This overlapping of socializing and worship is something that continues today within many church groups and religions. This unique exhibition attempts, and succeeds, to take the visitors on a journey into the Egyptian mind. It allows us to view how the realms of 'Sacred and Profane' are not ultimately separate but overlap, giving a very personal and intimate feel to the collection.

The exhibit also opens our eyes to the more recent history of the collecting of antiquities in 19th century Egypt and particularly into the mind of Major William Joseph Myers himself. His love of aesthetic artifacts and especially of Egyptian blue faience is clear to see. The exhibit is a must see for all lovers of fine art and/or ancient Egypt and is accompanied by a book ('Sacred and Profane' by E. Georganteli and M. Bommas) which elaborates on the themes discussed in this review.

Carl Graves, Birmingham University

Sacred and Profane runs until 18 January 2012

Admission Free | <http://www.barber.org.uk/sacred.html>

Report on BANS Southport | 25-27 March 2011

The weekend was organised by the Ormskirk & West Lancashire Numismatic Society who presented a wide ranging programme of speakers on subjects to provide interest for the 65 delegates.

The first lecture of the weekend was delivered by Chris Leather, a member of the organising team, and his talk covered the period of the Antoninianus. The talk was illustrated with slides of some splendid coins and statuary and we learned that during the comparatively short period of the coins' existence there were some forty emperors, only two of whom died in their beds, perhaps because they succumbed to the plague before incurring the wrath of their colleagues and/or enemies!

On Saturday morning we were formally welcomed by Kevin

Clancy, President of BANS, after which we had a talk from Peter Thompson on the East India Company and its coins. Peter gave us a potted history of the company, its location, business and coins in a fascinating and fully illustrated talk. We then heard from David Holt who covered the life and work of Thomas Bushell and his patron Sir Francis Bacon.

After a break for coffee we were entertained by Bob Lyall who covered the diverse uses of tokens which included a number from his home town, Warrington. The morning then ended with David Shotter's UK Numismatic Trust Lecture covering the numismatic evidence of the Roman conquest of Britain. David kept mainly to the north west of the country and covered the evidence from history, excavation sites and the coins and artefacts found therein where he emphasised the importance of coins as dating evidence.

After lunch delegates had the opportunity of exploring the locality or delaying that opportunity by an hour or so to listen to past president, Dr Joe Bispham give an illustrated talk covering his involvement with the renovation of a Grade I listed medieval hall house in Writtle, Essex. Saturday came to a close with a drinks reception, the formal congress dinner and more opportunities to socialise. Sunday morning began with Graham Dyer's talk on the life of William John Hocking, the first person to hold the position of curator of the Royal Mint Museum. Hocking spent his entire working life with the Royal Mint before enjoying some 26 years of retirement. Graham was followed by Ian Leins of the British Museum who covered his work on the interpretation of Iron Age coin distribution. He concluded that by and large coins of the various rulers stayed within the territorial areas over which they ruled, but it was interesting to observe the somewhat different patterns of distribution for gold and silver.

After coffee Bob Thomas gave an insight into the work he and Ron Churchill have put into their lengthy researches on the 'English' portion of the coins of the Brussels Hoard which was discovered as long ago as 1908. Bob covered the location of the find and some of the possible reasons for its deposit and loss and some of the thoughts of who might have been the original owner(s). He mentioned the segregation and subsequent disposal of the 'Continental' portion, gave an outline of the aims and outcomes of the research all of which will become clear upon publication of the report which it is hoped will not now be long delayed. Keith Sugden then finished the programme with a rapid and light hearted 'gallop' through ancient myths and monsters as shown, largely on the reverses, of ancient Greek and Roman coins.

Kevin Clancy then brought proceedings to a close with thanks to the organisers and speakers and, after a buffet lunch the congress dispersed. The Autumn Lecture course will be at University Hall, Cardiff from 2nd to 4th September and the next BANS Congress will be at Bournemouth from 13th to 15th April 2012.

Bob Thomas

Seventh Century Syrian Numismatic Round Table – conference to be held at Corpus Christi College Oxford 10-11th September 2011.

The Seventh Century Numismatic Round Table was started by a small group of Oriental Numismatic Society members in 1992 with the aim of generating debate between numismatists, historians and archaeologists interested both in Arab-Byzantine coinage and in the more general aspects of the transition from Byzantium to Islam in the 7th c. Near East.

The next conference will be held at Corpus Christi College Oxford over the weekend of 10-11th September 2011. It is expected that about 10 to 12 papers will be given, but the conference will be informal and there will be plenty of opportunity for discussion. Anyone interested in giving a paper, participating in the discussions

or just coming to listen should contact Tony Goodwin at a.goodwin2@btopenworld.com. Conference fees including refreshments are likely to be less than £30. The Round Table aims to publish papers whenever possible and the Proceedings of the 2009 conference are now available as *Coinage and History in the Seventh Century Near East 2*, edited by Andrew Oddy and published by Archetype Publications (price £25).

Royal Numismatic Society medal 2010 | Dr Alan Stahl

The RNS has awarded the Society's 2010 medal – its highest honour – to Dr Alan Stahl. In the President's citation special mention was made of Stahl's prize-winning *Zecca: The Mint of Venice in the Middle Ages*, (2000), which is now also available in Italian translation, but his more recent contribution to the superb three volume publication of *The Book of Michael of Rhodes* (2009) was also noted. Dr. Stahl, twice winner of the Heath Literary Award of the American Numismatic Association, has an enormous bibliography, but his contributions to numismatics extend far beyond his outstanding published work. His teaching, originally at the ANS, but subsequently at a number of American universities and currently at Princeton, has brought an understanding and appreciation of numismatics to a wide audience.

Nick Mayhew

North Book Prize 2010 | Lord Stewartby

The British Numismatic Society awarded its biennial prize for the best numismatic book to Lord Stewartby at a presentation on 22 March 2011. His new volume *English Coins 1180-1551* 'provides an indispensable point of reference for students, curators, dealers and collectors, as well as a ready source of information for historians and others with a more general interest in English medieval coins'.

WW2 bombing of Coins and Medals | A temporary display

It is seventy years since the Department of Coins and Medals was destroyed by fires caused by incendiary bombs, in the final days of the Blitz. The story of the bombing, as told through a temporary display in the Money Gallery, is as much about preparation and organisation for object evacuation, as it is about destruction.

The initial suggestion was to move every national collection to Hampton Court Palace. Had this taken a direct hit then it would have made for a spectacular bonfire: the idea was quickly vetoed. Institutions were encouraged to obtain their own storage facilities. By 1938 the British Museum had primed several offsite stores, which enabled the swift evacuation of objects when the order was finally given, on 24th August 1939. By noon on the third day all of Coins and Medals had been removed to Northamptonshire.

The British Museum partially reopened in February 1940. Displays included Electrotype copies of coins and the so-called 'suicide display' of duplicate or replica objects. The Museum was hit on several occasions during the Blitz, but the most damage was caused by the incendiaries which hit at 11:30pm on May 10 1941. Several galleries, the Greek and Roman Department, and the Department of Coins and Medals, were destroyed. The 'suicide display' lived up to its name, and was lost. At least one cabinet remained in Coins and Medals, containing Indian coins. It was probably being studied by John Allen, Keeper of the Department, for a catalogue of Indian coins. Seventy years on, the molten fragments, displayed for the first time, give some idea of the intensity of the fires. We are fortunate that the rest of the collection survived unscathed. Without the foresight and organisation of the people employed to look after them, a significant proportion would have been lost forever.

Tom Hockenull

FOCUS: THE MONEY & MEDALS NETWORK

Mapping of numismatic collections in regional museums



One of the core activities of the newly established Money and Medals Network is a programme of mapping numismatic collections in museums across the UK. The overall aims of the network are to promote awareness of numismatic collections in museums around the UK, both among the general public and within the museum sector; to encourage the sharing of information, knowledge and skills between partner museums within the network; to encourage and facilitate best practice with regard to the management, interpretation and public access to numismatic collections in museums; to support the development of new resources relating to such collections; and to encourage interaction between partner museums and the wider numismatic community.

This would be a positive step for numismatics under any circumstances, but it is all the more pressing in the current financial situation. Most museums receive a significant part of their income through public funding, whether through national or local government or through universities. All of these areas are seeking to make financial savings, and numismatic collections are not always a high priority even for major museums. The Department of Coins and Medals at the British Museum has suffered a significant reduction in the number of permanent posts over the last few years, although this has been partially addressed through the appointment of fixed-term project curators. In any case, the size of the department gives it some flexibility. The other major concentrations of numismatists, at the Ashmolean and Fitzwilliam are also active and productive. By contrast, most museums with numismatic collections have a single curator with specialist knowledge, if that, which means that losing that specialist can have severe consequences for those institutions. When Nicholas Holmes retired last year from the National Museums of Scotland, his post was not replaced, with the result that at the NMS coins are now officially a 'closed' collection, and unavailable to the public. A number of other museum numismatists are also within a few years of retirement, and there is no guarantee that they will necessarily be replaced by curators with an interest in numismatics, or even that they will be replaced at all. For many non-numismatists, coins are small and boring, and not particularly public-friendly.

The aim of the network, therefore, is to enable the museum numismatic community to provide each other with support. This can be done through training and sharing of knowledge and experience, whether in specific numismatic series, or in the practicalities of collection care, or ideas on how coins, medals and other numismatic material can be used effectively. This is already happening in various ways. As part of a 'Future Curators' programme funded by the HLF,

the BM is currently training a number of curators in specialist fields on six month placements, before these move on to work in regional museums for a further year. One of these placements covers East Asian coins, and will go on to catalogue this material at Manchester Museum, and it is hoped that there will be further numismatic trainees within the next two phases of this scheme. However, it is not just major collections like the BM that are offering training. Newport Museum, which has a significant collection of Roman coins, particularly those from the nearby Roman site at Caerwent, recently employed numismatist Nick Wells for six months to catalogue their collection. While he was there, they organised two training sessions with Nick for curators from other collections, advertised through the Society of Museum Archaeologists. These focused not just on handling and reading Roman imperial coins, but on the practicalities of referencing and documenting such coins using the standard catalogues. These are used routinely by numismatists, but are by no means self-explanatory to non-specialists. Both courses were popular, attracting people from as far away as possible.

In order to achieve the aims indicated above, the first step is to establish just what the current situation is across the country. The mapping exercise will be carried out in each case jointly by a specialist museum numismatist, mostly but not exclusively from the BM, together with a local representative, using a standardised checklist to ensure consistency. The survey looks at what each collection contains, as well as storage, documentation, display and study facilities, as well as the use of numismatic materials in access and education programmes, and the level of local expertise. The programme will include offering practical guidance on best practice where this is needed, but will also seek to identify both specific training and development needs and where there is already expertise in the regions which could be shared with others, as in the Newport example mentioned above. While some of the information gathered will remain confidential, details of collections, study facilities, displays, education and outreach activities, and curatorial expertise will be added to a publicly accessible database on the MMN website. This has two main advantages. The first is to publicise the collections. This potentially benefits the museums themselves, as they may gain additional visitors either to their public displays or to their study facilities, but it also enables members of the public to identify collections of particular interest. Some of these are more predictable than others. It comes as no surprise that Norwich Castle Museum is particularly strong in collections of all periods relating to East Anglia, or that The Collection in Lincoln has an excellent collection of coins from the Lincoln and Stamford mints. However, as collection strengths often depend on past individual donations, these may have no obvious local associations beyond the individual collector who donated them, resulting in collections of national importance in particular series, such as Byzantine coins at the Barber Institute in Birmingham, or tokens at Bristol Museum. These collections will be known to

established specialists in the field, whether curators, dealers or collectors, but may be less obvious to people starting out in numismatics.

The second benefit is for the museums themselves, as they can see more easily what others are doing, and perhaps borrow and adapt ideas that have worked well in other areas. For example, the Yorkshire Museum has recently used its numismatic collections in two innovative community outreach programmes, engaging with issues of money in modern society, and resulting in temporary displays. The Harris Museum in Preston is currently redeveloping its galleries, and plans for the new galleries included both a dedicated display on money and exchange, and also the incorporation of numismatic material including Roman, Viking and Civil War hoards within a broader display interpreting the history of the area. Either might provide inspiration for other museums. Looking at numismatic collections as a whole may also identify opportunities for joint projects. For example, if several museums within the same region all have similar plans to improve documentation of their numismatic collections, there may be scope for a shared post to deliver this. Training may also be more effectively targeted if several museums want training in the same numismatic series. There may also be scope for better use of resources. It is increasingly difficult, for example, to find suppliers of traditional wooden coin cabinets, and that is in part because no single order is likely to be very substantial, making it an unattractive prospect for potential suppliers. However, if several museums are looking for cabinets of similar type, there may be scope for economies of scale which could make the difference between whether or not the acquisition of cabinets (or any other type of numismatic equipment) is viable.

The first step is to collect the data. At the time of writing, around ten visits have taken place, with several more planned. The British Museum is supporting the cost of this through its UK Partnerships programme, while the Fitzwilliam Museum has generously agreed to provide a copy of Jonathan Jarrett's booklet on *Care of Numismatic Collections* to every participating museum. Discussions with MLA about the possibility of a short-term post to support the programme were proceeding well when the abolition of the MLA was announced, and future spending put on hold. As the transition of the MLA's role supporting museum partnerships to the Arts Council becomes clearer, this will be revisited and this sort of support would enable the project to deliver results more quickly. However, the BM and other partners in the Money and Medals Network are committed to making the programme work even without external funding, even if this means that it has to be carried out rather more gradually. In the meantime, the public database containing the first few collections to be mapped is expected to go online on the Money and Medals website in July 2011, with more being added progressively as additional data is gathered.

Gareth Williams, British Museum

gwilliams@thebritishmuseum.ac.uk; telephone: 0207 323 8257

Norwich Castle Museum's numismatic collection



Norwich Castle is one of the first collections to have received a visit as part of the new Collections Mapping project. Established with the founding of the Norwich City Museum in 1824, we have a full and important collection of numismatic material of regional significance, with particular aspects of national importance. The collection has been developing ever since and today there are approximately 17,000 objects ranging from the Iron Age to the present day. Throughout, the emphasis has been on European coinage, and more particularly that of relevance to the history and archaeology of the East Anglian region, whether as examples of locally-minted coinage or as assemblages of coinage, both from hoards or site-specific.

The collections of coin hoards are of particular importance. The Iron Age hoards include those from Honingham, Fincham and Snettisham, while there are a number of Roman hoards. These range from the first-century denarius hoard from Needham, through second- and third-century hoards to the late fourth-century deposit of solidi from Deopham. From the Anglo-Saxon period is the Morley St Peter hoard of 720 tenth-century pennies, including the most extensive collection of portrait coins of Edward the Elder, while among our medieval hoards is an important assemblage of William I pennies from Norwich, as well as numerous smaller purse-hoard losses. Norfolk was a relatively peaceful area in the English Civil War and the silver coin hoard from Wortwell is one of just three known to have been buried in the county at that time.

Norwich Castle's numismatic collection is curated by the Archaeology department, as the county museum, the Castle has also been responsible for taking in most of the excavation archives from the county. This has brought with it numerous other, smaller, collections of coinage, and in recent years we have sought to acquire field collections, often made by metal-detector users. Recent examples are the 2,500+ coins from the Roman temple site of Leylands Farm, Hockwold, and the 90+ hammered silver coins from Bromholm Cluniac priory. Both have been acquired along with all the artefacts and were collected using a site grid, enabling distribution patterns to be observed. All 12 sceatta coins recovered from a new Middle Anglo-Saxon 'productive' site in Outwell have also been acquired.

The local nature of the coinage is best represented for the Iron Age and Anglo-Saxon periods, with extensive runs of locally-minted coins, while of the approximately 2,700 trade tokens of 17th-19th century date, the East Anglian component is both comprehensive and of regional significance. There is also a collection of about 300 jettons.

Given its curation by an Archaeology department, it is unsurprising that there are a number of items of associated numismatic interest. Evidence of Iron Age coin production in the form of clay moulds was recovered from Fison Way Thetford, Saham Toney and Needham, while a number of sites in Norfolk have now yielded evidence for the production of Romano-British barbarous radiates. Our

collection has examples of both chopped rods and blanks for these, and also an iron trussel-die of probably tenth-or eleventh-century date from Thetford. Recognition of Viking-type ingots has led to the acquisition of several examples, not only of gold and silver, but intriguingly also of bronze, one hammered out from a Roman sestertius. There are coin balances and over 200 weights of Roman to post-medieval date.

There are a number of rare and important coins within the overall collection, including the best example of a coin issued by King Prasutagus of the Iceni, c.50-60AD; a 'ship' penny of King Æthelstan of East Anglia and only the sixth known coin of the shadowy Æthelred, successor to Saint Edmund and puppet ruler of the Vikings. We also have a useful collection of locally-found Arabic coins, including a number of ninth- and tenth-century dirhams and a gold Arabic dinar of 773AD.

Finally, the numismatic collection also includes over 500 commemorative and historic medals, dating from the 16th century to the present day. These mainly relate to British and local events and places. Important among these are four convict 'love tokens', made from smoothed down Georgian 'cartwheel' pennies which have been decorated with designs or inscriptions pricked into their surface. One illustrates the central building of the old City Gaol of Norwich, while the remaining three give the names of individuals who were subsequently transported to Australia. The circumstances of these individuals' crimes and subsequent lives in Australia have now been researched.

We are very fortunate that Norwich Castle's numismatic collection is backed up by specialist curatorial expertise as both the Keeper of Archaeology, Dr John Davies, is a numismatist, while Dr Adrian Marsden, the Historic Environment Service's Numismatist is based in the museum. The numismatic holdings are being actively developed through new accessions, and the ordering of old collections in new cabinets. With a programme of new photography in place and an online research facility for the collections (<http://www.culturalmodes.norfolk.gov.uk/projects/nmaspu b5.asp>), we look forward to seeing the development of the Collections Mapping project and taking an active part working with other institutions elsewhere.

Dr Tim Pestell FSA, Curator of Archaeology

The Network: An overview

The Network is run from the British Museum and supported by museums in London, Oxford, Cambridge, Birmingham, Manchester, Norwich, Cardiff, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Llantrissant, Leicester, Durham and Colchester, the British, Royal and British Art Medals Societies as well as the PAS and BNTA. As outlined above one aim of the Network is to provide collections mapping data for UK numismatic collections. But this is just one aspect of the project. The website has been online for a couple of months now, and although parts are still under construction, the basic framework is in place. The aim of the site is to provide a point of contact for museum staff (and others) all over the

country which enables the dissemination of information related to coins and medals.



Screen shot of the homepage (www.moneyandmedals.org.uk)

Five sections of the site provide different types of information; the *News* page is regularly updated with recent articles and a weblog facility will be incorporated into this feature so that comment and discussion can feature. The gist of the *Collections Mapping* function has been fully explored above. The third section, the *Expertise Database*, contains regional and subject-specific search facilities to allow one to find numismatic specialists in museums and universities. A *Resources* page provides links to museums, numismatic societies and a range of other web links on themes around conservation, coin identification, funding, publishing and other news sites. Finally, a page is dedicated to the Newsletter, providing downloadable PDF's of past issue of the CCNB/Money and Medals Newsletter.

Social media sites, specifically Facebook and Twitter, have been incorporated into the Network. It is hoped that a presence on both sites will help to push the subject of numismatics to potential new audiences, as well as providing up-to-date news, events and diary dates to existing enthusiasts.

Richard Kelleher, SSN Co-ordinator

TEMPORARY EXHIBITIONS

'Origins': in search of early Wales

National Museum of Wales, Cardiff, from December 2007

Britannia: Money

Ashmolean Museum of Art and Archaeology (Gallery 7), Oxford

The special exhibition traces the representation of Britannia from her first appearance on English currency in 1672 to the public outcry when she disappeared from the coinage in 2008.

Heracles to Alexander the Great: Treasures from the Royal Capital of Macedon, a Hellenic Kingdom in the Age of Democracy

Ashmolean Museum of Art and Archaeology, Oxford 7 April – 29 August 2011

In the first major archaeological exhibition in the new temporary exhibition galleries, the Ashmolean Museum will showcase over five hundred treasures made of gold, silver and bronze, recently found in the royal burial tombs and the palace of Aegae, the ancient capital of Macedon. These extraordinary new discoveries will go on display for the first time outside Greece. They re-write the history of early Greece and tell the story of the royal court and the kings and queens who governed Macedon, from the descendants of Heracles to the ruling dynasty of Alexander the Great.

Eric Gill: Public and Private Art

British Museum, Gallery 69a. 10 Feb 2011 – 7 Aug 2011

This exhibition explores the wide range of Gill's artistic practice, including his coin, stamp and medal designs and smaller-scale works.

Sacred and Profane: Treasures of Ancient Egypt

Barber Institute of Fine Arts, Birmingham (Coin Gallery). 18 June 2010 – 18 January 2012

Sacred and Profane celebrates the extraordinary bequest of Major William Joseph Myers (1858–1899).

LECTURES, SEMINARS, COLLOQUIA AND CONFERENCES

DIARY

May

24 BNS *Arctic and Polar Medals: Rewards to the brave, the foolhardy and the shivering*, Admiral J. A. L. Myres

June

18 ONS Show and Tell at the British Museum. Any members who would like to give a presentation please contact Robert Bracey at robert@kushan.org.

21 RNS AGM: Presidential Address and Summer Party. *The Quantity Theory of Money (2): The Price Level*, Nicholas Mayhew

28 BNS *News from Wales: nummi and Normans*, Edward Besly

July

2 Cardiff RNS/BNS Joint Summer Meeting.

13 IMC International Medieval Congress, Leeds. *Making the World Go Round: Coinage, Currency, Credit, Recycling and Finance in Medieval Europe*.

14 York *Moneta Britannia 2011*. A conference to celebrate all aspects of Romano-British numismatics.

September

10-11 Oxford *Seventh Century Syrian Numismatics Round Table*

27 BNS The Linecar Lecture: *Not lost for ever: understanding Roman coin finds over the past fifty years*, Richard Reece.

AUCTIONS AND FAIRS

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

May

20 **Spink. Bonds and Share Certificates of the World.** 69 Southampton Row, London WC1.

24 **St James's Auctions. Ancient, British and World Coins, Medals and Banknotes.** Cavendish Hotel, 81 Jermyn Street, London SW1. www.stjauctions.com

29 **Coin, Medal, Banknote and Militaria Fair.** Cedar Court Hotel, Dale Road, Calder Grove, Wakefield, W. Yorkshire.

30 **David Douglas Militaria Fair.** Original Hotel, Roslin, Edinburgh.

June

1 **Bosleys. Medals and Militaria.** Court Gardens, Marlow, Bucks. www.bosleys.co.uk

4 **Baldwin's Auctions Ltd. Summer Argentum Auction.** Holiday Inn, Coram Street, London WC1. www.baldwin.co.uk

5 **Preston Arms & Militaria Fair.** Swallow Hotel, Sammlsbury, Preston, Lancs. www.prestonarmsfair.co.uk

5 **Wakefield Medal Fair.** Outwood Memorial Hall, Victoria Street, Outwood, Wakefield, W. Yorkshire.

6-7 **London Coins. Coins, Medals and Banknotes.** Grange Hotel, Charles Square, Bracknell, Berks. www.londoncoins.co.uk

7 **Wessex Numismatic Society.** Coins, Tokens, Medals and Books. Beaufort Community Centre, Beaufort Road, Southbourne, Bournemouth.

9 **Morton & Eden.** Ancient, Islamic, British and World Coins, Medals.

10 **Morton & Eden. Orders and Decorations.** Bloomfield Place, London W1.

12 **Midland Coin Fair.** National Motorcycle Museum, Bickenhill, Birmingham. www.midlandcoinfair.co.uk

15 **Warwick & Warwick.** Coins, Medals and Militaria, Paper Money. Court House, Jury Street, Warwick. www.warwickandwarwick.com

19 **Bromley Medal Fair.** Civic Centre, Stockwell Close, Kentish Way, Bromley, Kent.

19 **David Douglas Militaria Fair.** Scotch Corner Hotel, Scotch Corner, N. Yorkshire.

21 **Dix Noonan Webb, Commemorative Medals.** Washington Hotel, 5 Curzon Street, London W1. www.dnw.co.uk

22 **Dix Noonan Webb, British and World Coins.** Washington Hotel, 5 Curzon Street, London W1. www.dnw.co.uk

22 **Dix Noonan Webb, Ancient Coins.** Washington Hotel, 5 Curzon Street, London W1. www.dnw.co.uk

22 **BSA Auctions. Coins.** Unit 17, Station Yard South, Worcester Road, Leominster, Herefordshire. www.birmauctions.co.uk

23 **Spink. Ancient, British and World Coins.** 69 Southampton Row, London WC1. www.spink.com

- 26 **Coin, Medal, Banknote and Militaria Fair.** Cedar Court Hotel, Dale Road, Calder Grove, Wakefield, W. Yorkshire.
- 26 **Mark Carter Militaria and Medal Fair.** Stratford Leisure & Visitor Centre, Bridgefoot, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire.

July

- 2 **Linda Monk Fair.** Bloomsbury Hotel, 16-22 Great Russell Street, London WC1.
- 3 **Wakefield Medal Fair.** Outwood Memorial Hall, Victoria Street, Outwood, Wakefield, W. Yorkshire.
- 5-6 **Dix Noonan Webb, Orders, Decorations and Medals.** Washington Hotel, 5 Curzon Street, London W1. www.dnw.co.uk
- 10 **Midland Coin Fair.** National Motorcycle Museum, Bickenhill, Birmingham. www.midlandcoinfair.co.uk
- 10 **Lockdales. Coins, Medals and Paper Money.** Orwell Holiday Inn, The Havens, Ransomes Europark, Ipswich. www.lockdales.com
- 17 **David Douglas Militaria Fair.** The Maltings, Easter Wynd, West Street, Berwick-upon-Tweed.
- 21 **Spink. Orders, Decorations and Medals.** 69 Southampton Row, London WC1. www.spink.com
- 24 **Coin, Medal, Banknote and Militaria Fair.** Cedar Court Hotel, Dale Road, Calder Grove, Wakefield, W. Yorkshire.
- 27 **Bonhams. Coins, Medals, Banknotes and Bonds.** Montpelier Street, London SW7. www.bonhams.com/knightsbridge

August

- 7 **Bromley Medal Fair.** Civic Centre, Stockwell Close, Kentish Way, Bromley, Kent.
- 7 **Preston Arms & Militaria Fair.** Mercure Dunkenhalgh, Clayton-le-Moors, Lancs. www.prestonarmsfair.co.uk
- 7 **Wakefield Medal Fair.** Outwood Memorial Hall, Victoria Street, Outwood, Wakefield, W. Yorkshire.
- 7 **B. Frank & Son.** Coins, Medals and Banknotes. Wakefield, W. Yorkshire. www.b-frank-and-son.co.uk
- 14 **David Douglas Militaria Fair.** Novotel, Kingston Park, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
- 14 **Midland Coin Fair.** National Motorcycle Museum, Bickenhill, Birmingham. www.midlandcoinfair.co.uk
- 14 **Mark Carter Militaria and Medal Fair.** Yate Leisure Centre, Kennedy Way, Yate, Bristol.
- 17 **Warwick & Warwick.** Coins, Medals and Militaria, Paper Money. Court House, Jury Street, Warwick. www.warwickandwarwick.com
- 24 **BSA Auctions. Coins.** Unit 17, Station Yard South, Worcester Road, Leominster, Herefordshire. www.birmauctions.co.uk
- 28 **Coin, Medal, Banknote and Militaria Fair.** Cedar Court Hotel, Dale Road, Calder Grove, Wakefield, W. Yorkshire.

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

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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: bnta@lineone.net; website: www.bnta.net

Oriental Numismatic Society (ONS)

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

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.sh.auctions@baldwin.sh

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

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

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