

Volume 51 Number 3

September 2019

Perth Numismatic Journal



*Official publication of the
Perth Numismatic Society Inc*

VICE-PATRON

Prof. John Melville-Jones

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: 2018-2019

PRESIDENT	Prof. Walter Bloom
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT	Ben Selentin
SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT	Dick Pot
TREASURER	Alan Peel
ASSISTANT TREASURER	Sandy Shailes
SECRETARY	Prof. Walter Bloom
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY	Sandra Vowles
MINUTES SECRETARY	Ray Peel
FELLOWSHIP OFFICER	Jim Selby
EVENTS COORDINATOR	Mike McAndrew
ORDINARY MEMBERS	Jim Hiddens
	Jonathan de Hadleigh
	Miles Goldingham
	Tom Kemeny
JOURNAL EDITOR	John McDonald
JOURNAL SUB-EDITOR	Mike Beech-Jones

OFFICERS

AUDITOR	Vignesh Raj
CATERING	Lucie Pot
PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER	Tom Kemeny
WEBMASTER	Prof. Walter Bloom

WAnumismatica website
designer & sponsor
www.wanumismatica.org.au

Mark Nemtsas,
The Purple Penny



CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PERTH NUMISMATIC JOURNAL

Contributions on any aspect of numismatics are welcomed but will be subject to editing. All rights are held by the author(s), and views expressed in the contributions are not necessarily those of the Society or the Editor.

Please address all contributions to the journal, comments and general correspondence to:

PERTH NUMISMATIC SOCIETY Inc
PO BOX 259, FREMANTLE WA 6959

www.pns.org.au

Registered Australia Post, Publ. PP 634775/0045, Cat B

WAnumismatica website: www.wanumismatica.org.au
Designer & sponsor: Mark Nemtsas, The Purple Penny

PRESIDENT'S AND SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT

July 2019

The last twelve months has seen a continued period of prosperity for the Perth Numismatic Society Inc, in membership, activities and our balance of funds. During the year we held five Coin, Medal and Banknote Fairs at the South Perth Community Centre and made a substantial contribution to the ANDA Perth Money expo in February with a 5 cent forage and a world coin forage for children and others (for which we received a welcome donation from ANDA). The WA Numismatica website continues to expand, and the Society's website with its on-line membership application form is attracting new members. Monthly meetings continue to be strongly supported, with 55-60 attending each night.

The Society had three invited talk in the last twelve months:

29 August 2018: Professor John Melville-Jones, *Moving towards a cashless society*.

25 September 2018: John Wheatley, *The early history of the Bank of New South Wales including the opening of the first two branches in WA*.

27 March 2019: Claire Rowson, *From fabrication to conservation: Unlocking cultural and industrial heritage collections at the Perth Mint*.

The Haydn Powell Memorial Award has been made in two classes, gold and silver, and medallions for these were designed and struck by the Adelaide Mint. Haydn's son Darrell very generously funded the reverse die and the striking of 50 of each of these medallions.

Haydn Powell Memorial Awards have been made as follows:

2013 Gold: James Taylor† Silver: Jan Edward Hosking

2014 Gold: Rowley Edward Butters, Frank Marshall Gare

There have been no awards since 2014.

We are most grateful to the Perth Mint for its donations of substantial door prizes for our fairs. We have also had regular donations of coins, medals and catalogues from Mike McAndrew of Phoenix Auctions; these have supported our tender sales and the Coins for Kids programme.

Many members have contributed so much to the Society during the year and have helped in a variety of ways, not just those on the Management Committee, but also from the general membership. I would make special mention of Sandy Shailes and Sandra Vowles who both stepped in at short notice when our Treasurer Alan Peel was ill.

The Executive Committee has done a sterling job as usual, and I would make special mention of our Treasurer, Alan Peel and Membership Secretary Sandra Vowles. I am grateful to John McDonald who continues to edit the Journal with outstanding articles, Lucie Pot for handling the catering, and Dick Pot for running the tender sale. And I am also grateful to our advertisers, Mike McAndrew (Phoenix Auctions WA), Dick Pot (Rainbow Rarities), Jamey Blewitt (JB Military Antiques), Andrew Crellin (Sterling & Currency) and Jonathan Cohen (Imperial Numismatics) for their support of our Journal.

Walter R Bloom

President and Secretary
Perth Numismatic Society Inc.
www.pns.org.au
www.wanumismatica.org.au



The Perth Numismatic Society is grateful to the Perth Mint for its generous donations of door prizes for our fairs.

A WESTERN AUSTRALIAN “AMUSEMENT ONLY TOKEN”

Steven Sparkman

Amusement Only Tokens are those which are invariably marked “*for amusement only*” and “*no trade or cash value*” or words to that effect. Ivan Salis (www.treasurenet.com) wrote that these tokens mostly date from about 1900 to the 1930’s (although some are as late as the 1950’s) and that they were primarily used for illegal poker machines. Clearly the idea was to substitute money with a token, which then created the perception that no money was actually being gambled.

One token with a Western Australian connection is an issue for Barney Heyward of the WA Amusement Company. The token is bronze and approximately 30mm in diameter. The obverse has bold circular writing stating “LOANED FOR AMUSEMENT ONLY”, whilst the obverse records “PART & PROPERTY OF MACHINE” also in a bold circular fashion around the token. By themselves, that writing and layout are a fairly common pattern found on a number of other tokens, invariably emanating from the United States of America. What distinguishes this particular token, however, is the wording “BARNEY HAYWARD” (sic) on the obverse and “W.A. AMUSEMENT C^o” on the reverse.



For those members of the Perth Numismatic Society of a certain age, Barney Heyward could be a recognisable name as he was a prominent showman over a long period of time. This paper does not attempt to provide a detailed biographical account of his life, but rather to simply provide a brief thumbnail sketch of another era. It was an era when "entertainment" presented far fewer options than those presented today.

Anton Bernard Lambert Heyward was born in Blenheim, New Zealand, in either 1897 or 1898. He died in 1975. When, how or why he came to Western Australia is unclear, nor is it known how he became a showman. What is known, however, is that by the mid 1930's Barney Heyward and the travelling W.A. Amusement Co. were offering the citizens of a large number of country towns in Western Australia "*Fun For All*" with "*the Huge Ferris Wheel and Dodge-Em....Hoop-Las, Chocolate Games, Shooting Gallery, Strength Tester and Other Novelties*".

An advertisement published by The Yalgoo and Murchison Chronicle on Friday, 15th May, 1936 also promised "*Death on the Circular Saw, The Hindoo (sic) Sword Box and LOLA LA POLOMA, the famous contortionist and Whirlwind Acrobat*". Also promised, were **Slot Machines** (my emphasis), for which tokens of no value were presumably used to avoid any issues with the authorities!

W.A. Amusement Co.

Next ROAD BOARD OFFICE

NIGHTLY

GIANT FERRIS WHEEL

THE TEMPLE OF MYSTERY

featuring Death on the Circular Saw, The Hindoo Sword Box
and LOLA LA POLOMA, the famous contortionist and
Whirlwind Acrobat

Slot Machines, Hoop-la, Prize Packets, Shooting Gallery, Chocolate Games,
Strength Tester

Everyone Welcome. You are assured of an Enjoyable Night

A SPECIAL MATINEE for Children on Saturday afternoon with the
Great Desmond who makes you laugh. See Jimmy the Talking Doll,
and Jacko the Monk. A full two-hour Show for 6d.

In terms of Barney, a significant reference to him was reported by the Mirror on Saturday, 26th August, 1939 when the heading somewhat breathlessly announced "WESTERN AUSTRALIA BREAKS ANOTHER RECORD". The Sunday Times published exactly the same story the next day, but had the slightly more subdued heading of "A VICTORY FOR WESTERN AUSTRALIA." The disconnection between those newspaper headings and the actual story is so great that it is worth repeating the article(s) in their entirety.

“Mr Reg Phillips, an English showman of considerable international fame and standing, has been scouring the entire world for unexploited and unusual wonders, marvels and freaks for show purposes at the forthcoming “Centennial Exhibition” to be held in N.Z.

His Western Australian agent is that well known and reputable showman, Barney Heyward. Mr. Heyward, acting in that capacity, was fortunate enough to secure a huge pig. On cabling Mr. Phillips agents in Canada, America, England, and in many other countries, he immediately set in action the units of a human comparison machine, who inquired and rummaged and combed the entire countries in which they were stationed, from large towns to small towns, provincial cities to mere villages, with only one result – failure and disappointment was their lot. Not one pig anywhere in the world measured, weighed, or was as tall as “Barney’s Pig” as he has become known. And so according to this authentic information it indeed appears that “Barney’s Pig” is truly the “World’s Largest Pig.”

Mr. Heyward has secured this colossal animal on lease for the forthcoming agricultural shows in W.A., so that the people in whose State he was discovered will be privileged to see him before he is exported to N.Z. for the exhibition.

The following is the itinerary made for him: Coorow, Perenjori, Morawa, Dowerin, Mullewa, Northam, Moora, Kellerberrin, Nungarin, Wickpin, Geraldton, Dalwallinu, Perth Royal.”

In addition to those travelling shows, from 1940 the WA Amusement Company also had an “Amusu” parlour in Cremorne Arcade, Perth with mechanical games, but it is unclear how long this business operated. The country show circuit most certainly continued post World War II with the highlight of any year being the annual Perth Royal Show.

It is well known that successive governments of all persuasion have been doggedly determined to prohibit poker/slot machines from being legalised in Western Australia (apart from the Crown Casino). With this in mind, having seen what was clearly a slot machine token led me to investigate how such an amusement only token could have a local provenance. Thankfully a perusal of an assortment of newspapers’ advertisements from the mid 1930’s to the early 1940’s appears to have provided an answer to the authenticity of the Barney Heyward (sic) Amusement Only Token.

References

National Library of Australia, Trove website. *The Yalgoo and Murchison Chronicle*, 15th of May 1936

National Library of Australia, Trove website. *The West Australian*, 1th of November 1936

National Library of Australia, Trove website. *Mirror*, 26th of August 1939

National Library of Australia, Trove website. *The Sunday Times*, 27th of August 1939

National Library of Australia, Trove website. *The West Australian*, 31st of August 1940

National Library of Australia, Trove website. *The Daily News*, 5th of May 1941

Treasurenet: www.treasurenet.com

Metropolitan Cemeteries Board:
<https://www2.mcb.wa.gov.au/NameSearch/search.php>

IMPERIAL —N— NUMISMATICS

THE BEST SELECTION OF WORLD,
ANCIENT AND AUSTRALIAN COINS

email: imperialnumismatics@gmail.com
phone: 0424 349 143
web: imperialnumismatics.com.au



1892 Double Shaft 5 Shillings PCGS MS63

AUSTRALIAN SUPERSCRIBED BANKNOTES AND EMERGENCY ONE POUND NOTES, 1910–1915

John Wheatley

The Australian superscribed series of notes has intrigued me over a number of years (superscribe means to write or engrave on the top or outside). Andrew Crellin has stated that the Australian superscribed series deserve to be ranked as the first banknotes issued by the Australian Commonwealth Government and that the superscribed series of notes are misunderstood and underappreciated by the majority of Australian note collectors for various reasons including:

1. Their appearance is very similar to the pre-federation notes they replaced.
2. It is an incredibly complex series to be fully comprehended.
3. They have not been comprehensively catalogued by popular price guides for some years.
4. Very few collectors appreciate that the superscribed notes circulated alongside the Treasury notes for a short period of time.
5. The reasons why the Commonwealth Government assumed control of the issue of the notes is not widely known (1).

In August 2018, Noble Numismatics disposed of the Caldwell Collection of Australian Banknotes, which was the biggest and most important auction of Australian banknotes in this country since the Nicholson sale in November 1995. It is worth noting that the Caldwell Collection contained 21 different superscribed notes, only a few less than in the Nicholson Collection.

With the sale of the superscribed notes in the Caldwell Collection and the availability of the wonderful coloured images in the Catalogue, I thought it appropriate to pull the available information together in one article and to illustrate it with the marvellous images that are now available. I have also included material in relation to the Emergency One Pound Note Issue with images of the two emergency issues, including the excessively rare “No. 1” note that originally formed part of the Amon Carter Collection.

I have relied heavily upon the material contained in Mick Vort-Ronald’s books “Australian Superscribed Banknotes” (second edition) and “Australian Banknotes”, a must read for all Australian Banknote collectors.

Why Did Australia Need Superscribed Notes?

Prior to 1910, private banks were authorised to issue their own paper money subject to them maintaining sufficient reserves in gold coin to honour the promise made on the notes to redeem them in gold.

In 1910, subsequent to Federation, the Federal Government passed the Australian Notes Act 1910 that was proclaimed to become operative on 1 November 1910. This Act legislated for the Australian Federal Government to issue Australian banknotes. The Bank Notes Tax Act placing a 10% tax on the notes of banks on issue had been assented to on 10 October 1910 which had the effect of forcing the banks to withdraw their own notes.

However, the Government did not have the necessary printing facilities for banknotes, or ready designs. As a temporary measure, the Government decided to purchase unused banknote forms from private banks and the Queensland Government.

Initially forms from the following banks were used:

Bank of New South Wales, Bank of Australasia, Australian Bank of Commerce (Sydney), Commercial Bank of Tasmania, London Bank of Australia, City Bank of Sydney, Bank of Victoria, Bank of Adelaide, Commercial Banking Company of Sydney, National Bank of Australasia, Union Bank of Australia and Western Australian Bank

Later, forms from the following banks were included:

English Scottish and Australia Bank, Commercial Bank of Australia, Royal Bank of Australasia Limited and the Queensland Government.

These unused banknote forms were then overprinted as Australian Government issues with a promise to pay in gold coin. These notes were all dated 1 December 1910 and became known as “superscribed” banknotes.

Denominations overprinted and issued were one pound, five pounds, ten pounds, twenty pounds, fifty pounds and one hundred pounds. Very few notes have survived and there is only one known one hundred pounds, held by the Reserve Bank of Australia Archives.

By April 1912, the Treasury decided to use only the forms of the National Bank, possibly to reduce the incidence of forgery. It took two and a half years before the first Australian Government designed notes were issued (2)

Superscribed Queensland Government Notes, Precursors to the Australian Superscribed Series

April 1893 was the time of the Queensland Great Bank Crash. Most banks stopped trading. The Queensland National Bank, that State's main bank with the largest note circulation and the State Government's banker, and the only bank in many towns, suspended business on 15 May 1893, causing chaos in Queensland.

The Queensland Government acted swiftly, obtaining banknotes from eight private banks and superscribing the notes with an overprint converting them to notes guaranteed by the Queensland Government.

Pictured below is "Government of Queensland", superscribed on a one pound of The Queensland National Bank Limited, issued by the Government of Queensland.



*The Queensland National Bank Limited superscribed one pound
Image courtesy of Noble Numismatics*

It is marked as a Treasury Note, Brisbane, and dated 2nd June 1893 for the superscribed part (numbered A000178) and 1st January 1891 on the original note (numbered C324178) (3).

Commonwealth Government Superscribed Notes, 1910 (Type one)

Type 1 superscription was as follows:

A 000001 (Coat of Arms) A 000001

AUSTRALIAN NOTE

Payable in Gold Coin at the Commonwealth

Treasury at the seat of Government

<i>Jas. R. Collins (signed)</i>	<i>Geo. T. Allen (signed)</i>
<i>Accountant</i>	<i>Secretary to the Treasury</i>
	<i>1st December, 1910</i>

(Left ornamental design) A000001 (Right ornamental design)

Variations in the ornamental designs either side of the superscribed serial number at the bottom of the notes occur with Type 1 superscription. Within each design are crescent shapes curving to the left in some and to the right in others.

Variations observed to date are as follows:

- (a) Left and right design, crescent shapes curve left as in the Bank of Victoria superscribed one pound illustrated subsequently.
- (b) Left design, crescent shapes curve left. Right design, crescent shapes curve right as in the Commercial Banking Company of Sydney superscribed one pound note, prefix A, referred to in Australian Superscribed Banknotes, second Edition, at page 69.
- (c) Left and right designs, crescent shapes curve right. The majority of superscribed notes display this variety and they have been observed in all superscribed prefixes on notes A to L.

The following table compiled by Mick Vort-Ronald allocates reference numbers to known Type 1 superscribed notes (4).

Reference numbers for known superscribed notes
(after M. Vort-Ronald)

Bank	£1	£5	£10	£20	£50	£100
Australian Bank of Commerce	VS.1	VS.2	VS.3		VS.4	
Bank of Adelaide	VS.5	VS.6	VS.7	VS.8	VS.9	
Bank of Australasia	VS.10	VS.11	VS.12		VS.13	VS.14
Bank of New South Wales	VS.15	VS.16	VS.17	VS.18	VS.19	VS.20
Bank of Victoria	VS.21	VS.22	VS.23	VS.24	VS.25	
City Bank of Sydney	VS.26	VS.27	VS.28	VS.29	VS.30	
Commercial Bank of Australia	VS.31	VS.32				
Commercial Bank of Tasmania	VS.33	VS.34	VS.35	VS.36		
Commercial Banking Co. Sydney	VS.37	VS.38	VS.39			
English Scottish & Australian Bank	VS.40	VS.41	VS.42	VS.43	VS.44	
London Bank of Australia	VS.45	VS.46	VS.47		VS.48	VS.49
National Bank of Australasia	VS.50	VS.51	VS.52	VS.53	VS.54	VS.55
Queensland Government	VS.56	VS.57				
Royal Bank of Australia	VS.58					
Union Bank of Australia	VS.59	VS.60	VS.61	VS.62	VS.63	
Western Australian Bank	VS.64	VS.65	VS.66			

Renniks Australian Coin and Banknote Values uses the same reference numbers but with the letter “R” substituted for the letter “V”. The variations in ornamental design are designated (a), (b) and (c) as set out previously.

Some Examples of Australian Superscribed Notes

Pound Notes



Australian Bank of Commerce superscribed one pound (VS.1.(c))
Image courtesy of Noble Numismatics.



Bank of Adelaide superscribed one pound (VS.5(c))
 Image courtesy of Noble Numismatics



Bank of Victoria superscribed one pound, superscribed serial no. A000009, the lowest subscribed serial number in private hands (VS.21(a))
 Image courtesy of Noble Numismatics



Commercial Bank of Tasmania Limited superscribed one pound (VS.33(b))
 Image Courtesy of Noble Numismatics



*National Bank of Australasia Limited superscribed one pound (VS.50(c))
Courtesy of Noble Numismatics*



*Commercial Bank of Australia superscribed one pound, vertical panels at left
and right in Chinese writing (VS.31(c))
Image courtesy of Dauer J.C. & E.A. and Pettit J.*

Higher Denomination Superscribed Notes



*Bank of Adelaide superscribed five pounds (VS.6(c))
Image courtesy of Noble Numismatics*



Bank of New South Wales superscribed ten pounds (VS.17(c))
Image courtesy of Noble Numismatics



Union Bank of Australia Limited superscribed twenty pounds (VS.62(c))
Image courtesy of Dauer J.C. & E.A. and Pettit J.



London Bank of Australia Limited superscribed fifty pounds (VS.48(c))
Image courtesy of Commonwealth record in custody of the Reserve Bank of Australia Archives RBA NP – 002101



National Bank of Australasia Limited superscribed one hundred pounds (VS.55(c))

Image courtesy of Commonwealth record in the custody of the Reserve Bank of Australia Archives RBA NP – 002102

A Western Australian Bank Superscribed Note Sold at Auction

The only Western Australian superscribed note to appear in an auction was a one pound note, number D/733127, superscribed A512874.

This note was sold in the Alan Nicholson collection, Noble Sale 49B, November 1995 (lot 1688) and again in the Caldwell collection, Noble Sale 118B, August 2018 (lot 4269)



Western Australian Bank superscribed one pound note (VS.64(b))
Image courtesy of Noble Numismatics

Cancelled Superscribed Notes in the Art Gallery of South Australia Collection

Eight superscribed notes were supplied to the AGSA collection by the Commonwealth Government in November 1915.

No doubt this request was instigated by Alfred Chitty the then Numismatist of the Public Library, Museum and Art Gallery of South Australia. The collection of Australian superscribed notes held by AGSA is most comprehensive and only the Reserve Bank of Australia has a greater collection.

Mick Vort-Ronald has compiled lists of the Australian superscribed notes held in each of these collections (5). He considers that the approximate combined total of existing Australian superscribed notes from auction records, each of the above collections, and notes in private hands, is 269.

Three of the eight notes supplied to the Public Library, Museum and Art Gallery of South Australia were Western Australian Bank notes.



Cancelled Western Australian Bank superscribed one pound note (VS.64(c))
Image courtesy of Art Gallery of South Australia

Bradbury Wilkinson and Co., Australia est. 1856. Superscribed Note.
Commonwealth of Australia: Western Australian Bank one pound A544660 & D/727341.

1910 London, paper, 18.5 x 11.5 cm.

Donated by The Prime Minister of Australia on Behalf of the Commonwealth of Australia, 1915.

Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide. NBN0120.



Cancelled Western Australian Bank superscribed five pound note (VS.65(c))
Image courtesy of Art Gallery of South Australia

Bradbury Wilkinson and Co., Australia est. 1856. Superscribed Note.
Commonwealth of Australia: Western Australian Bank five pound C551875 & A/194126.

1911 London, paper, 19.0 x 11.5 cm.

Donated by The Prime Minister of Australia on Behalf of the Commonwealth of Australia, 1915.

Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide. NBN0121.



Cancelled Western Australian Bank superscribed ten pound note (VS.66(c))
Image courtesy of Art Gallery of South Australia

Bradbury Wilkinson and Co., Australia est. 1856. Superscribed Note.
Commonwealth of Australia: Western Australian Bank ten pound B063748 & A/066254.

1911 London, paper, 19.0 x 11.5 cm.

Donated by The Prime Minister of Australia on Behalf of the Commonwealth of Australia, 1915.

Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide. NBN0122

Examples from Other Countries

Australia was not alone in the overprinting of notes. Other examples are:

1. The Dardanelles campaign overprint on an English Treasury Note.
2. An Ulster Bank one pound note printed in 1927 which was overprinted to make it usable in Northern Ireland after 6th May 1929.
3. The overprinting by the German Military during World War 1 of Reich notes and their distribution in Persia as part of a campaign to gain influence in the region.
4. During World War 2, the British Military Authority one pound note with a Bulgaria overprint and the British Military Authority one pound note with a Greek overprint.
5. The New Zealand one pound note overprinted for use in Fiji.
6. The Hawaii overprint made on standard design U.S. notes issued in Hawaii after the Japanese attack on Pearl harbour in 1941.

Emergency One Pound Notes 1914 – 1915

The issue of one pound superscribed notes ceased in September 1913 with the introduction of the Commonwealth notes. World War 1 commenced in 1914, creating a big demand that the Note Printer was unable to meet. “Emergency” one pound notes were issued, printed by the Commonwealth Government Printer. There were two issues of these notes and each were signed by Jas. R. Collins and Geo. T Allen.

First Emergency Notes (Type 2 Superscription)

The first of the Emergency notes used the old printing plate of the E.S. & A. Bank, domiciled in Adelaide and bore the date “1st Sepr. 1894”. The notes were issued from October 1914 until September 1915 and measured 182 mm. by 118 mm. The serial numbers are A000001 A, to possible B300000 B. I understand that although 1,300,000 of the notes were printed only 850,000 were issued.

The prefix and suffix letters A-A and B-B are in the same blue colour and appear part of the main printing. The front carries the superscription as worded on the superscribed notes of 1910 -1913 (Type 1), but with the following modifications:

1. Two superscribed numbers instead of three which are placed at the top left and bottom right, instead of the top left and right and bottom centre.
2. No ornamental designs.
3. “N^o.” is inserted after the superscribed prefixes, and the prefix and suffix letters are in blue instead of black.

The first of the Emergency Notes is really a hybrid because it is also a superscribed note, but different to the Type One notes. Hence it is labelled Type Two Superscription.



*The first emergency one pound on a blank form of The English Scottish and Australian Bank Limited, Type 2 superscription (V.19A)
Image courtesy of Noble Numismatics*

Second emergency notes (“Rainbow Pound”)

The second of the Emergency notes is commonly referred to as the “Rainbow Pound”. It was 184 mm. by 102 mm. and issued from November 1914 until 17 April 1915. The serial numbers were C000001C to F1000000F.

I understand that there were two printings of these notes, on 3 October 1914 and from 20 October 1914 until 12 February 1915. I also understand that the printed notes were sold to the banks between November 1914 and April 1915.

It is understood that up to four million notes were printed but that only two million five hundred and forty six thousand were issued. The notes were printed at the Government Printing Office by the Commonwealth Stamp Printer, under the control of the Australian Note Printer.

The notes were needed quickly. The need for haste meant unassailable security could not be incorporated into the design. In any event, it was always intended to recall the notes as soon as possible. Conventional steel printing plates were unable to be engraved because of the urgency for the notes to be issued and the months such engraving would take. The paper used was not designed for bank note production. It was standard stock, as indicated by various partial watermarks reported among existing notes.

The wording on the front of the note is the same as used for the one thousand pound note and it is printed in a similar fashion, except for the different value in the centre. All wording is in cursive, except for the value in the centre which is in old English script, "ONE POUND". The text reads;

"Australian Note, The Treasurer of the Commonwealth of Australia promises to pay the Bearer (serial number) in gold coin on demand at the Commonwealth Treasury at the seat of government"

The underprint of the note's face consists of an orange vertical strip flanked by a light blue strip on either side. Where the orange and blue meet, the colour tends to green. This colour scheme extends across and through a large ONE that dominates the note's centre such that the left of the "O" and the right of the "E" are green, all of which explains the popular name "Rainbow Pound".

The back shows the words "ONE POUND" at the centre enclosed in various geometric lathe-work patterns. The underprint is mauve at the centre, grading to orange on either side.

There are two varieties of this note. The C-C and D-D notes show a "N^o." between the prefix and the serial number, while the E-E and F-F issues omit this.

The lack of security features saw these notes immediately and widely forged in every Australian State. On 17th April 1915 the Commonwealth Treasurer asked the banks to withdraw them all as quietly as possible and return them to the Treasurer or the Notes Agencies.

In the meantime, the banks were asked to use higher denominations whenever possible, until the proper issue could be provided in greater quantities. As of the 24th October 1924 the number of Rainbow pounds unaccounted for was 9,111.

Sale of a Rainbow Pound from the Caldwell Collection in Noble Numismatic Auction Sale 118b (lot 4300)

The significance of this note was the serial number D N°. 000001 D. It was on the market for the first time in 28 years and had excellent provenance; ex Spink Australia, sold privately to Amon Carter in 1977, then to Mel Steinberg and private purchase from John Pettit in 1990 for a reputed price of \$15,205. The note was sold under the hammer for \$102,000 plus buyer's commission of 19.25%, thus the all up price of the note came to \$121,635.



Rainbow Pound, serial number D N°. 000001 D (V.19B)
Image courtesy of Noble Numismatics



The other variety of the Rainbow Pound, serial number F222696 F (V.19B)
Image courtesy of Noble Numismatics

Acknowledgements

To Peter Lane for his general assistance with this article and for contact with The Art Gallery of South Australia for provision of their images of the three Western Australian Bank Superscribed Notes.

I would like to record a special thanks to Mick Vort-Ronald for allowing me to quote extensively from his books and for his assistance in writing this paper. Mick's knowledge of Australian Banknotes and dissemination of information to collectors and the general public through his various publications on these subjects are invaluable and the world of Australian Banknote collectors owes him an enormous debt of gratitude.

Thanks are also due to Jim Noble of Noble Numismatics Pty Ltd for permitting me to quote material from lot 3025 of his auction catalogue for sale 71 and also from page 46 of his catalogue for the Caldwell Collection contained in his auction sale catalogue 118B, and for permitting me to include several important images from that sale catalogue. Jim's catalogues are works of art and collectors' items, and the numismatic world in general owes him huge gratitude for his service to the industry. The catalogues with their enhanced images and detailed descriptions of the various items for sale are world leaders, something which we all too readily take for granted.

I would like to record a special thanks to Virginia MacDonald and the Reserve Bank of Australia Archives for supplying me with two splendid images of a London Bank of Australia Superscribed fifty pound note and the National Bank of Australasia Superscribed one hundred pound note for inclusion in this article, a talk and accompanying power point presentation.

I would also like to record a special thanks to Laura Masters and the Art Gallery of South Australia for supplying me with three splendid images of the Western Australian Bank Superscribed Notes of one pound, five pounds and ten pounds for inclusion in this article, a talk and accompanying power point presentation.

EDITORS NOTE: The Art Gallery of South Australia generously made available images of both front and back of these three notes. Unfortunately, due to limitation of space, the images of the backs of the notes could not be included in the article.

References

- (1). Crellin A., 2013. *Australia's Superscribed Banknotes - Issued by The People, For The People*. www.sterlingcurrency.com.au/research.
(2) Noble Numismatics Pty Ltd, 2002. *Auction Sale Catalogue 71*. Lot 3025.
(3,4,5) Vort-Ronald M. P., 2019. *Australian Superscribed Banknotes, second edition* (pages 4-8, 29, 31, 32). Self published.

Additional References:

- Dauer J.C. & E.A. and Pettit J., 2013. *Australian History (1901 – 2001) As Seen Through Banknotes*. Self published.
Nicholson A., 1980. *WW1 Emergency issues _ Simple Solution Overlooked*. In *Australian Coin Review*, August 1980, pages 23-24.
Nicholson A., 1982. *Emergency Notes brought problems*. In *Australian Coin Review*, August 1982, at pages 36-38
Pitt M. (Ed), 2013. *Renniks Australian Coin & Banknote Values, 25th Edition*. Renniks Publications, Sydney.
Vort-Ronald M. P., 1983. *Australian Banknotes*. Self published.
Vort-Ronald M.P., 1980. *WW1 Emergency Issues _ E.S. & A. Notes Hold Key*. In *Australian Coin Review*, August 1980, pages 25-26, 31-32.
Vort-Ronald M.P., 1981. *Bible yields a rare memento*. In *Australian Coin Review*, April 1981, at page 11.



Always Buying Coins & Notes

Sterling & Currency is a rare coin and note dealership in Fremantle run by Andrew Crellin. We have thousands of clients across Australia and the world that are constantly looking for new material.

We specialise in historic & rare coins & notes – we conduct detailed research on the items we handle and take pride in the way we present them.

If you have a large or complex collection that you're considering exiting, we have the expertise, resources and experience to support you.

Contact us via phone or email to discuss your collection.

Shop 22; 35 William Street
FREMANTLE; WA; 6160

Ph: 08 6468 2467

www.sterlingcurrency.com.au

THE ENGLISH COLONIAL COINAGE OF CEYLON

Graeme Stephens

Since 1658 the Dutch had been colonial rulers of the island of Sri Lanka (which they called Zeilan) through their autonomous trading company, the Verenigde Oost-Indische Compagnie (VOC). In 1795, while England was at war with France, the French occupied Holland resulting in the formation of the new French controlled Batavian Republic. The Dutch Stadtholder (Chief Executive of the United Provinces of the Netherlands), William V, fled to England. He then requested assistance from the English King George III, in the so-called Kew letters, to prevent French occupation of Dutch colonial possessions in the east, including Zeilan.

The English acted immediately by buying off a Swiss mercenary force in Ceylon originally contracted to the Dutch and sending a fleet to Trincomalee to take control of the island, assisted by East India Company soldiers sent over from India. After a token Dutch resistance at the siege of Trincomalee, which was quickly defeated, all of the other Dutch strongholds in the island surrendered peaceably and by the end of 1796 the English had taken control of all of the Dutch colonial possessions and had annexed administration of the island (which they called Ceylon) to the Presidency of Madras.

The Dutch maintained some hope that when the war with France was over England might relinquish colonial control back to them, however this was never the intent of the English who saw the great military and commercial advantages of holding Ceylon as a permanent colonial possession. The appointment, on 19th April 1798, of a Governor General and Commander in Chief of the United East India Company (UEIC) in Calcutta had the effect of putting British Ceylon, with the exception of the Kandy Provinces, under UEIC administration. In 1802 British Ceylon passed to the control of the Secretary of State for the Colonies and finally, on 2nd March 1815, after final British victory in the Kandian Wars, the cession of the Kandy Provinces placed the whole island under English colonial governorship.

It was not until 1801 that the the United East India Company (UEIC) decided to mint new “colonial” coins for Ceylon. In the interim period and by a proclamation dated 8th June 1796 currency was given to all Dutch copper coins issued by the late Dutch government and also to two UEIC copper coins minted in India.

These UEIC coins were the 1/48 and 1/96 of an Indian (Arcot) rupee valued locally at 1 stuiver and ½ stuiver respectively with an example of each shown below. Please note that coin photos in this article are not strictly to scale.



UEIC 1794 1/48 Rupee



UEIC 1794 1/96 Rupee

The obverse of these coins contained the company's bale mark inscribed VEIC. On a broad rim incuse UNITED EAST INDIA COMPANY 1794. On the reverse, the company's arms, below 48 or 96, in margin below TO ONE RUPEE, on broad rim incuse, AUSPICIO REGIS ET SENATUS ANGLAE. On the edge incuse, ENGLISH UNITED EAST INDIA COMPANY.

The first colonial coinage minted by the English administration in Ceylon was based on the old Dutch standard of the Rix dollar of 48 stuivers and consisted of copper and silver "dumps" minted locally under contract, starting in 1801. The copper was minted into pieces of 4, 2, and 1 stuiver, with the respective denomination shown on the copper dump coins as 12, 24, and 48, representing 1/12th, 1/24th, and 1/48th of a Rix dollar. The silver coins minted at the same time were Rix dollars and half Rix dollars. A double Rix dollar silver dump was also minted in 1808 and 1809.

The copper contracts were terminated in 1805 and the silver contracts terminated in 1809. In 1811 a local government mint was set up and operated until 1816. Four examples of this interesting "dump" coinage are shown below:



Copper Dump 1/12 Rix Dollar 1811



Copper Dump 1/24 Rix Dollar 1801





Copper Dump 1/48 Rix Dollar 1803



Silver Dump One Rix Dollar 1808

In 1801, the first colonial coinage to be struck in England for Ceylon was ordered by Governor North and minting of this coinage occurred at Mathew Boultons Soho Mint in 1802. It comprised 1, ½, and ¼ stuiver copper coins designated 1/48th, 1/96th, and 1/192nd of a Rix dollar respectively. An example of the “192” dated 1802 is shown below:



1/192 Stuiver Coin Minted in London 1802

By 1814, the scarcity of small silver and copper coins was causing the Government great concern, so to overcome this problem a silver “fanam” token coin was struck locally and issued to pass at 12 to the Rix dollar (equivalent to 4 stuivers). This small silver coin blandly states “FANAM” on one side and “TOKEN” on the other and weighed only 0.52 gm. Minting ceased in September 1815.



Tiny Silver Fanam Token Coin (Much enlarged)

Also In 1814 an Order in Council authorised a silver and copper coinage for Ceylon from the Royal Mint of 10,000 Rix dollars in silver and 200,000 Rix dollars (value) in copper.

A few silver Rix dollars were struck in 1815 but never circulated, however the copper coinage of 2, 1, and ½ stuiver denominations was struck and circulated in 1815, bearing the profile of George III. The metal for this Ceylonese coinage was obtained from demonetised English Halfpence. The 1 and ½ stuiver are shown below.



One Stuiver George III 1815



Half Stuiver George III 1815



In October 1821, the British Treasury ordered a silver Rix dollar to be struck for Ceylon at the Royal Mint and 400,000 of these coins dated 1821 were minted bearing the profile of George IV. The coins were received and circulated in Ceylon in 1822 and were not minted again.



Silver Rix Dollar Minted in London 1821



In 1825 an Order in Council authorised sterling as the legal currency and the Ceylon Rix dollar for the purposes of exchange was rated at 1 shilling and 6 pence sterling. Following this order, sterling coins, both silver and copper, were imported from England for normal use, but two other copper denominations were minted specifically for Ceylon. These were the half-farthing minted from 1828 to 1856 and the quarter farthing minted from 1839 to 1853.

The quarter farthing was used only in Ceylon while the half farthing was also made legal tender in England in 1842. In addition, a small silver 1 ½ pence coin was minted from 1834-1837 in the reign of King William IV and from 1838-1862 in the reign of Queen Victoria for specific use in Ceylon and Jamaica. These were the last of the unique British “colonial” coins minted for Ceylon in England.



Half Farthing 1847



Quarter Farthing 1853



Silver 1 1/2 Pence 1834

In the 1850's gold sterling coinage also became scarce in certain British colonies and to alleviate this situation, in 1856, an order was made declaring Australian gold coins (sovereign and half sovereign) struck at the Sydney mint as legal tender in Ceylon as well as in the British colonies of Mauritius and Hong Kong, until the order was revoked in 1869. Examples are shown below.



Australian Gold Sovereign 1856



Australian Gold Half Sovereign 1856

It is interesting to note that while these two gold coins were described in British Government correspondence with Ceylon in 1856 as “Australian” coins, Australia up until 1901 only existed as a geographic entity and did not exist as a country. Each of the six English colonies which finally federated in 1901 to become the Commonwealth of Australia were using sterling coins and each had to separately declare the gold sovereigns and half sovereigns as legal currency in their respective colonies. In addition, the Sydney Mint was until 1901 only a branch of the Royal Mint in London and therefore a case can be made that these coins were in fact colonial English coins, and that only coins minted for the new nation of Australia after 1901 should be designated as Australian coins. In fact, the first coins officially minted for the new nation of Australia were not minted until 1910, but even these were minted in England.

For the purposes of this article I have defined the English “colonial” coinage of Ceylon as that authorised by the British Government exclusively for the colony of Ceylon and minted either at the Royal Mint in London or at a local mint in Ceylon, of which the last example was the quarter farthing of Queen Victoria minted in England in 1853. However, I will briefly summarise the evolution of the coinage subsequent to the changeover to sterling in 1825.

After 1825 the wide use of sterling coins lasted only a few years as local government expenditures exceeded revenue and sterling coins became scarce. In addition, in 1831 all copper coins that had been minted in Ceylon were demonetised.

This resulted in a shortage of small coinage and in 1832, in order to correct this shortage, informal authority was given to allow British-Indian silver coinage to be current at fixed exchange rates.

After 1833 all importation of sterling silver coins ceased and large imports of British-Indian rupees were made. This Indian coinage, together with its smaller denominations, was used unofficially at various sterling exchange rates until 1869 when it was formally declared as legal tender in Ceylon.

This same order of 1869 authorised the Governor of Ceylon, with Royal Treasury approval, to request the Royal Mints in India to mint whatever small copper or silver coinage he thought necessary for Ceylon based on a decimal system with 100 cents equivalent to the rupee.

Following this order, ¼ cent, ½ cent, 1 cent and 5 cent copper coins were introduced in 1870 and silver 10, 25 and 50 cent coins were introduced in 1890. These coins were unique to Ceylon and on the reverse featured various forms of the talipot palm, a large palm tree found in India and Ceylon which lives for up to 80 years and flowers only once in its lifetime after which it dies.

With many minor changes this basic coinage system is still in place today.

In 1948, after 152 years of British colonial administration, Ceylon became an independent self-governing dominion of the British Commonwealth and in 1972 Ceylon became the Republic of Sri Lanka.

CALENDAR OF PNS MEETINGS FOR 2019

PNS meetings are held at 7.30pm on the last Wednesday of each month, except December, at The Collins Street Centre, corner of Collins Street and Shaftsbury Street, South Perth.

Meeting dates for 2019 are as follows:

January 30	Short talks. No-reserve tender sale.
February 27	Invited speaker, Tender sale.
March 27	Invited speaker (Claire Rowson. <i>From fabrication to conservation: Unlocking cultural and industrial heritage collections at the Perth Mint</i>). No-reserve Tender Sale.
April 24	Meeting. Tender Sale.
May 29	Short talks. No-reserve tender sale.
June 26	Quiz. Tender Sale.
July 31	Annual General Meeting. No-reserve tender sale.
August 28	Invited speaker (Professor John Melville-Jones, <i>Modern Australian banks were not the first to charge excessive fees</i> . Tender Sale.
September 25	Invited speaker (John Wheatley, <i>Australian Superscribed Banknotes 1910-1914 including the One Pound Emergency Issues of 1914-1915</i>). No-reserve tender sale.
October 30	Meeting. Tender Sale.
November 27	Meeting. No-reserve tender sale.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES

Adult	\$15
Pensioner	\$10
WA Country	\$10
Associate	\$7
Junior	\$7
Nomination Fee	\$5
Fully Paid Life Membership	\$250

Subscriptions at the above rates are due and payable in advance on 1st March each year and shall be paid within three months after which time the membership will lapse.

CALENDAR OF FAIRS

Perth Numismatic Society Coin, Medal and Banknote Fairs:

Saturday 12th October 2019

Saturday 28th December 2019

Perth Stamp & Coin Show:

Friday 1st – Sunday 3rd November 2019

Phoenix Auctions:

Sunday 1st December 2019

Cannington Antique and Collectors Fair:

Wednesday 1st January 2020

Militaria Swapmeet (Cannington):

Sunday 17th November 2019

JB Military Antiques Specialist Militaria Auction

Sunday 6th October 2019

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Frank Gare	1977
John Wheatley	2004
Dr Walter Bloom	2013

PAST PRESIDENTS

Brian Siggs †	1965-1968
Edward Rintoul †	1968-1969
Edward Gibbs †	1969-1970
Clive Stronach †	1970-1971
Karl Hawelka †	1971-1978
Haydn Powell †	1978-1988
Dr Walter Bloom	1988-1991
Jiri Just †	1991-1994
Colin Meikle	1994-1997
Haydn Powell †	1997-2005
Dr Walter Bloom	2005-

RAINBOW RARITIES

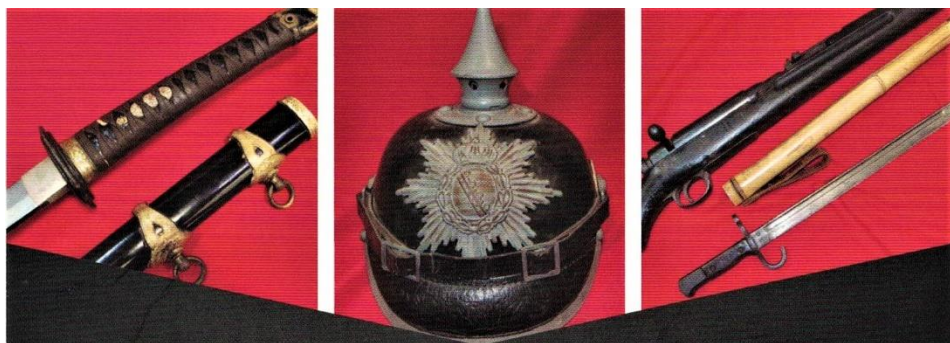
**Buying & Selling: Coins,
Banknotes, Badges,
Old Postcards & Stamps**

Contact D. POT

**PO Box 189 – Kelmscott 6991 WA
Phone: 08 6396 2373 or 0407 211 980**



**e-mail: dirk@rainbowrarities.com
website: www.rainbowrarities.com**



2019 AUCTION DATES

**28th April & 6th October 2019. Including a selection of medals,
edged weapons, uniforms, badges, head gear, guns & more.
Consignments accepted from single pieces to entire collections.**

JB Military Antiques

www.jbmilitaryantiques.com.au Tel: +61 892765113

PHOENIX AUCTIONS W.A.

**West Australia's Premier
Coin Dealer & Auctioneer**

**Buying Coins, Banknotes & Medals
or Consign to Auction**

**High Grade Roman & Early English
Especially Required**

Best Prices Guaranteed

Contact Mike on **08 9455 7197** or **0439 522049**

or post to PO Box 245, Thornlie, WA 6988



Home Visits can be Arranged

