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THE JUBILEE CROWN OF GEORGE V

Raymond Palermo

The first quarter of the twentieth century or so saw a near-absence of British silver crown pieces. The crown of Edward VII's coronation year, 1902, featured the familiar reverse of Pistrucci's Saint George slaying the dragon.



Edward VII, Crown, 1902.

Image courtesy of Classical Numismatic Group (www.cngcoins.com)

However, the crown was not issued again until 1927. The obverse of this piece had the customary (modified) effigy of George V by Sir Bertram Mackennal. Kruger Gray designed a new reverse, consisting of a central crown, with the date above, enclosed in a wreath decorated with roses and thistles. The legend read FID DEF IND IMP (Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India) plus the word CROWN inserted at the bottom of the coin.

This was the first time since the time of the Commonwealth (1649 - 60) that the mark of value had been indicated on a crown piece. It was then issued around Christmas time for people to exchange as gifts every year from 1928 onwards for the remainder of the reign, except for 1935.

These crowns are quite scarce, with their mintages varying from only 932 in 1934 to just over 9,000 in 1928. Very scarce proof pieces were also issued for each of these years.

George V celebrated his Silver Jubilee in 1935. A special crown was struck to commemorate this happy event. Mackennal's royal portrait is on the obverse, while the reverse has Percy Metcalfe's art deco interpretation of Saint George slaying the dragon, with the designer's initials inserted just below the beast, to the right. The word CROWN and the date make up the legend. The edge is inscribed in incuse with the words DECUS ET TUTAMEN ANNO REGNI XXV (An ornament and a safeguard, twenty fifth regnal year). This was the only issue on which the DECUS... edge legend was used for this reign.



George V, Jubilee Crown, 1935

Image courtesy of Classical Numismatic Group (www.cngcoins.com)

It is interesting to compare Metcalfe's Saint George and dragon to Pistrucci's interpretation. While both pieces show Saint George on a rearing horse there are many differences between the two designs. Pistrucci's design faces right, while Metcalfe's faces left. Pistrucci's bareback St George is almost naked, being clad in a cloak that flies behind him, a Roman style helmet and boots. He also holds a short sword (although he held a broken lance on the original design of 1817, as seen on the sovereigns of this time). The movement associated with Pistrucci's Saint George is also fluent and powerful. In contrast, Metcalfe's Saint George is clad in armour, though without a helmet, while riding on a saddled horse. His feet are rigidly positioned in the stirrups. He holds a shield embossed with the cross of his name as well as (rather ironically) a broken lance, held vertically. Metcalfe's Saint George looks rather stiff and awkward in the saddle. The dragons themselves are quite different, too. Both are looking up, open mouthed, at their conquerors. But while Pistrucci's still looks quite fearsome, Johnson (p.82) has compared Metcalfe's dragon to an emaciated grasshopper!

Percy Metcalfe was, indeed, an accomplished coin designer. Born at Wakefield in 1895 and dying in 1969, his work in this field included the 1928 series of coins for the Irish Free State, the 1939 series for the Republic of Ireland and the Australian florin of 1934 - 35 celebrating the twin centenaries of the foundation of Victoria and the settlement of Melbourne. His design of the 1935 Jubilee Crown, however, came in for much criticism because of its rigid appearance. The King, who was himself a talented horseman, also apparently thought that Metcalfe's Saint George was a '*darned bad rider*'.

Several varieties of the Jubilee Crown are noteworthy. Scarce specimens can miss much of the incuse edge legend. Other examples were struck with a proof-like finish and issued in a red box. Some crowns were struck as proof coins. Rare proof crowns can have their edge inscriptions in finer lettering. A series of proof pieces were also struck with raised edge lettering. As Lobel (p.481) notes, these coins were not strictly legal tender, as the proclamation concerning this issue specified that the edge was to be marked with incuse lettering. Rare examples of crowns with raised edge lettering can also have the startling edge legend error DECUS ANNO REGNI ET TUTAMEN XXV.

Most Jubilee Crowns were struck in 0.500 silver, like the majority of George V's silver coins issued after 1920. A small number of proof pieces, however, were minted in sterling (0.925) silver. Most spectacularly, around thirty specimens, each weighing 48 grams, were struck in gold (with raised edge legends). Most of these were distributed by ballot, a process which was unprecedented at the Royal Mint.

The Jubilee Crown, by Percy Metcalfe, commemorated an important landmark in the reign of George V. While it was criticised in its day for its modern design, it has become one of Britain's best known and most popular commemorative coins.

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AUSTRALIA'S EARLIEST GOVERNMENT-ISSUED NOTES

Andrew Crellin

Over the years I've seen several of the notes issued by the NSW Colonial Police Fund. Judging by the prices they realised at auction, I could see they were rare and highly prized, but I never really appreciated their importance until recently.

These notes are so early in Australia's settled history that very little has been written about them. They fall outside the scope of our standard guides to Australian coins and notes, yet they were essential to the foundation of our national economy. They are so important, they should be understood and acknowledged for what they are; the first official banknotes to be used on our continent.

The question I had about the NSW Colonial Police Fund notes was; are these the earliest known notes issued by a government body on Australia's shores? If they weren't, what was?

Authors such as Bill Mira have conducted detailed research into certain aspects of these notes, but it's fair to say that information hasn't been seen beyond a select group of enthusiasts. This means the question was a lot harder to answer than I expected it to be. There were many different types of notes (both public and private) issued in NSW and Van Diemen's Land before 1825, and there were a number of different colonial authorities that issued notes.

As if that wasn't already hard enough to decipher, it is also important for us numismatists to determine whether any of these notes actually still exist. After all, even if some notes were printed and issued, if they no longer exist or simply aren't available for collectors to buy, should we even consider them as being part of a 'set' of colonial paper currency?

If 1788 is our start date for this investigation, I've chosen 1835 as the end date. That was a decade after sterling coinage was adopted comprehensively and roughly when the volume of the colony's exports equalled imports, and

there was enough sterling for the populace to use instead of privately issued currency notes.¹ My task then was to work out:

1. Which government authorities issued notes in Australia before 1835?
2. What types of notes were issued by government authorities in Australia before 1835?
3. Which of those notes still exist?
4. Which of those notes are available for collectors to buy?

The article that follows is based upon all the information that's been available to me as of June 2023. It will be updated with any new information that comes to light because of this publication.

Which Government Authorities Issued Notes in Australia Before 1835?

The first representatives of the British government on Australian soil were the military regiment that oversaw the convicts; the New South Wales Marine Corps. They rotated out after their deployment ended, and were replaced by a series of different regiments, each with the same responsibility:

Military Regiments in NSW (1788 ~ 1835)
The New South Wales Marine Corps (1788 ~ 1792) ²
The NSW Corps (1792 ~ 1810)
The 73rd Regiment (1809 ~ 1814) ³
The 46th Regiment (1814 ~ 1817)
The 48th Regiment (1817 ~ 1824)
The 3rd Regiment (1823 ~ 1827)
The 40th Regiment (1824 ~ 1829)
The 57th Regiment (1825 ~ 1832)
The 39th Regiment (1827 ~ 1832)
The 63rd Regiment (1829 ~ 1833)

Before we relax and accept that as the (lengthy) definitive list of government bodies that may have issued their own paper money, we need to remember that each military regiment was comprised of several smaller operational units. Our economic history shows that several of these units had officers with the authority to issue notes.

The NSW Commissariat - The Sole Buyer of Produce

A commissary is typically a facility used to provide food, supplies, and other goods to a specific group of people such as military personnel. Commissaries often operate in locations where regular stores are not readily available.

A Commissariat is a department or organisation responsible for providing and managing supplies, logistics, and other provisions to a specific group of people, such as a military force, a fleet of ships, or an expedition.

The officer in charge of the Commissariat in colonial NSW was (at various times) the Commissary-General, the Acting Commissary-General or the Assistant Commissary-General.

In the early years, the Commissariat was the only buyer available for the produce of the colony. Due to an initial lack of ready cash in the colony and the high credit rating of the Commissariat, its store receipts and notes were used as currency for many years.



NSW Commissariat Store - now demolished

Image Source: University of Sydney Union

NSW Commissariat Store Receipts

The store receipts issued by the Commissariat in colonial NSW appear to be the very first form of government-issued paper currency issued on Australian soil.

Store receipts were issued for produce delivered to the government stores for resale and were in the form of an order on the Commissary General, to pay a named person or the bearer a specific sum, for a particular commodity.⁴

Whereas the Paymaster's Bills issued by the Commissariat were signed either by the Commissary-General, the Acting Commissary-General or the Assistant Commissary-General, the store receipts were signed by '*...the very storekeepers...*'⁵ that took delivery of the goods being sold. Store receipts were payable not by the storekeeper, but by the NSW Commissary-General.

The earliest known mention of the store notes being in use was in 1795. Mrs. Elizabeth MacArthur wrote that in payment of the grain raised by the settlers:

*'The Commissary issue a receipt approved by the Governor, and these receipts pass current here as coin, and are taken by master of ships and other adventurers who come to these parts with merchandise for sale.'*⁶

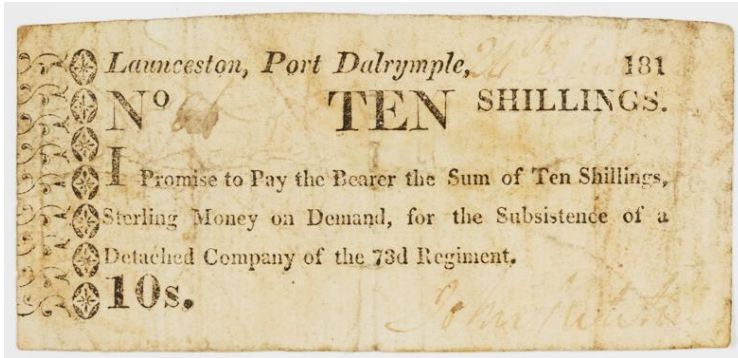
NSW Commissariat Notes

The notes issued by the NSW Commissariat differ from the store receipts, in that they were endorsed or signed by the Commissary-General. Just as with the store receipts, the store notes were issued for produce that was delivered to the government stores for resale. They were in the form of an order on the Commissary General, to pay a person named (or the bearer) a specific sum, for a particular commodity.⁷

Paymaster's Bills

The Paymaster of each regiment had the authority to issue what were effectively promissory notes in exchange for produce and other goods for the '*...sustenance of the regiment...*'⁸ One economics author states paymaster's notes '*...were issued as salary payments to military officers.*'⁹

Paymaster's Bills differ from Store Receipts in that they were not issued for produce or goods delivered to the government stores (the Commissariat) that were to be resold. Payment was made in the form of a bill, payable in Sterling upon demand.



Paymaster's Bill issued by 73rd Regiment, 1813

Image Source: Dixson Library, State Library of New South Wales

NSW Colonial Police Fund Notes

In March 1810, Governor Lachlan Macquarie increased the duty on all imported spirits by one shilling per gallon. The duty was paid into what Macquarie named 'The Colonial Police Fund', which began on April 1st 1810.¹⁰ Surgeon D'Arcy Wentworth was appointed as the first Treasurer of the fund.

The Colonial Police Fund was effectively the consolidated revenue fund of the Colony, which made meant Wentworth was effectively the Treasurer of the Colony. The Fund was used to pay for public works to the benefit of all colonists, including:

*'... the Expense of the Jail and Police Establishments, the Erection of Wharves, Quays and Bridges, and the making and repairing of Streets and Roads within the Limits of the Town of Sydney.'*¹¹

Notes prepared for the Police Fund *'were issued to persons who had claims on the Fund.'*¹² Records held by the State Records of NSW list several payments made by the Police Fund¹³, typically to contractors for repairs of government facilities.

In his paper on the paper money of colonial Australia, Percy Marks states that *'These notes passed freely current...'*¹⁴

Mira also states that *'...the pieces were a circulating media.'*¹⁵

The Colonial Police Fund was dissolved in 1824.¹⁶

Known Examples of Publicly Issued Colonial Currency Notes

Publicly Issued Currency Notes from Australia's colonial era are far rarer than the equivalent notes issued by private individuals. This is due to their enduring monetary value, whereas the financial viability of many of the issuers of private currency notes was uncertain and many currency notes lost their value as a result. Publicly issued notes had much better backing and were far more reliable, so maintained their value over time.

Worthless scraps of paper that no longer have a redemption value are more likely to be set aside as collectibles than highly valuable media of exchange.

NSW Store Receipts: The earliest dated 'store receipt' from the NSW Commissariat that has been recorded as still being in existence is dated 1802. In his paper titled 'Australian 'Paper Currencies'', Percy Marks stated that, as of 1919, it was held by the 'London Record Office.'¹⁷ This information is being verified at present.

NSW Commissariat Notes: None of these notes are known to still be in existence, much less remain available to collectors. I am yet to see a record of any being held by a public collection in NSW, or elsewhere in Australia. A very small number of bills of exchange issued by the New South Wales Commissariat are known in private hands, these are different to the notes issued by the Commissariat, however. Notes issued by the Commissariat in Van Diemen's Land as well as the Swan River Colony are known in private hands, they are dated slightly later than the period discussed here.

Paymaster's Bills: These are not explicitly listed as being held in any public collection that I have seen so far. That said, the Dixson Collection in the State Library of New South Wales does hold several paymaster's notes, issued by the 73rd Regiment in Launceston in 1813. One of those paymaster's notes is dated April 24th, 1813, which is either the earliest date seen on a publicly-issued note still in existence, or is incredibly close to it.

Police Fund Notes: A very small number of these notes in different forms (single and uncut) are held in the State Library of New South Wales; in the National Library of Australia as well as in private hands. There are 7 different note forms of the Type II Police Fund notes known to be held by collectors, each are unissued:

Denomination	Number Known
Uncut Vertical Pair of £1 and 10/-	3
Single £1	1
Single 10/-	1
Uncut Vertical Pair of 5/- and 2/6	1
Single 5/-	1

As the earliest-known paper notes issued by a government authority on Australian soil, examples of which are currently known to have survived, the Police Fund notes occupy a unique position in our national economic history. They are a rare and exclusive artefact of the foundation of Australia's economy.

Acknowledgement

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Endnotes:

¹ Holder; RF, *Bank of New South Wales - A History*, Angus and Robertson, Sydney, 1970, p 5.

² https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_South_Wales_Marine_Corps

³ <https://www.mq.edu.au/macquarie-archive/journeys/related/73rd.html>

⁴ Marks; Percy, *Australian Paper Currencies*, Self-published, Sydney, 1919, p 8.

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⁶ Historical Records of New South Wales, Vol 2, p 511.

⁷ Marks; Percy, *Australian 'Paper Currencies*, Self-published, Sydney, 1919, p 8.

- ⁸ Marks; Percy, *Australian Paper Currencies*, Self-published, Sydney, 1919, p 11.
- ⁹ Becker; Frank, *Bills, notes and money in early New South Wales*, in the *Financial History Review*, Vol 18.1, 2011, p 74.
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- ¹⁵ Mira; WJ, *The Note Issue of the Colonial Police Fund of New South Wales 1810 - 1824*, Metropolitan Coin Club of Sydney, Sydney, 1979, p 13.
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A SHORT NOTE ON IRISH NUMISMATICS

Jonathon De Hadleigh

It can be said that Irish numismatics go back over 1,000 years to a time in the 10th century known as the ‘*Hiberno-Norse Period*’. At that time most coins were struck elsewhere and imported, but a mint was established in Dublin which struck imitations of the imported coins. The types and designs of coins of this period, which takes us up to circa 1150, were varied and numerous. They are all rare and it would be near impossible to collect one of each, even for those with very deep pockets

The next phase to consider is that of ‘*Anglo-Irish Coins*’, beginning with King John of England, although he was not yet crowned when he became Lord of Ireland in 1177. His first visit occurred in 1185 and a now very rare halfpenny was struck for the occasion.

An issue of halfpennies known as ‘*Second Dominus Coinage*’, circa 1190-1199, is where the average collector might be able to start to build their collection. These have a cross potent reverse and are commonly referred to as ‘*moon faced*’. Of course, when it comes to examples from the various mints (mainly Dublin, with some known from Limerick and Waterford) it is a step into rarity, with some high prices.



Silver halfpenny of John I, Waterford, c. 1190-1198

Image courtesy of Classical Numismatic Group (www.cngcoins.com)

The King John third issue ‘*Rex*’ coinage is where the average collector might go next and perhaps try to compile a set of penny, halfpenny and farthing. These have a crowned bust in a triangle, with a reverse of sun, moon and stars in a triangle.



Silver 'Rex' penny of John I, Dublin, c. 1207-1211

Image courtesy of Classical Numismatic Group (www.cngcoins.com)

The farthing would be the hard one to get and would cost about four times the price of a penny, which of course at the time of striking was worth four times the value of a farthing.

The triangle continued as a feature of the designs on the '*Early Medieval Hammered Coinage*'.

Henry III (1216-1272) came next, with his portrait in the triangle. However, his reverses were in keeping with his English long cross coinage, first produced in 1247. His Irish pennies were interchangeable with English coins and struck on the same standard. Halfpennies and farthings were created by cutting the pennies into halves or quarters.

The next king was Edward I (1272-1307). His first issue, struck in 1276-1279, echoes his English long cross farthings, but not when it comes to price. The Irish issue is a difficult and expensive coin to obtain. However, Edward's second issue is plentiful, with the obverse triangle being inverted. The reverse is as for the English issues, except for Irish mint names (Dublin, Waterford and a rare Cork).



Silver penny of Edward I, Dublin, c. 1297-1302

Image courtesy of Classical Numismatic Group (www.cngcoins.com)

Several types are available to collect and both a halfpenny and farthing were struck to complete a type set with the penny. Again, the farthing is the hardest to find and most expensive.

A gap in coin production then occurred until 1339-1340 when halfpennies of Edward III (1312-1377) were produced. As in England, they were of reduced fineness (800 fine or 80% silver), but still with the distinctive triangle around the portrait. The English coins are scarce enough, but the Irish are a near impossibility to find. But should you come across one, be prepared for an auction price with four figures.

Henry VI (1422-1461) came next, issuing coins of English type but with Irish mint names.

It was in this later period of medieval history that English coins circulated in Ireland and an Anglo-Irish exchange rate had to be established, with Irish money valued at three quarters of the English. It was in that climate that around 1460 an anonymous coinage was struck. That issue included a groat of distinctive Irish design, with an anepigraphic obverse of a crown tressure and a cross with pellets reverse. It was of lighter weight than an English groat, although the fineness matched English sterling silver coins. This issue also featured a penny and halfpenny.



Anonymous silver 'crown' groat, Dublin, c. 1460-1463

Image courtesy of Classical Numismatic Group (www.cngcoins.com)

A named and titled issue was struck in 1463, and this was followed by another distinctive 'small cross on rose / radiant sun' coinage in 1464 or 1478. Needless to say, it matters not when it was struck except for academic purposes since these coins are exceedingly rare and mostly found in museums.

1465 was when a heavy cross and pellets coinage was struck. This has survived in sufficient quantity for collectors to be able to obtain examples. These groats, pennies and halfpennies, struck at several Irish mints, are of an English type, but struck to lighter Irish weight standards.

This was the time of ‘*O’Reilly’s money*’; very heavily clipped coins, especially groats and half groats. Much English coin circulated in Ireland and unclipped groats passed at 5 pence compared with 4 pence for Irish or heavily clipped groats.

Groats with a ‘Rose on Cross’ reverse were produced circa 1478 in an effort to differentiate between English and Irish monies, and it was in that vein that Irish coins with a ‘Three Crowns’ reverse and ‘Royal Shield’ obverse closed the Middle Ages. These coins are seldom seen but occasionally turn up in dealers’ trays or in auctions.

The 16th century is when a collector may pick up a coin or two with relative ease. Henry VIII ‘*Irish Harp*’ groats, struck in London, with a shield obverse and a harp reverse, were valued at fourpence in Ireland but only threepence in England. Several issues of these, and the effects of the ‘*Great Debasement*’, take the collector to the posthumous groats, still of Tower Mint style, but with some local dies, valued at sixpence in Ireland.



Silver groat of Henry VIII, Dublin, c. 1536-1537

Image courtesy of Classical Numismatic Group (www.cngcoins.com)

Debased shillings of Edward VI are next in line. Some of these, found in a coppery brass, are contemporary counterfeits known as ‘*Bungals*’ which did a lot of circulating due to a shortage of small change.

The coins of Mary and Elizabeth are difficult to find, and were produced in both fine and base silver, using the distinctive Irish harp on their reverses.

Queen Elizabeth would not entertain a copper coinage in England, but in Ireland in 1601 both penny and halfpenny pieces were struck in copper and circulated successfully. Consequently, these coins are found quite often and can be added to a collection at reasonable cost.



Copper penny of Elizabeth I, Dublin, 1602

Image courtesy of Classical Numismatic Group (www.cngcoins.com)

King James I sought to bring his kingdom together, and numismatically he may have partly achieved his goal as sterling standard silver was used throughout his realm. However, the Irish shilling continued to be lighter weight than its English counterpart and was therefore valued at ninepence in England. An Irish sixpence was also struck. These are plentiful and every collector should be able to obtain examples.

The reign of Charles I was marked by civil war, resulting in a series of emergency monies being struck in Ireland. These coins are very rare.

This rarity persists with the Irish coinage of Charles II, except for the occasional, affordable copper coin. Most of the coins were copper, mainly halfpennies.

Of course, this changed with the so-called '*Gun Money*' of James II. This was a base metal token coinage, meant to be exchangeable for silver and gold when the war had been won. They were marked with an exchange value and made by melting down a variety of objects that included some old cannon, leading to the name.

These coins are often met with and some collections have consisted solely of them as a great many varieties are available.



‘Gun money’ shilling of James II, Dublin, 1689

Image courtesy of Classical Numismatic Group (www.cngcoins.com)

From 1689 onwards, under William and Mary, Irish money consisted of English silver coins with Irish copper halfpennies. A collector could just stay with the copper, but that would overlook many worn and often overstruck discs of silver with merchant or jewellers’ marks. These undistinguished objects may look poor, being worn, even clipped and apparently worthless pieces of silver, but nonetheless they were the circulating medium at the time, although often complained about. On the other hand, the copper continued to be well struck and plentiful, augmented by token issues of 1804-1806 in silver.

Irish copper came to an end with the issue of the 1822 penny, halfpenny and farthing of George IV, struck in London.



Penny of George IV, London, 1822

Image courtesy of Classical Numismatic Group (www.cngcoins.com)

Some may say that Irish numismatics first truly began with the Irish Free State coinage from 1928, and that *‘up until then the coinage was from the oppressive English Monarchs’*. This statement would be unfair as the politics of the Middle Ages were tied to military power, but we are not here to debate Irish history.

From 1928 to 1968 the coinage of the Emerald Isle displayed the Irish harp on the obverse with the Irish Gaelic legend SAORSTÁT ÉIREANN (Irish Free State) and various fauna on the reverse. The designs used were carried through to the decimalised coinage introduced in 1971.



Obverse design of Irish Free State coins, 1928

Image courtesy of Central Bank of Ireland (www.centralbank.ie)

In 2002 Ireland pulled away from its British neighbours and looked to its European partners, embracing the Euro and giving it the symbol of the Irish harp to grace the pockets of the whole of Europe. Euro coins display a simple but effective design and can truly pass across borders and cultural differences to be a currency for all of Europe.

An advertisement for Australian Specialty Coins. The top section shows several coins (a 50-cent Euro coin, a 20-cent Euro coin, and a 10-cent Euro coin) and an open wooden box containing five silver coins. To the right is a circular logo with "Australian Specialty Coins" and a map of Australia. The bottom section has a dark blue background with white text: "We Buy & Sell Australian Coins & Banknotes Specialising in Decimal Currency". Below this, it lists services: "Mint and Proof Sets - Uncirculated Coins - Coin Rolls - PCGS Graded Coins - Accessories". There is a QR code, contact information: "info@australianspecialtycoins.com.au" and "www.australianspecialtycoins.com.au", and a note: "Scan the QR code to visit our website, subscribe to our newsletter & join our facebook group with over 4,000 members". The ANDA logo is in the bottom right corner.

LARGE UNDERWATER FIND OF ROMAN COINS IN SARDINIA

A huge number of Roman coins from the first half of the 4th century were recently found in shallow water just off the shoreline on the northeastern coast of the island of Sardinia. A recreational diver's glimpse of something metallic in the sand led to a remarkable underwater discovery. The Italian ministry of culture recently announced that tens of thousands of bronze coins had been recovered from a sandy expanse between seagrass areas and the beach. The location and shape of their distribution suggests that the coins might be associated with an ancient shipwreck.

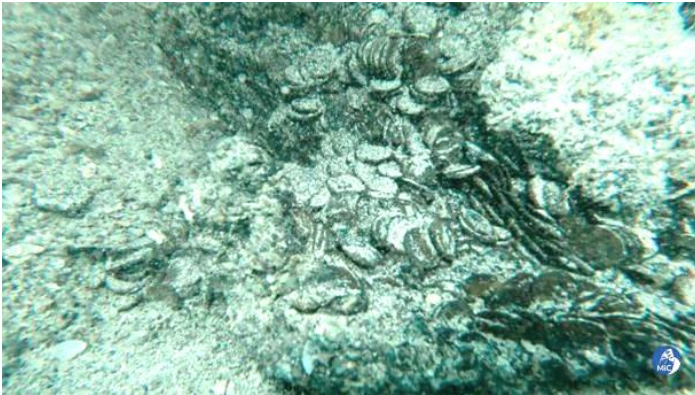


Image source: Italian Ministry of Culture

The total number of coins has not yet been accurately established but based on their overall weight it is estimated to be between 30,000 and 50,000.

The coins were associated with the remains of amphorae from African and Oriental sources and are said to be mostly in a very good state of preservation. The earliest so far identified are issues of the emperor Licinius dating from AD 324, Coins minted after AD 346 seem to be absent, giving a tight time span for the deposit.

The Italian ministry of culture has released a short video of divers at work recovering the coins, which can be found here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aSnTGur-frY>

CALENDAR OF PNS MEETINGS

PNS meetings are held at 7.30pm on the last Wednesday of each month, except December, at John McGrath Hall, 97 Hensman St, South Perth.

Remaining meeting dates for 2023 are as follows:

29 November Topic: Scottish numismatics. Tender sale

Meeting dates for 2024 are as follows:

31 January Topic: to be advised.

28 February Topic: to be advised.

27 March Topic: to be advised.

25 April Topic: to be advised.

Please note that this is a Thursday.

29 May Topic: to be advised.

26 June Topic: to be advised.

31 July Topic: to be advised.

28 August Topic: to be advised.

25 September Topic: to be advised.

30 October Topic: to be advised.

27 November Topic: to be advised.

More details of topics, invited speakers and other matters will be provided as they become available. Refer to the Perth Numismatic Society Inc. website for updates: (<https://www.pns.org.au/meetings/>)

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES

Adult	\$ 25
Pensioner	\$ 20
WA Country	\$ 20
Associate	\$ 10
Junior / Student	\$ 10
Nomination Fee	\$ 10
Fully Paid Life Membership	\$ 400

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

John Wheatley	2004
Prof Walter Bloom	2013
Joe Brizzi	2022
Rowley Butters	2022
Sandra Vowles	2022

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
Prof Walter Bloom	1988-1991
Jiri Just †	1991-1994
Colin Meikle	1994-1997
Haydn Powell †	1997-2005
Prof Walter Bloom	2005-



CALENDAR OF FAIRS

Perth Numismatic Society Coin, Banknote & Stamp Fairs (South Perth Community Centre):

- Tuesday 26th December 2023
- Saturday 10th February 2024
- Saturday 11th May 2024
- Saturday 10th August 2024
- Saturday 16th November 2024
- Saturday 28th December 2024

Militaria Swap Meet (Cannington Exhibition Centre & Showgrounds):

- Sunday 7th April 2024
- Sunday 16th June 2024

For updates and further details please refer to the Perth Numismatic Society Inc. website (<http://www.pns.org.au/events/>)

BRITISH SILVER COINS CIRCULATING IN POST-FEDERATION AUSTRALIA.

The following short article was published in The West Australian on Wednesday, 15 July, 1925 (page 9). It records that a large quantity of British silver coin was still circulating in Australia some 15 years after the first Australian Commonwealth coins were issued.

‘British silver coins continue to be received at the Commonwealth Bank. The total estimated value of British silver coins in circulation and held in Australia is about £750,000. The Commonwealth Treasury, is making endeavours to replace all this coin with Australian mintage. A commission is paid to cashiers and others bringing British silver to the Commonwealth Bank in addition to its face value in Australian currency. If the whole amount of British coins in Australia were to be surrendered the commission it is stated would amount to £6,000 or £7,000. On the other hand the Australian mints make a satisfactory profit on the issue of their own silver in exchange for the British.’

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