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# THE NEW ZEALAND NUMISMATIC JOURNAL



**NUMBER 94**



**DECEMBER 2014**

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\*

EDITOR: MARTIN L. PURDY, F.R.N.S.N.Z.

<http://www.RNSNZ.com>  
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The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the respective authors and do not necessarily reflect an official position by the Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand Inc.

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## OBITUARY: ALISTAIR FINLAY ROBB FRNSNZ

26 APRIL 1941 – 17 JULY 2014

David Galt

*This obituary is adapted from text written for and published by the Australasian Coin and Banknote magazine in its September 2015 issue. A version also appeared in RNSNZ Newsletter 67, October 2014.*



Alistair died suddenly of a heart attack while driving one of his beloved Mercedes cars near his Plimmerton home on 17 July 2014. Members of the Australasian numismatic community who had greatly enjoyed Alistair's company at the New Zealand Numismatic conference from 3 to 6 July 2014 were shocked to hear of his sudden death. While he had been suffering declining health and was about to begin a programme of dialysis, no one had expected the news, least of all Alistair, who had been planning a trip to Russia.

Alistair spent his early life between Plimmerton and Wellington, living with his family on the Terrace. His father, Finlay Robb, was a musician who worked in the New Zealand Broadcasting Service and went to study in London shortly after the war, taking Alistair and his mother with him. Alistair attended Rongotai College then went on to study accounting at Victoria University. For six years, he had an active involvement in sport, including rugby and cricket and student activities, but ultimately decided accounting was not for him.

In 1965, he married Pauline and three sons were born - Stuart, Lincoln, and Dean.

Alistair took over and successfully ran a coffee lounge at 16A The Terrace. While there, he developed a strong interest in coins with the pending decimal changeover, taking large numbers out of the bank to search through and finding a ready market. He joined the Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand and, in 1967, the American Numismatic Association. In fact, he joined all of the major numismatic societies in New Zealand and provided valuable support to many of them. He also helped with promoting numismatic societies in other centres such as Invercargill and Wanganui during the decimal changeover period.

Alistair played a major role in educating customers. Not only did he help in establishing societies around the country but he also published a coin magazine called "New Zealand Coin News" from 1966 to 1968.

Alistair wrote several books. One of the more significant was his 1976 New Zealand catalogue, which included much useful descriptive material. He also promoted and contributed to the Krause catalogues in the 1970s, once again educating others.

He developed a catalogue of trading bank banknotes through many drafts. These were never formally published but nevertheless formed a valuable resource. Alistair was pursuing the formal publication of a major banknote catalogue up until the time of his death.

Alistair's support of New Zealand numismatics continued for many years. He regularly acted as a sponsor for events, including the RNSNZ's post-Mowbray auction functions and major events; initiating and underwriting production of service medals, and donating prizes for competitions. This culminated in 2014 in the establishment of the Alistair Robb Numismatic Fund, set up through the Nikau Foundation to promote a wide range of numismatic matters in New Zealand. Its establishment was celebrated at the New Zealand Numismatic Conference in Wellington on 4 July 2014.

Alistair's own Robb family collection of banknotes became one of the major New Zealand collections – dispersed with the help of Noble Numismatics in 2010, but preserved for the numismatic record in an important auction catalogue. A few items from Alistair's collection remained in his possession

and were included in the recent Mowbray sale, including the Union Bank of Australia 1869 one pound and a Fitzroy one pound debenture of 1844.

Alistair was a Fellow of the Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand, where he held continuing membership from 1964 until his death. He served as President in 1971 and was a Vice President continuously from 1981. He remained an active member of its Council and regularly provided talks, encouraging the Society to promote banknote-themed meetings on the last Wednesday of the month so that he could attend them without missing out on other local club meetings.

When the Reserve Bank decided to create its museum, Alistair was one of three advisers on numismatic matters.

He travelled widely, often doing research on the NZ Trading Banks or seeking the notes issued by those banks for his personal collection. He attended NAA conferences and Noble auctions on a regular basis.

Alistair had strong interests in the Plimmerton Residents Association, the Lions Club, postcards, bridge, keeping doves and enjoying poker tournaments.

With strong entrepreneurial instincts he entered into many different ventures over the years. They included life insurance sales for AMP, display advertising when it first became available at Wellington bus stops and of course, coins, banknotes and postcards.

One of his more successful ventures, related at his funeral, was to purchase a vast quantity of Cadbury king size chocolate bars to be able to submit multiple entries in a competition requiring accurate guesswork and thus to be able to cover virtually all possibilities. He successfully won the Cadbury colours-clad Land Rover, sold it and purchased a car for Pauline.

From the 1970s, Alistair became involved with tax compliance, first with H&R Block and then on his own account, undertaking a busy practice as a tax agent up until his death.

Alistair and Pauline separated after many years of marriage and in recent years Alistair enjoyed new companionship with Peggy Bell. We extend our sympathy to all who will miss Alistair, including family members, members of the Royal Numismatic Society and the wider New Zealand numismatic community.

The Society will remember Alistair for many years to come through his publications and the generosity with which he established his numismatic foundation, and is considering a suitable medal design in his memory.

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The Society's 2015 Service Medal, currently in production (December 2014)

## OBITUARY – GARY WESTON-WEBB

16 AUGUST 1953 – 16 APRIL 2014

David Galt & Martin Purdy



RNSNZ Treasurer Gary Weston-Webb died suddenly of a heart attack at work on 16 April. He had worked at Te Puni Kokiri, the Ministry of Maori Development, since the 1990s, having moved there as head of Corporate Support Services, to head a 30-person team after a career with the Dairy Board that included overseas marketing roles. These took him to the Middle East where he acquired an interest in Middle Eastern coins.

He had a long-standing interest in numismatics, originally joining the Manawatu Numismatic Society as a schoolboy in about 1968. His fields of interest were eclectic – sports medals, shooting thalers and more recently the coinage of the Islamic

world, on which he gave a number of presentations at RNSNZ meetings. One speaker at his funeral recalled receiving an e-mailed scan of a new acquisition – sent at 3 a.m. – with the simple caption “Quardle Wardle”. Readers of a certain age will recognise the allusion to Denis Glover’s “Magpie”.

Like most of our members, Gary had an interesting collection, with Middle Eastern coins, sports medals and New Zealand material all being specialties. He delighted in the Maori Art official coin issues of recent years.

According to our records, Gary joined the Society in 2001, and had been a member of the Wellington Coin Club for many years before then. Gary quickly became a key member of the Society, holding the role of Treasurer since 2007, but contributing much, much more.

He has given tirelessly of his time over the whole period. A short list of what he has done is:

- Keep our books and records in good shape
- Regularly give financial updates
- File returns to keep us registered with the companies office
- Staff the desk at fairs and events
- Provide wise advice on running the Society
- Speak at meetings – especially on Middle Eastern coins, where he was an expert.
- Speak in Australia at the Numismatic Association of Australia Conference in 2013, representing the Society there
- Serve on organising committees, such as the one for the major international conference and fair being held from 3 to 6 July this year in Wellington. This conference is a first for us. Gary’s support was vital to making it all happen.
- Help lead guided tours of numismatic sites in Wellington as part of our events
- Encourage junior members of the Society, including Tara, Zeke and Jade, Gary’s children. Zeke and Jade especially have often come to our events with Gary, often with members of the

Purdy and MacMaster families.

- Arrange the premises for our meetings at TPK
- Provide for Powerpoint presentations and operate the technology – which always worked
- Store our library material at his house and help members to access it for research purposes.

You can quickly see his contribution has been huge and vitally important to us.

Because of what he did for us, many of us will always remember Gary.

Gary was a family man. He was greatly interested in his children's progress at school and in sport, with some high achievements to their credit. It was a wrench for him as the family moved to Australia, albeit for good reasons. He still gave priority to Zeke and Jade, seeing them regularly with Trans-Tasman commuting.

I want to thank especially Tara, Zeke and Jade for letting us enjoy Gary's company too. You have all enriched our Society yourselves, while being amazingly supportive of Gary.

Gary took obvious delight in helping young people achieve in other roles too, fostering careers for staff in TPK, and taking great delight in providing computers for children in schools with limited access to them. I often heard of his pleasure in helping people get a good start in life. These are values our whole society needs more of. He was active in many other fields, too – athletics and rugby coaching, to name but two.

Gary was one of those friends you could trust – ready with wise advice, speaking the truth but with encouragement, spicing up a car journey with good conversation.

We will miss him deeply.

We have all learnt a lot from Gary. It has been a privilege to know him.



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*In 33 BC the Roman aedile Marcus Vipsanius Agrippa, amongst other efforts to calm the civil upsets of the city, issued coupons to the general public. They were good for cash, clothes and other useful commodities.*

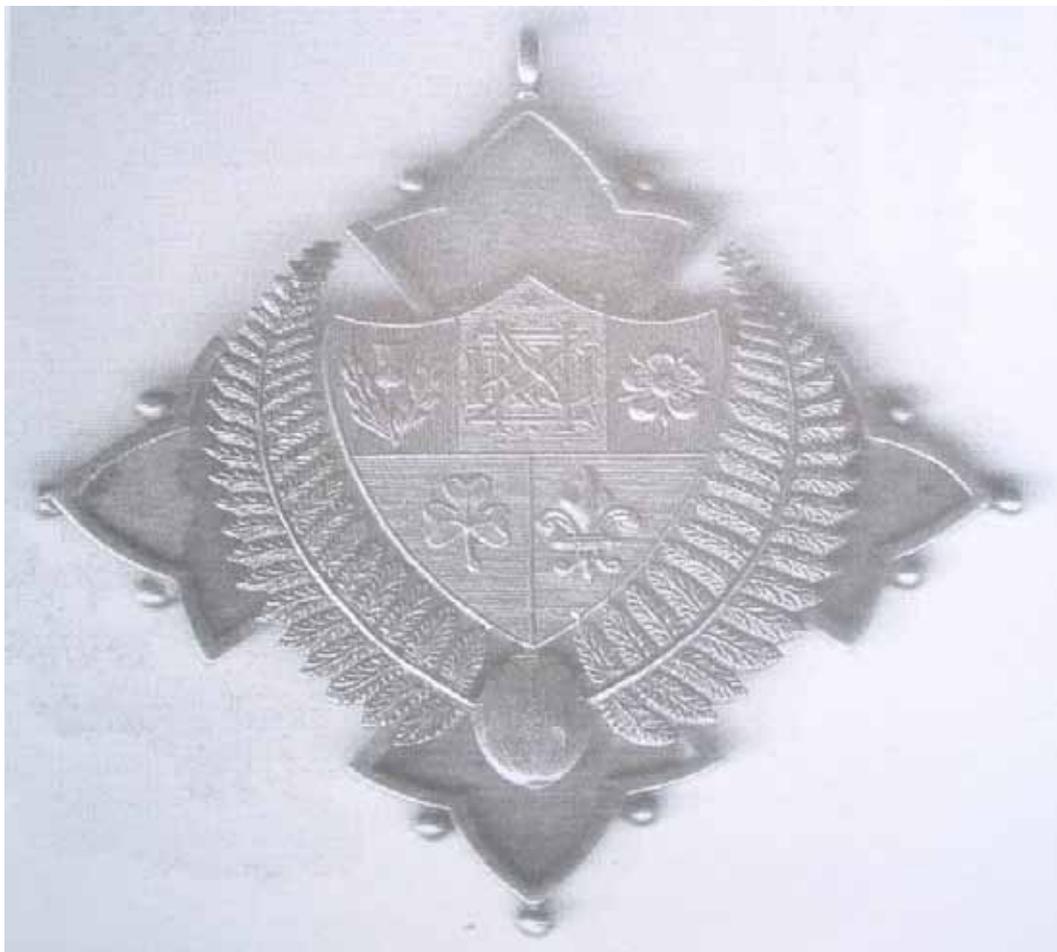
*So much for the Chinese inventing paper money in the 9th century AD!*

-J.C.M.C.

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## 2010 CIRCULATING \$1 FAULTS

Jason Gray

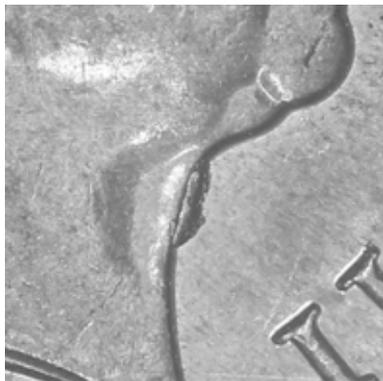
Faults have been discovered in almost all of our pre-decimal and decimal coins and in recent years a few of the decimal coin faults have made it into the John Bertrand (Premier) coin and banknote catalogue. These include the 1999 'wart-nose' 5c, the 2008 'butterfly lips' \$1 and the 2010 'goitre' (a cud on the Queen's neck, also referred to by some as an 'Adam's apple' fault).

Listed below are the faults I have found on the 2010 \$1 coins so far but there are still more 2010 \$1 to be released. These are not one-off occurrences, as I have found multiples before recording them, although some have been harder to find than others.

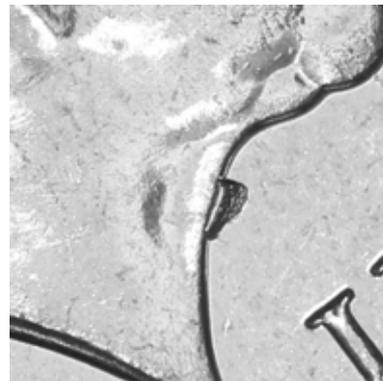
### 1 Goitre

This fault has been listed and catalogued in the recent John Bertrand coin and banknote catalogues; however, there are two dies that deteriorated in a similar spot of the Queen's neck. (Note that 2008 \$1 coins are also found with a similar fault, described at the time as an 'Adam's apple' error)

**Type A** is the listed variety and has a small cud that slowly moved higher up the Queen's neck.

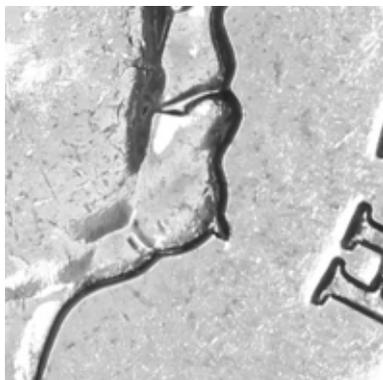


Type A



Type B

**Type B** is slightly lower on the neck and has an almost flat top that protrudes further than type A, then angles back to the neck. This die also had major pitting faults on the Queen's face that are identical and easy to spot on higher grade coins.



Faults 2 & 3



Fault 3 (reverse)

## 2 Goatee

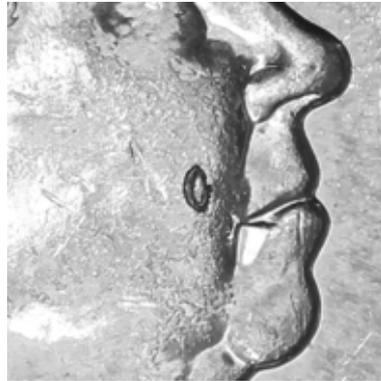
A small cud protruding out of the Queen's chin; a similar fault is also known on 2008 \$1 coins.

## 3 Goatee & D of dollar.

This is the same error listed above but the reverse die has also now deteriorated. Harder to find than Error 2.



Fault 4



Fault 5 (1)



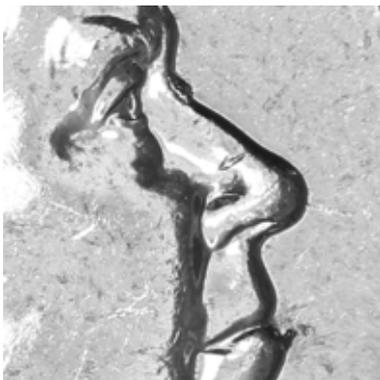
Fault 5 (2)

## 4 'Mole on cheek' or 'Crying Queen'

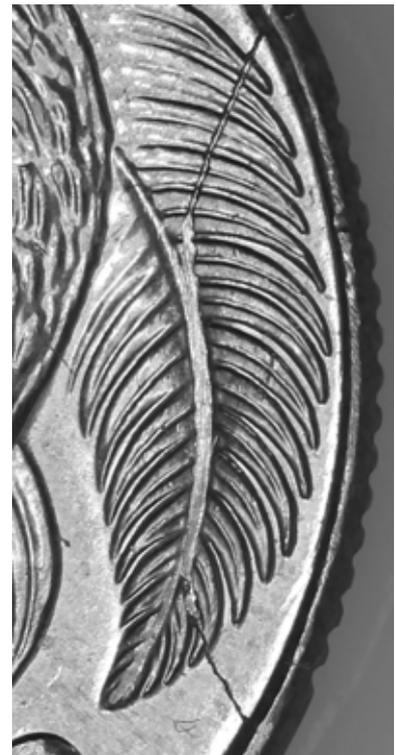
A nice fault that reminds me a little of the 1955 '2 dots on shoulder' 3d. It is worth noting that this die also has similar pitting to fault 1 (Type B) above.

## 5 Mole on cheek & IRB cuds

This is more of a progression of Fault 4 where the Mole gets larger and the same die produces a cud between the Queen's effigy and the designer's initials, becoming larger as the die deteriorated.



Fault 6; Fault 7 (right)



## 6 Bridge of nose and bottom lip

Small cuds between on the bridge of the nose and a spike protruding from the bottom lip

## 7 Raised fern

The fern behind the kiwi shows what appears to be a large die crack, but the centre part could simply be thickening of the line running through the leaf.



Fault 8 (1) above; 8 (2) right



### 8 Large die crack below the Queen

One of the more stunning die cracks protruding from both sides of the Queen's effigy, this fault also comes with very large die cracking on the reverse.



Fault 9

### 9 IRB cud

Similar to Fault 5 with a cud between the Queen's effigy and the designer's initials that progressively gets worse. This die also has a lot of pitting but does not have the mole on the Queen's cheek.

There are also other potential faults that still need to be confirmed by finding multiples or by looking at more coins to see if those listed get worse over time. These and more can be found at [www.coinerrors.co.nz](http://www.coinerrors.co.nz)

## THE ALISTAIR ROBB NUMISMATIC FUND

A highlight of the Numismatic Convention held in Wellington in July 2014 was the launch of The Alistair Robb Numismatic Fund, set up by Alistair with a generous donation through Nikau Foundation to support numismatics in New Zealand into the long term. The fund is administered by Nikau Foundation and encourages philanthropy to support research, education and other aspects of numismatics.

Alistair was keen earlier this year to establish a fund to support numismatics in New Zealand long into the future and established it through Nikau Foundation. Nikau Foundation is based in the Wellington region and will receive funds for charitable purposes which are then held with the income to be used for the purpose nominated, less a small margin for administrative expenses.

The purpose of the fund will be generally to assist and promote the study of all aspects of numismatics, especially coins, banknotes, medals and tokens to all interested individuals in New Zealand. The fund will support research, publications, events, and public awareness. The Foundation will make the decisions but will consult the Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand.

From the Society's point of view, this is a hugely beneficial step forward for the New Zealand numismatic scene and offers significant support for a range of activities across New Zealand for many years to come. We are delighted to be able to cooperate with Nikau Foundation in finding ways for this very generous step by Alistair to support the entire New Zealand numismatic community.

The terms of the Agreement setting up the Fund are copied below for the record.

### NIKAU FOUNDATION

#### AGREEMENT TO ESTABLISH AN ENDOWMENT FUND

**This Agreement is made between Nikau Foundation (the Foundation) and Alistair Robb (the Funder)**

**1. Name and address**

**Name:** Alistair Robb

**2. Name of the Endowment Fund**

2.1 The Funder will establish an Endowment Fund with Nikau Foundation

2.2 The Name of the Endowment Fund will be

**The Alistair Robb Numismatics Fund**

2.3 The Funder reserves the right to change the name of the Endowment Fund.

**3. Beneficiaries**

3.1 When distributions from income are being considered, the Foundation will have regard to the Funder's wishes, as below, acknowledging at the same time that decisions as to distributions will be made by the Foundation:

**Generally to assist and promote the study of all aspects of numismatics, especially coins, bank notes, medals and tokens to all interested individuals in New Zealand.**

3.2 Priority to be given to activities or initiatives that:

3.2.1 assist with research on any aspect of New Zealand numismatics undertaken by New Zealand numismatists;

3.2.2 assist with numismatic research undertaken by any NZ tertiary education staff member or any student, including the expenses of obtaining information and travel:

3.2.3 assist with the publication, dissemination and display of numismatic knowledge, such as Books and online information;

- 3.2.4 assist and promote events that provide information about numismatics and stimulate interest in numismatics such as lectures, conferences or meetings;
- 3.2.5 promote public awareness and education by assisting with the costs of making information about numismatics available to public or private bodies such as Museums, Banks and local or central Government.
- 3.3 To do any other act within New Zealand that advances the above charitable aims.
- 3.4 For the further guidance of the Foundation, where possible:
- 3.4.1 consideration to be given to supporting activities that maximise benefits to the numismatic community in the Wellington region.
- 3.4.2 have regard to the views of the Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand when distributions of income are being considered.
- 4. General**
- 4.1 The Funder reserves the right to notify the Foundation from time to time of any changes to the preferred beneficiaries.
- 4.2 Where reference is made to the distribution of income, this refers to the proportion of income which the Foundation decides to distribute for that year, as some income may need to be retained to offset inflation.
- 4.3 If a preferred beneficiary ceases to operate for charitable purposes, the Foundation may distribute what may have gone to that beneficiary to another charitable beneficiary (or beneficiaries) which has purposes and objectives similar to those of the intended beneficiary as at the time of this agreement.
- 5. Fees**
- 5.1 The suggested initial establishment cost, is due at the time when the Foundation receives the Funds, is \$nil.
- 5.2 The Foundation will charge specified management administration fees and disbursements which will be debited to the Fund. The annual fee is 1% per annum of the amount of the capital of the Fund. This may vary from time to time.
- 6. Ongoing Liaison**
- 6.1 The Foundation will provide an annual report detailing investment income and disbursements.



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## WAIKATO MINT NZ RUGBY CENTENARY MEDALLION 1970: ONE-OFF GOLD VARIETY

George Hawkins, Medallist

The medallion described here is perhaps the rarest of those produced by the Waikato Mint. The New Zealand Rugby Centenary medal (MacMaster 1970/3) is recorded as having a total mintage of 500, 490 of which were in silver and ten in gold.

One of these gold medals is a piedfort, however. The initial brief I gave Auckland badge maker Dick Senior was to "give my clients good value for money". Mr Senior made the 24 ct gold medals so thick that the metal content nearly exceeded its selling value. So I asked that the gold ones be restruck as a thinner medal. All but one of the double-thickness medals were returned to the melting pot. The one surviving double-thickness example is pictured here and has a weight of close to 2 ounces.

Fortunately for me, a good friend returned this example to me to hand down to my son in Tasmania. Note the lovely hand-crafted display box is in rimu with an interesting rugby ball and fern fronds neatly engraved on the lid. Dick Senior used an old drop hammer to produce this medal.



The unique double-thickness example of MM1970/3: obverse and reverse, special rimu case and medal in case.

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# THE MODERN COMMEMORATIVE MEDAL IN NEW ZEALAND: MIRROR TO THE NATION'S SOUL\*

Hamish MacMaster FRNSNZ

Commemorative medals have been one of the largest, least understood, least catalogued and until recently least written about fields in New Zealand numismatics. Before the Society issued its Catalogue of Commemorative Medals in 2009, no catalogue of commemorative medals had been published for the period after 1940. Until recent times many collectors and dealers had ignored modern New Zealand commemoratives almost entirely, arguing that the bulk of the production and the most worthy of these pieces occurred prior to the Second World War.

That they are worthy of study for their medallic art and historical significance is in my view not open to doubt. These mementos are important witness to the drama of our past. When James Cook arrived in New Zealand what did he distribute? – the Resolution and Adventure medal. When Massey's Cossacks had running battles with the strikers on the streets of our major cities what were they given? – the 1913 Special Constabulary medal. And when the Wahine sank in 1968, what item was given in recognition to the outstanding bravery of the rescuers? These dramatic moments in New Zealand history were all captured in medallic form.

In the Sutherland Memorial Lecture of 2010 I observed there were many diverse branches of our hobby – tokens, coins, banknotes. Few, though, offer as much a mirror to the nation's soul as the commemorative medal. I believe what events we choose to commemorate and how we portray them in medallic form are as much revealing of who we are as the events themselves. In short commemorative medals are not only works of art, they are witnesses to history.

My remarks today focus on the publication of the Society's catalogue – today reissued in updated form at this Conference – and will encompass what we have learned from and indeed about the place of the medal in New Zealand numismatics. For me to do this I must begin on the eve of the modern era when it was by no means certain that the medal would survive.

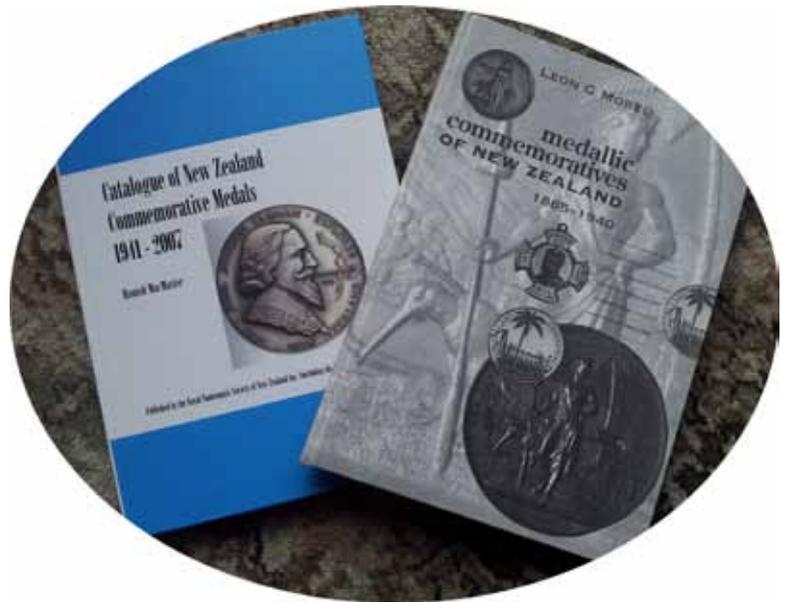
## ***Position of Weakness***

Allan Sutherland was aware that the form of the commemorative medal in New Zealand was changing when he wrote his seminal work in 1940. He reflected upon a "*waning of public interest*" in their issue which he attributed in the first instance to a reaction against the cheapening of the intrinsic value of medals by the increasing use of aluminium.

He believed other probable reasons such as "*the increased use of wrist-watches, lessening opportunities for displaying medals, and the increased use of silver cups and awards of a practical nature, have also led to the abandonment of the medal as a general means of commemorating events and acknowledging achievements.*"

Global events were also conspiring against the medal in this country. The economic strictures of the Great Depression had a dampening effect on both the demand and supply of commemorative medals. People needed their money for other things. Given the priorities of the Second World War, understandably the commemoratives issued during that decade were few.

\*Presented at the 2014 International New Zealand Numismatic Conference and Fair  
Wellington, New Zealand



A selection of modern NZ medals and catalogues

I have remarked before that it is curious there was largely an absence of medals commemorating the end of the Second World War, in contrast to the multiple New Zealand issues after the First World War and those issued in Australia in 1945. In November 1945 the New Zealand Numismatic Society resumed pressure on the Government for the issue of a New Zealand Peace Medal, but at the official level the project languished. This lack of desire to issue commemorative medals does suggest, in my view, an evolution in our view of war and a more predominant desire in the national consciousness to move on and focus on the challenges of the future, rather than dwell on the suffering of the immediate past.

Efforts by New Zealand's foremost designer James Berry at this time to go it alone on such a medal were equally unsuccessful. Indeed Berry's efforts to promote this and other medal issues testify to the difficulty of commemorative medal issue at this time. With strong support from the Numismatic Society, he was designing a Tasman Tercentenary medal, intended to be the first in a series honouring historical figures, and the 1949 Royal Visit medals to be issued to the schoolchildren of New Zealand if the Government could be so persuaded. The Royal Visit ultimately did not go ahead because of the King's illness, but even before this there was an official reluctance to pursue the project.

The Tasman medal came nearest to striking, and was only cancelled from lack of funds in January 1949, although a further attempt to revive it was made in the mid-1950s. Indeed the history of the medal in this country shows us that as a nation we are averse to commemorating the portraits of our leaders and notables in medallic form. Excluding Royalty and with almost the sole exception of Captain Cook, only a small number are devoted to individual persons. And this includes the significant omission of the first European to discover New Zealand, Dutch explorer Abel Tasman. Are we really a nation that so dislikes tall poppies?

Besides this lack of official patronage for commemorative medal design, another inhibiting factor following World War II was limited local capacity. A letter to the editor of the Numismatic Society's Journal refers in 1955 to the *"the only firm in New Zealand with a medal press"*.

Sutherland in 1940 refers to Mr G. Whitehouse of Mayer and Kean, Wellington, as the leading die-engraver of the Dominion and lists that company as the only New Zealand firm distributing *"at the present time, the most outstanding specimens..."*. He bemoans the quality of earlier local designs: noting *"the standard of artistry of the designs of New Zealand fell somewhat short of the general world standard."*

No wonder, then, that in 1948, Berry wrote, *"I would like to devote all my time to stamp, medal and coin design work, but unfortunately that does not appear to be economically possible in New Zealand"*.

### ***Growth of the Modern Commemorative Medal***

However change was afoot. Despite the paucity of issue in the forties and fifties, the signs were there of a re-emerging interest in the issue of commemorative medals. This interest was spurred by the beginnings of significant centennials, anniversaries and events commemorated by medals. These included the 1948 Otago and 1950 Canterbury Centennial medals, the 1953 Royal Visit medal and the 1950 Empire Games in Auckland.

From their early origins as souvenirs of participation, New Zealand commemorative medals evolved increasingly into objects reflecting upon and celebrating significant provincial and national milestones and exhibited a maturing national identity. It is not surprising, therefore, that as New Zealand attained increasingly more of these milestones, interest in the medal grew, underpinned by growth in local enterprises capable of producing such medals.

The nature of the medals in this modern period clearly changes. Those with the loop suspension become increasingly scarce – reflecting the change in fashion away from fob watches and chains and therefore the opportunity to display suspended medals – and there is a move to larger medallions, which in turn offered greater scope for innovation in design.

Sutherland observed that “*within recent times, .....the standard of designs has shown an improvement*” and cites the Bledisloe-Waitangi medal (a James Berry design) as evidence of this.

Indications that a modern era for the medal had begun lie in the bicentenary celebrations of 1969 commemorating James Cook’s rediscovery and charting of New Zealand. These celebrations, following on from the decimalisation of New Zealand currency in 1967, sparked a huge upswing in interest in numismatics in this country and a plethora of organisations producing medals to record the occasion.

Taking advantage of favourable metal prices, a large number of medal-issuing entities flourished in New Zealand in the late 1960s and 1970s. Many of these entities were primarily revenue-gathering exercises and quality varies widely from the rough-cast bronze-like medals issued by Jaspen Products to those of the Historical Medal Society of Australia and New Zealand, which were distinguished by their depth and quality of strike. Their common legacy was to leave a wealth of interesting pieces commemorating events of historical significance to this country.

An example of these groups was the Waikato Mint founded by George Hawkins, who arrived in Hamilton from Australia, and was active in medal making from 1970 to 1980. The Waikato Mint’s output over the decade comprised some twenty-five medals. Indeed the Waikato Mint itself was purely a marketing name that underwent a number of changes. The earlier issues were circulated by Waikato Mint Medallion Division of Hawkins Enterprises. This evolved into Waikato Publishing Company Ltd and then into the Waikato Mint. Finally, in an effort to expand the business beyond New Zealand, the name was changed again to South Pacific Mint Ltd.

To cater for the growing numismatic interest, many coin clubs and societies were also formed at this time, many of which in turn issued commemorative medals in their own right. With the growth in local capability evidenced by the entry of firms such as Hansen & Berry and the Waitangi Mint, many New Zealand items were now being engraved by local artists.

The 1970s marked the apogee of New Zealand commemorative medal issue in the modern period. Over the following decade the large number of medals issued was scaled back when the price of silver rose sharply in the 1980s due to wholesale speculation in the United States. However with the passage of time and the increasing number of milestones being reached and recorded, not to mention the growing diversity of national pastimes, the level of commemorative medal issue has been sustained.

### ***The Society’s 2009 Catalogue***

The Society’s 2009 Catalogue for the first time documented the growth in these numbers. The first edition of Morel’s work in 1976 on *Medallic Commemoratives of New Zealand 1865-1940*, listed 274 pieces. The Society’s 2009 Catalogue contained well over 400 listings. The updated 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition contains about 150 more for this modern period.

Perhaps more fascinating, though, than raw numbers, has been the way in which the Catalogue has clearly demonstrated the growing indigenous nature of these medals both in terms of the New Zealand issuer and the events they sought to commemorate. Prior to 1966 a little over 30% of medals were struck in New Zealand. By the time of the ‘modern’ era (1967-2009), it is estimated around 80% were New Zealand made.

Examples within the Catalogue indicate the increasingly confident depiction of Maori by Maori themselves. The 1972 Orakei medal was the first New Zealand designed for an exclusively Maori event. Produced to commemorate 600 years of Maori settlement, it was designed by Maori artist Harry Dansey. In the Canterbury Millennium medal prepared by NZ Mint, an image of Tuterakiwhanoa, the child of Aoraki (Mt Cook) who shaped Te Waipounamu (the South Island) was given to us by the Maori artist and writer Cliff Whiting, while the reverse of the 1981 4<sup>th</sup> World Veteran games Medal in Christchurch was designed by Mr Bill Nepia of the Maori language department of the University of Canterbury.

The Catalogue captured the huge range of new subjects for medals which are continually being thrown up such as space travel, GPS positioning and spoofing (a guessing game involving coins), while old maritime themes such as foreign fleet visits have evolved into competitive yacht racing, and here I promise not to mention the America's Cup.

Industrial progress is now measured less in the holding of Exhibitions than in the production achievements of Oceana Gold and the Tiwai Aluminium Smelter.

Significant events in the Catalogue of modern commemoratives are more the 1969 bicentenary of Cook's discovery and the 1990 commemoration of the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi – specifically NZ events – rather than the Royal visits and jubilees of earlier times, all signs, in my view, of a greater national maturity and self confidence.

The Millennium celebrations demonstrated that the art of the commemorative medal remains very much alive in this country. The event was reflected in numismatic issues to a degree not seen since the Bicentenary thirty-one years earlier.

Along the way in putting together the Catalogue there have been many surprises. I would be interested in hearing how many of you had ever heard of Bob Gillam, a Waihi engraver. You may be surprised to learn that up to a quarter of all NZ medals during the early 1990s were engraved by him. His contribution – of which I can confidently say, before the Catalogue came out, few of us collectors were even remotely aware – is now fully documented in a dedicated section in the book.

Equally the Catalogue highlighted for the first time the outstanding series of Tiwai Point Aluminium Commemorative Medals. On 30 November 1971 New Zealand Aluminium Smelters Ltd (NZAS) began the series by producing a commemorative medal for the official opening of the aluminium smelter at Tiwai Point, Bluff. The medals were issued to staff and to dignitaries who were invited to the opening.

As a result of the publication of the Catalogue the full extent of this issue has become known. Over a forty-year period the series has grown to some fifteen medals to commemorate special events in the output of the smelter. The first three were struck by Stokes in Melbourne, Australia. From 1985 staff from NZAS designed the medals and organised their manufacture in New Zealand with aluminium of the highest standard from the Tiwai Smelter. Again these are fully documented in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition of the Catalogue.

In the inclusion of selected examples of New Zealand Challenge Coins the Catalogue also broke new ground. For the uninitiated these items express the holders' affiliation to their unit. Those who carry them, do so with pride. It is a respected symbol of the military unit depicted on the coin.

Originating in the US military, the practice is now widespread through the New Zealand Defence Force. It is now possible to find them issued by other New Zealand government departments, Government Ministers, Ambassadors and civil organisations such as the Salvation Army and Civil Defence.

The Challenge Coin is in many cases commemorative in nature, featuring a specific individual or event. Indeed the Society has issued one for this Conference on which our Founder Allan Sutherland, the Father of New Zealand Numismatics, is commemorated. The inclusion of Challenge Coins in the original Commemorative Medal Catalogue spawned their own Catalogue, the first of its type on New Zealand Challenge Coins.

I return now to where I began. It is without doubt that New Zealand commemorative medals remain worthy of serious collection and study as both objects of art and important records of national, provincial and individual history, charting our progress as we develop an increasingly distinctive and self-confident national consciousness. In my view the Society's catalogue has been an important tool in documenting the more recent part of that journey.

Thank you.

THE HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY  
TOKENS, MEDALS AND SCRIP\*

Scott E Douglas FRCNA, FCNRS, FONA



*There has to be this pioneer, the individual who has the courage, the ambition to overcome the obstacles that always develop when one tries to do something worthwhile, especially when it is new and different.*

**Alfred P. Sloan**

**The Hudson's Bay Company**

\*Presented at the 2014 International New Zealand Numismatic Conference and Fair  
Wellington, New Zealand



much more interested in making a profit than making history even though, inadvertently, every move it made did just that.

At the height of its control, the Hudson's Bay Company employed less than 3,000 people. In 1811, when the Company was embroiled in its fierce battle with the North West Company, it employed just 320 people at 76 posts.

In 1986, in a struggle to stay relevant in a modern world, the Hudson's Bay Company sold its fur trading houses in London and Toronto, the largest in the world at the time. A year later the Company sold its 178 Canadian northern retail outlets. At the time of the sale the natives could still barter their furs at these outlets for merchandise. Once again, the Company kept the past in the past, easily selling the very foundation of its existence in order to live to fight another day. The Hudson's Bay Company had indeed learned how to survive, never hesitating to do what needed to be done to carry on. If one word were required to describe the Hudson's Bay Company that word may be 'endurance'.

The Hudson's Bay Company is certainly one of the most documented institutions in the world. In 1974, the Hudson's Bay Company's historical documents, which now reside in the Manitoba Provincial Archives, needed to be evaluated for insurance purposes before being transported from London to the Winnipeg archive. The papers weighed 68 tons and measured 6,000 linear feet. This consisted of ship's logs, company minute books, post ledgers and personal diaries dating back to 1670. This archive of letters and journals gives us an authentic view of life in pre-confederation Canada.

The Hudson's Bay Company battles on today, in 2014, fighting for a continued existence while enduring a less bloody, but equally important fight. The Hudson's Bay Company is a Canadian publicly listed company trading on the Toronto Stock Exchange.



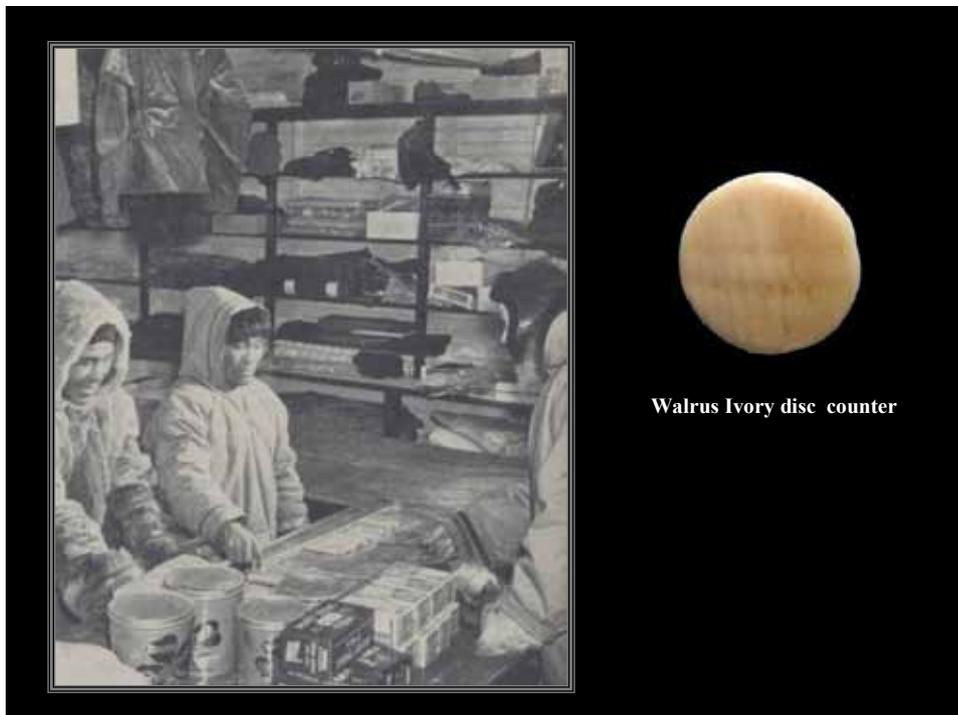
The original Royal Charter has 7,000 words of hand lettered text on five 31 x 25 inch sheets of sheepskin parchment.



The Hudson's Bay Company is a publicly traded company listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange.

### Tokens of the Hudson's Bay Company

From the beginning the Company used the barter system when trading with the natives. However, in order to make it easier for the natives to understand these transactions the Company introduced different counters such as an ivory, bone or shell disc, wooden counting sticks and eventually tokens.



Walrus Ivory disc counter

An example of a plain disc of walrus ivory. Sometimes these discs are found with the letters H B lightly scratched into the surface. The natives in the photo are using counting sticks to aid in valuing their transaction.



This skin counter is one of three known today. Two are in the National Currency Collection in Ottawa, Canada, and this one is in a private collection. All three counters were brought to light by the daughter of a former factor of the Hudson's Bay Company. He was located on the Labrador Coast and later in the Arctic. The man claimed that the skin counter had a value of 1 MB.

The unit of value assigned to the various counters was based on the Made Beaver, usually referred to as MB. A made beaver was a prime, dressed beaver skin or pelt. Tokens used in the Northeast were principally in MB denominations. In the Prairies and Western Canada, where trading was not primarily for furs, the tokens had a value based on decimalisation of the dollar.

In July 1926 Mr Angus Brabant, the fur trade commissioner in Winnipeg, contacted Mr C. H. French, the district manager for British Columbia, with the request that French give him details of the tokens being used in his district. It was Brabant's belief that the use of Company tokens was getting out of control. Brabant discussed the information received from French with HBC Governor, Charles Vincent Sale, during his visit to Canada that year. As a result of this exchange, on September 28, 1926, Angus Brabant informed the Governor and the Committee in London that; *"The question of the use of trade tokens at posts has been considered by the Governor and at his instructions they are to be discontinued where they take the place of cash"*.

All Company posts were subsequently ordered to deliver all stock of Company token money to the Canadian Head Office in Winnipeg. Later, sometime in the 1950s, the tokens of East Main, Labrador and the St. Lawrence-Labrador Districts, as well as the promissory notes of York Factory, were offered for sale to the general public. This offering was likely drawn from the stock supplied by the Company posts.

***Journals now available on CD:*** All of the Society's Journals from 1947 to 2008, and reprints of the "Transactions" - the proceedings of the New Zealand Numismatic Society (as it was then) from 1931 to 1947 - have been scanned and are available in PDF format on CD. The files are about 80% machine-readable (most recent editions 100%, earlier ones less so in some cases because of quality of print (or typescript in the case of the Transactions), and make a useful searchable record of the Society and NZ Numismatic topics in general. See page 75, under "Publications Available", for price details.

## East Main District



The East Main District is located south and east of Hudson Bay. The tokens are struck in brass and the dies reside in the Hudson's Bay Company archives in Winnipeg, Manitoba. In spite of recent high auction prices recorded in 2008-2014, these tokens are plentiful and easily found.

The letters on the reverse may be explained as follows:

HB – Hudson's Bay,

E M – East Main,

N B – should be MB or Made Beaver



## I.G.B. & Co.



These tokens are uniface, brass and have incused lettering. They were originally produced for the I.G. Baker Company whose head office was located in St. Louis, Missouri. Baker established a series of trading posts in southern Alberta and Saskatchewan around 1871. The Hudson's Bay Company purchased the Canadian interests of I.G. Baker in 1891. The Hudson's Bay Company recycled the Baker token by restamping it for their own use. The Company changed the I to an H, and then obliterated the G and the & with an X.

### Cast Tokens of British Columbia



These cast tokens are bifacial and it is currently unknown exactly when they were issued. Most of the tokens have been located in the Prince Rupert area of British Columbia, likely the intended place of use. Since the Company has no record of the issue it may be speculated that the tokens were a product of local officers of the Company. In July of 1926, Mr C. H. French, the district manager for British Columbia, stated in a letter to the Fur Trade Commissioner in Winnipeg that tokens began use in British Columbia in the 1870s. French went on to say that, with the exception of Fort Grahame, McDames Creek and Liard, the token system had been abolished since his connection with the District of British Columbia which began in 1894. Therefore, it is possible that these tokens were issued in the 1870s but were discontinued before French arrived in 1894.

It was recorded in 1959, by an elderly former Company employee, that his superior had ordered him to gather up and dispose of the 5,000 tokens that were lounging in the Fort Simpson safe. The man wrapped the tokens in a burlap sack and deposited them in the Pacific Ocean. The man was not quite sure exactly when he performed this duty but thought it likely to be around the year 1900.

The tokens are known in three denominations of 25c, 50c and \$1.00. The tokens also have been found with four different letter counterstamps. The letters are S, thought to be Fort Simpson, M for McDames Creek, H for Hazelton and N for Fort Nelson. Although other posts and areas have been suggested over the years, these attributions seem most likely. However, without any recorded evidence it is purely speculative.

## Ungava Bay District



According to former post manager C.N. Stephen, these tokens were in use at all Ungava Bay District posts from early 1920s to about 1941 when they were phased out. However, the date of 1941 would not have complied with the order given by Governor Sale, in 1926, demanding the posts stop their use and have the tokens delivered to Head Office in Winnipeg.

The tokens are known to exist in 1, 5, 10 and 20MB denominations, and are exceedingly rare.

### William Ralph Parsons

Ralph Parsons was born in Newfoundland in 1881. Parsons started with the Hudson's Bay Company as an apprentice in Cartwright in 1898. In 1900 he was transferred to Rigolet. In 1905 he took charge of the post at North West River before returning to Cartwright in 1907 as manager. Between 1909 and 1915 Parsons was in charge of establishing posts in the Hudson Strait and served as District Manager. It was during this period of time that Parsons created his tokens. In a letter dated February 1948, Parsons claims that in 1912 the natives in his district had little idea of the value of their furs against the trade goods of the Company. In order to give the natives visual knowledge, Parsons created tokens that could be used over the counter at his post.



The tokens were fashioned from copper hoops wrapped around powder kegs. Parsons cut the hoops into 2" x 1" x 1/16" pieces and then divided up the sections to represent a skin.



Later, Parsons did the same with 1/8" thick lead caulking used to repair cracks on the hull of ships. Parsons later went on to serve as District Manager for Labrador and then for the amalgamated St. Lawrence Labrador District. Eventually he held the post of Fur Trade Commissioner. Those who knew Parsons claim he was a loyal Company man. His name stamped on the home made tokens is an indication of the respect he had from the natives.

## Labrador District



The Labrador tokens are believed to have replaced the Parsons tokens around 1919. The first issue is made of tin and is uniface. The denominations are 1MB, 5MB, 10MB and 20MB.



The second issue is aluminium and struck on both sides.  
Denominations known are 5MB, 10MB and 20MB.

## St. Lawrence and Labrador District



The St. Lawrence and Labrador Districts amalgamated in June 1922. The tokens resulting from this amalgamation are thought to have been made the following year. The tokens are made of aluminium and represent 1MB, 5MB, 10MB and 20MB. Two varieties of these tokens are known to exist. One variety has small lettering and the other large lettering indicating two separate issues.



### Little Grand Rapids



Little Grand Rapids is located in the Norway House District in Manitoba. A post was originally established here in 1848. These tokens were discovered when a building at the post was demolished. It was found that the tokens had been used as washers when nailing shingles to the roof. This may account for the fact that most tokens that are known have holes in them. A young man, who had been stationed at the post, is known to have had several of the tokens at one time but lost them in a house fire around 1962. The tokens are known in denominations of 25, 50 and 1.00 and are made of aluminium.

## Onion Lake



Onion Lake is located about 30 miles north of Lloydminster, Saskatchewan. The post existed from 1887 to 1928 when it was closed. The look and style of the tokens suggest they were possibly made between 1910 and 1920. The tokens are known in denominations of 5c round, 25c octagonal and \$1.00 square.

## Yorkton, Saskatchewan



The Hudson's Bay Company opened a store in Yorkton in 1898 to provide better service to the settlers in the area who were having to travel 280 miles away to Winnipeg, Manitoba. The tokens were issued by the local manager primarily to keep the credit books balanced in a place still principally using a barter arrangement with the local farmers. This system, known as the trade due bill system, was popular across Canada from 1890 to 1925. In Western Canada trade due bills continued to be used well into the 1940s. The Yorkton tokens were considered rare until a small hoard was found in Victoria, B.C. in the 1960s. The tokens are known in denominations of 5c, 10c, 25c, 50c and \$1.00 and are made of aluminium.

### Eastern Arctic

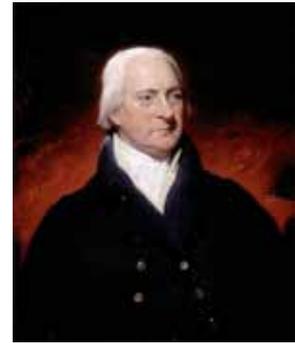


Tokens were introduced to the Eskimo population in 1946 as a way to familiarise the people with the Canadian decimalisation system. During World War II traffic to the Arctic had suddenly increased and it was thought that this trend would likely continue after the war. The tokens are simple and show the numerals 5, 10, 25, 50 and 100. The tokens are made of aluminium and are uniface. Another larger token was made bearing a large number 1. The token is square and also uniface. This square token was made to represent 1 White Fox which was the standard of trade in the Arctic. All of the tokens, after serving their purpose, were discontinued in 1962 with the exception of a few isolated posts.



## The North West Company

Simon McTavish was born in Scotland in 1750 to a very poor family. McTavish emigrated to the United States, around 1764, and as a young man of just 14 was apprenticed to a merchant in New York. He eventually moved on to the Detroit area, having become interested in the fur trade. As most American enterprises were concentrating their fur trading to the south and west, McTavish decided to look to the northwest area of Canada. The North West Company was founded by Simon McTavish in Montreal in 1779. The Company consisted of nine smaller companies coming together. McTavish had multiple partners in this venture but he and the Frobisher brothers, Thomas and Joseph, were in control. Eventually, Alexander Mackenzie, who completed the first recorded transcontinental crossing of North America, would join the firm.



*Simon McTavish*



*North West Company  
coat of arms*

The North West Company built trading posts from the west coast of Canada to the area west of the Great Lakes with the sole purpose of capturing total control of the fur trade. This action proved effective as the Hudson's Bay Company, the North West Company's main target, was forced to build more trading posts to compete with the North West Company. This confrontation would be carried out continent-wide and quickly became one of the deadliest feuds in history. From 1783 to 1820 the North West Company challenged the very existence of the Hudson's Bay Company and at one time controlled 78% of fur sales. The Nor'westers, as the traders of the North West Company came to be known, were largely made up of Scots and quickly proved themselves to be superior explorers to the Hudson's Bay Company officers, who were content to sit on what they had built and let others

map and explore and bring the trade to them. Although the North West Company experienced great success against the Hudson's Bay Company they were stymied when it came to water access, specifically Hudson Bay. The Hudson's Bay Company vigorously defended their posts located on the shores of Hudson Bay and the North West Company could not progress further because of it.

In 1811, the Hudson's Bay Company sold 74 million acres in the Red River Valley to Tommy Douglas, Lord Selkirk. Selkirk planned to use the land to settle displaced Scottish Highlanders. The Selkirk settlement overlapped the North West Company trading route to the north and included many of the North West Company's most important trading posts. For the next ten years friction escalated to new heights until, finally, both sides realised all of their efforts were being spent on competing with each other and neither company could grow. The Hudson's Bay Company had the advantage of a large credit resource but the North West Company was largely overextending itself in order to try and stand its ground. Senior officials of both companies came together to discuss a merger and on March 26, 1821 an agreement was reached. By the terms of the agreement each company contributed assets valued at £200,000. It was agreed that the new company would operate under the Hudson's Bay Company name and under the terms of its Charter. The Charter was renewed for a period of 21 years. Shares were issued to officers of both the North West Company and the old Hudson's Bay Company as well as the estate of Lord Selkirk and the various other partners previously involved. Chief Factors and Traders of exemplary ability were also given a stake. The majority of these individuals were North West men. The Hudson's Bay Company that emerged was now the most powerful fur trading organisation in the world. The new Hudson's Bay Company added the North West Company's excellent traders and explorers, along with the rich areas beyond the Rocky Mountains and regions farther north, to an already impressive portfolio to create an entity likely never to exist again.

In 1821, an Act of Parliament granted exclusive trading rights to the newly amalgamated Hudson's Bay Company. These rights extended north to the Arctic and west to the Pacific Ocean.

In 1868, the year after Canadian Confederation, the Rupert's Land Act resulted in the surrender of most of the Hudson's Bay Company's lands to the British Crown which in turn transferred them to Canada.

In 1987, 178 northern trading posts of the Hudson's Bay Company were sold to a business consortium. This group revived the name The North West Company in 1990 and is based in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Today, The North West Company is a grocery and merchandising establishment with locations in Northern Canada, Alaska, the US Pacific and the Caribbean. In 2014 The North West Company is a publicly listed company, their shares trading on the Toronto Stock Exchange.



Exceedingly Rare Copper North West Token.

There is no recorded evidence that the North West Company token represented 1 MB like the Hudson's Bay Company tokens. This token is usually found in well worn or pitted condition, most being found in old native burial sites. The token was struck in brass and copper, brass being most prevalent. Although the records state that 4,000 tokens were struck it is quite scarce with many of the known tokens turning up in the State of Oregon. All but a few examples are holed.

---

The Society still has a number of enamelled silver membership pins in stock. These were produced in the 1960s and are still in the original sealed plastic packets as received from the manufacturer.

\$10 each, post-paid within NZ.  
Orders to the RNSNZ at PO Box 2023, Wellington 6140.



**The Hudson's Bay Company and the Beaver.  
Valuations Based on the Beaver Pelt**

**The Value of a Beaver Pelt \* or One Made Beaver**

\*Referenced from a journal at Fort Albany 1706

**Value of Supplies in Relation  
to a Beaver Pelt**

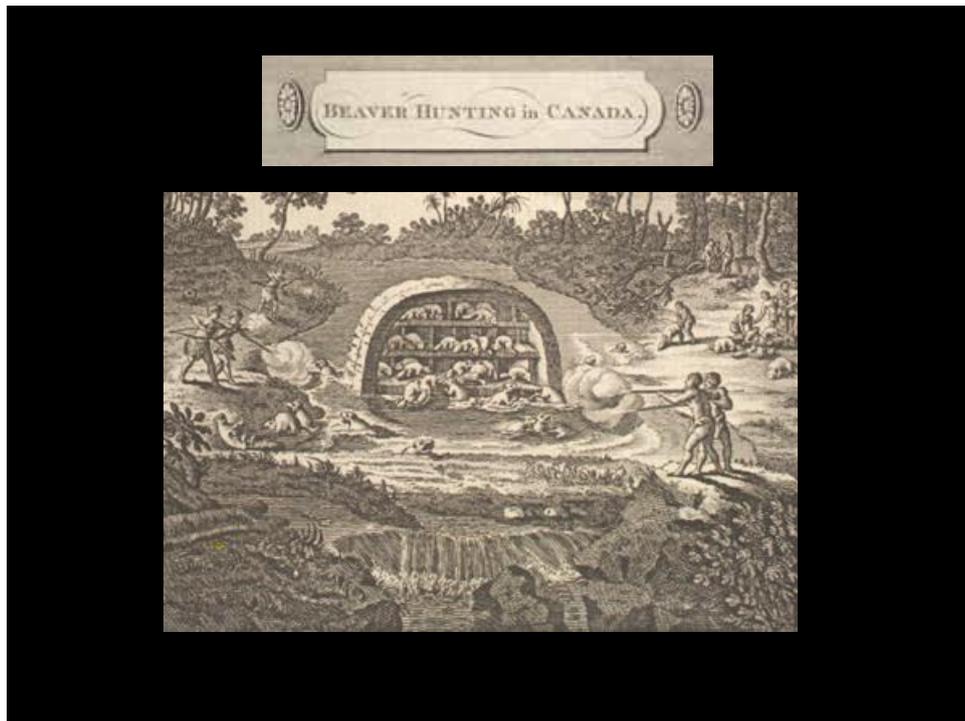
- 1 beaver pelt = 2.25 kg sugar
- 1 beaver pelt = 2 scissors
- 1 beaver pelt = 20 fish hooks
- 1 beaver pelt = 1 pair of shoes
- 12 beaver pelts = 1 gun

**Value of a Beaver Pelt in  
Relation to Other Pelts**

- 1 beaver pelt = 2 Otter Pelts\*
  - 1 beaver pelt = 2 Foxes\*
  - 1 beaver pelt = 1 Lynx
  - 1 beaver pelt = 1 Wolf
  - 1 beaver pelt = 2 Deer
  - 2 beaver pelts = 1 Black Bear
  - 2 beaver pelts = 1 Moose
- \* Unless extraordinarily good  
then 1 for 1.

**The Value of 1 Made Beaver Pelt set out by  
The North West Company around 1809**

- 1MB = 1 brass kettle
- 1MB = 2 yards of flannel
- 1MB = 12 dozen buttons
- 1MB = 1 pair of shoes
- 1MB = 8 knives
- 1MB = 2 hatchets
- 1MB = 1 blanket
- 1MB = 2 shirts
- 1MB = 1 1/2 pounds of gun-powder
- 1MB = 2 pounds of sugar
- 1MB = 1 gallon of brandy
- 1MB = 1 pair of breeches
- 1MB = 20 flints
- 1MB = 2 pair looking glasses
- 1MB = 20 fish hooks
- 4 MB = 1 pistol
- 11 MB = 1 musket



A somewhat misguided depiction of Beaver Hunting in Canada 1792. The natives would locate a beaver house and then begin to bang sticks on the ground to scare the beaver into an area where they would shoot them with a musket or use a bow and arrow. The best time to hunt for beaver would be in the winter when the fur would be in its prime. This picture is very much summer.



The beaver pelt was used primarily for hats, gloves and mitts for many years.

## British Columbia District Cardboard Scrip

On September 28, 1926, Angus Brabant, the fur trade commissioner in Winnipeg, informed the Governor and the Committee in London that, "The question of the use of trade tokens at posts has been considered by the Governor and at his instructions they are to be discontinued where they take the place of cash".

No records on the B.C. District card tokens are known to exist. The cardboard tokens were not authorised by head office so it is quite possible that they were still in use even after the directive to cease was issued in September 1926. Because the card tokens had a number that was easily recorded, they were favoured over the metal tokens that had been used in the past. The card tokens are known to exist for Dease Lake, Fort Grahame, Liard and McDames Creek Posts.



The Dease Lake Post was opened in 1838 and was located about one hundred miles south of the Yukon border. Dease Lake was named after Peter Warren Dease who had previously explored in the area.



The Hudson's Bay Co. post at the head of Dease Lake.

Photo: BC Archives

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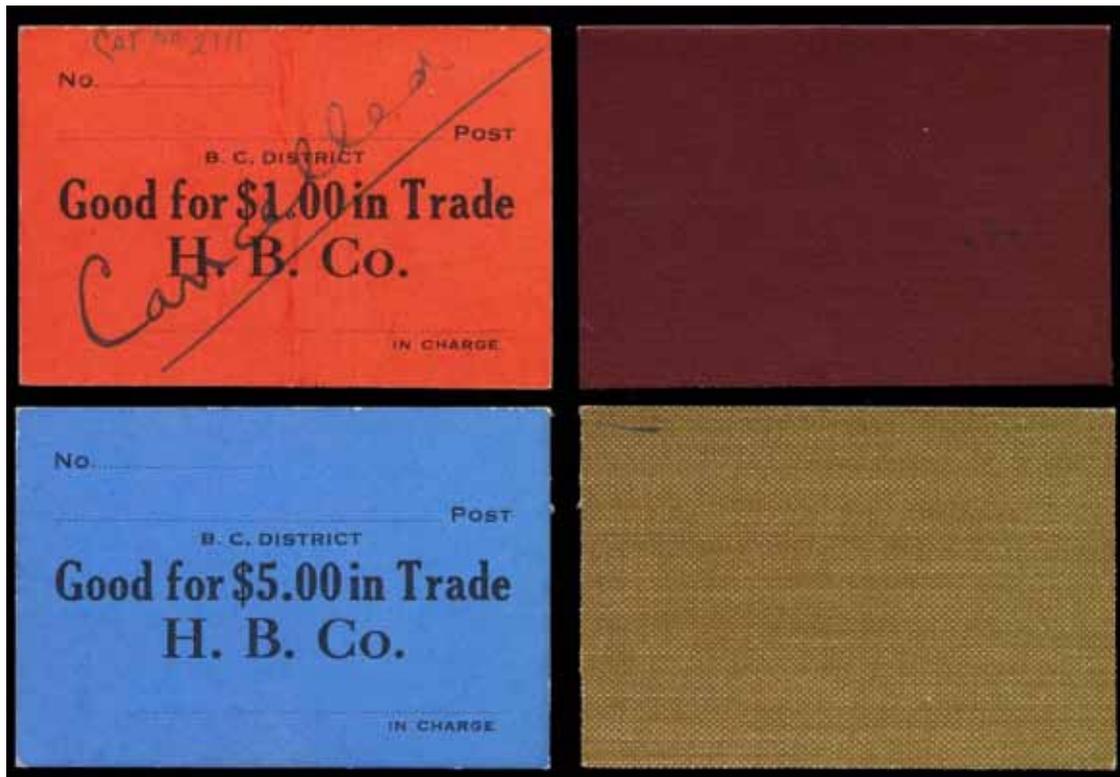




The Fort Grahame Post was established in 1890 and is located about two hundred miles north of Prince George, British Columbia. The signature on the 25c and the \$1.00 is that of John E. Ross who was a clerk at Fort Grahame from 1913 to 1916. The \$5.00 card carries the signature of Henry Ravenel who was posted at Fort Grahame in June of 1925. Note the different style of card tokens bearing each of these signatures.



The Liard Post is situated twenty miles south of the Yukon border. The card tokens have a cloth back which gave the cards an extra degree of strength. The signature on this card is Frank J. Bass who took charge of Liard Post in 1917 and retired in 1928. The initials on the face of the card to the right of the words "in trade" are WW which stood for William Ware, the inspector for the B.C. District. The fourth known issue of cardboard tokens is for McDames Creek Post. The only known denomination is \$5.00 in light blue and dark blue colours. M. Larsen's signature is found on the cards. Michael Larsen was manager at McDames Post from 1908 to 1914 and later from 1917 to 1932.



These cards are usually found in uncirculated condition, lacking a signature and only in the two denominations of \$1.00 and \$5.00. The backs are coated with a coloured cloth. Given their condition they are likely the last proposed issue and were never put into use.

## Hudson's Bay Company Paper Scrip

### York Factory

For 249 years the Hudson's Bay Company sent supply ships from London to York Factory. The ships would leave axes, knives, guns and liquors and return home with a full load of furs. York Factory was the distribution centre for the Company empire.

On May 27, 1820 the Hudson's Bay Company supply ship Eddystone, under the command of Captain Benjamin Bell, left London for York Factory carrying, amongst its cargo, a parcel containing medals for distribution to Indian Chiefs and promissory notes consisting of two thousand one pound notes and four thousand five shilling notes. The notes were contained in a ledger type book with each book containing one hundred notes. Accompanying the notes was a letter from the Governor and Committee in London addressed to William Williams, Governor-in-Chief of Rupert's Land, with instructions as to where and how these notes were to be used:

"We have understood that some circulation medium is very much wanted for the use of the colonists, we have therefore prepared promissory notes to serve for that purpose, and send you two thousand for 1 lb each, and four thousand of five shillings each, with instructions for the mode of issuing and keeping a check against forgeries. You will of course issue these notes only in payment of money due by the Hudson's Bay Company or for bills upon London payable sixty days after sight, taking care to satisfy yourself that the bills will be duly honored.

"Before the notes are put into circulation, they are to be countersigned by the Governor-in-Chief and the Accountant of the department and the date on which they are issued, with the number issued on that day must likewise be inserted. Insert in

the margin, the number and the date on which they were signed in London, with the number and the date they were issued at York accompanied by the initials of *the* Governor-in-Chief and Accountant who countersigned them, which will be a check upon the transaction.

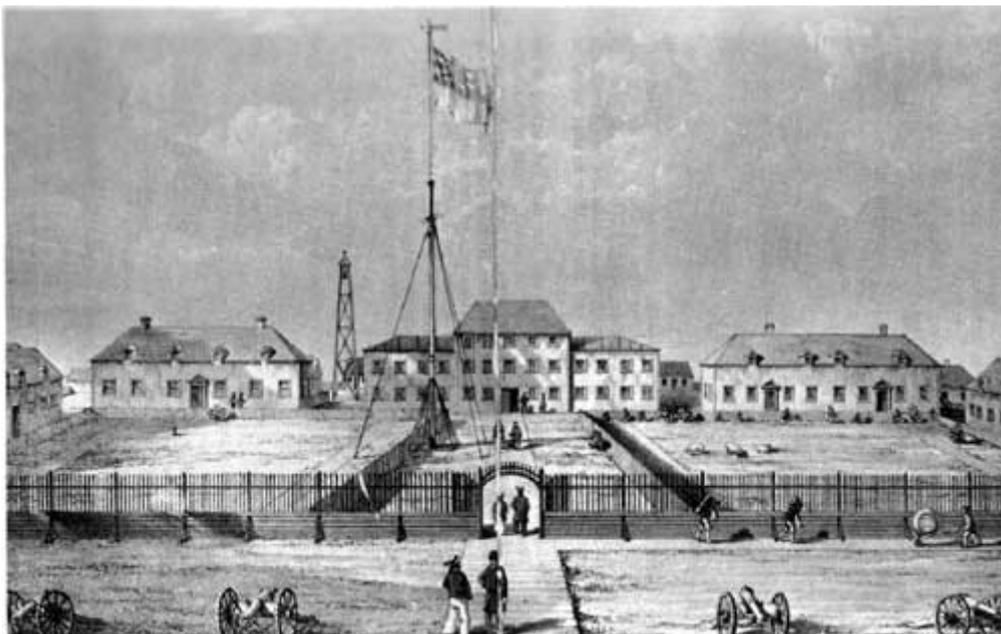
“You will of course not countersign any of these notes until the issue of them may be called for, and take proper caution for their safe custody. You will annually send home a report of the number of notes which you may have issued, which report will in fact be a copy of the marginal memorandums of the date, number, and name of the Governor-in-Chief and Accountant for the time being, who countersigns the notes at the time of issuing. These notes may be taken in payment of goods (provided it is convenient to sell the goods at that time at that post) at York Factory, the Depot for Athabasca, Cumberland House, the Red River Shop, and the officer in charge will keep a note as a pattern by which he may examine the genuineness of the note offered in payment.

“If you think more of the principal posts can be included with advantage in this list, you may report the same to us, but we do not mean that every trading post should be allowed to supply goods upon these notes being presented, as it might occasion an unlooked for demand for goods and injure the trade.

“Whenever any of the notes become defaced or in any way unfit to be reissued, they are to be made up in a packet and returned to this country accompanied by a list of the dates, numbers etc.”

It would appear that Governor Williams was very much in favour of the idea of using these notes and following a request from Williams, four thousand one shilling notes were forwarded to York Factory the following year.

Although Williams was enthusiastic at the prospect of the notes, newly appointed northern district Governor George Simpson was hesitant to use them. Simpson felt that those doing business with the Company would rather have their credits recorded on the Company books than accept the notes. Simpson and Williams were at complete opposite views on this issue. Although the head office in London was pleased with Williams' compliance, it is one of the rare occasions that Simpson could not persuade the London office to see his point of view. In the future Simpson would win more of these disagreements than he would lose.



York Factory 1853



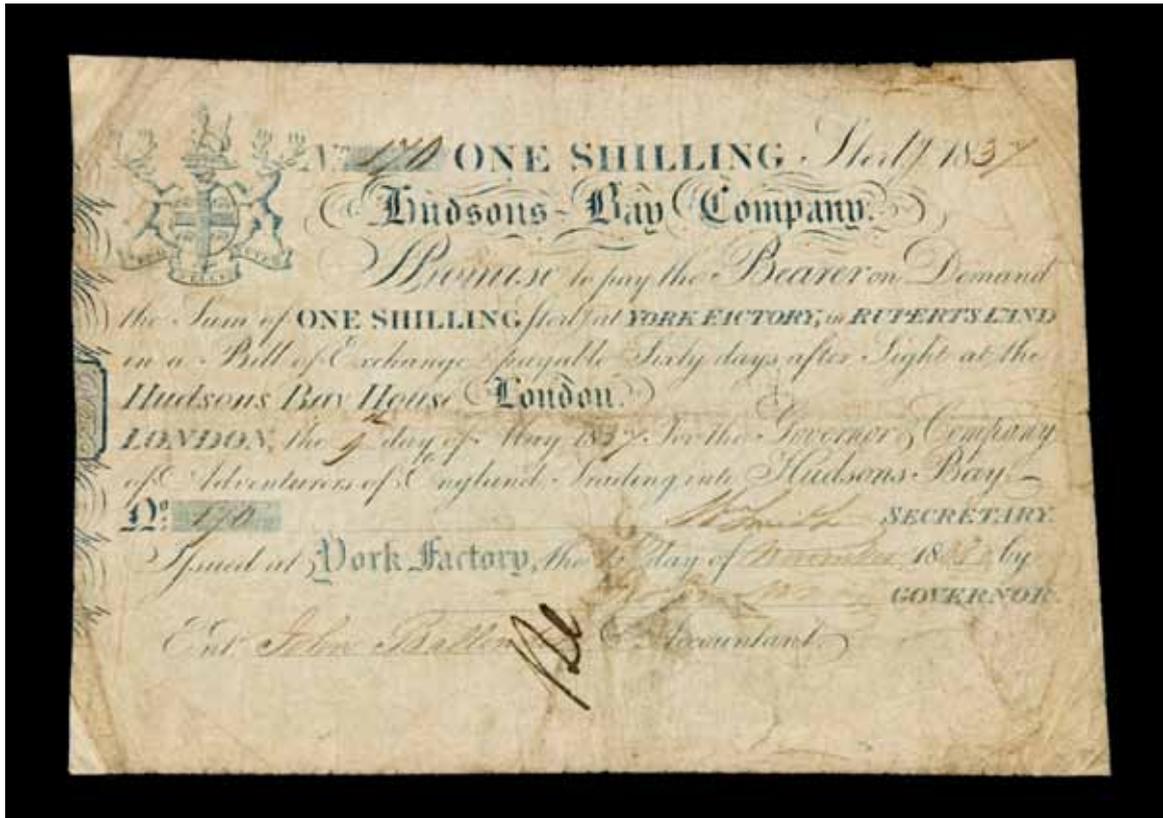
An aerial view of York Factory 1926

**Scrip Notes**



One Pound Sterling issued November 1820 – attached ledger record.

This note likely never circulated. It may have been used as a 'sample' for another post.



One Shilling note issued November 1838



Five Shilling note issued September 1826. Notice that the note has been sewn together.



Five Shilling note issued March 1866 – cancelled January 1870

### Hudson's Bay Company Medals

#### Indian Chief Medals



A routine practice among the numerous fur trading outfits was the bestowing of gifts of rum, tobacco and other favours to the Indians in order to entice them to bring their furs to the respective trading posts.

As early as June 1776, Thomas Hutchins, the Chief Factor at Fort Albany, is on record as suggesting to the Governor and Committee in London that it would benefit the Company if it were to present the Indian Chiefs with a special medal bearing the King's portrait on one side and the Company's coat of arms on the reverse. The purpose of this medal would be to solidify the name of the Hudson's Bay Company in the mind of the Indian Chief that was the honoured recipient. It is not known when the Company may have acted on this suggestion. There is, however, a record of twelve silver medals measuring 4½ inches, with the King's portrait on one side and the Company emblem on the other, being received at Fort Albany in 1797. Included in this parcel were twenty-four brass medals. There is no known record or detailed description of these brass medals available to us. Also, it is not known if the large silver medals were ever presented as an example has yet to come to light. At a Company meeting held in London on February 15, 1820 it is recorded that medals had been ordered from the Soho Mint portraying "the head of his late Majesty". In May of 1820 a parcel containing "24 medals for Indian Chiefs" was received at York Factory.

Governor George Simpson recorded an entry for March 30, 1821 on the presentation of a medal to Lezett, an Indian Chief. A medal was presented to the Chief at Fort St. Mary on April 22, 1821, the medal being presented with a "suitable harangue" for the occasion. Simpson also noted that the principal chief of the Thompson River area was presented with a medal bearing the Company's arms which "he seemed to prize greatly".

The initials C.H.K. on the medal, located on the obverse under the bust, stand for Conrad Heinrich Kuchler. Kuchler was an accomplished engraver when he came to the Soho Mint in 1790. He died in July of 1810. The obverse inscription does not mention George III as King of France. George III renounced his claim to the throne of France in 1801. Therefore, we may be permitted to assume the dies for the obverse would have to have been cut between 1801 and 1810.

The reverse of the medal exhibits a die crack above the tail of the fox. It is unknown if any medals exist without the die crack.



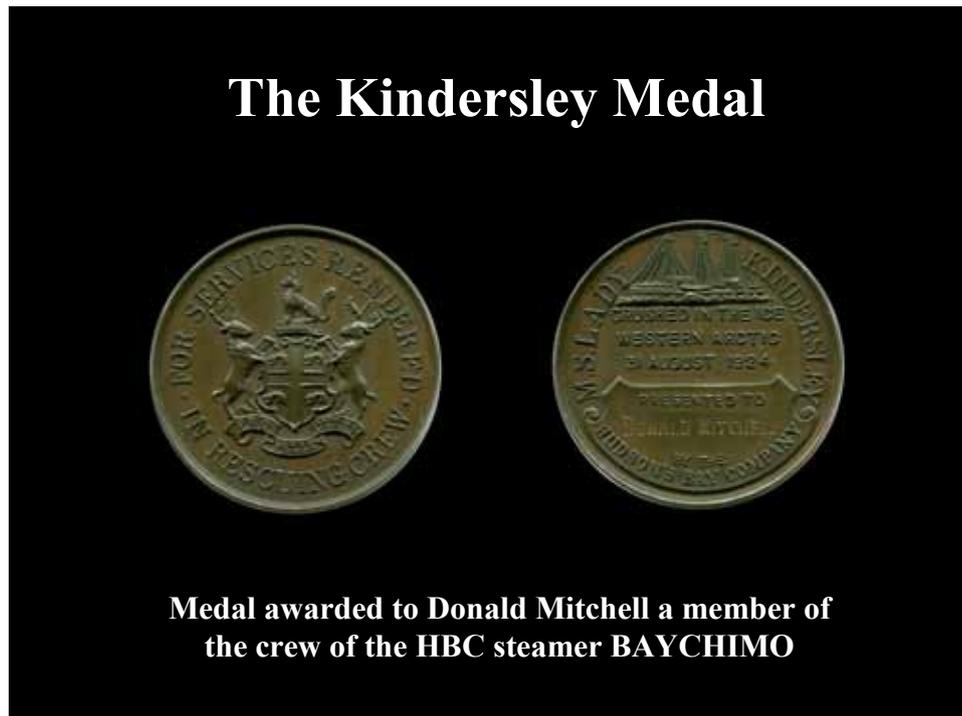
Die Crack



## The Lady Kindersley Medal

A ship in harbor is safe – but that is not what ships are for.

John A Shedd – *Salt From My Attic*



The Lady Kindersley was a three masted schooner constructed of wood with an iron sheathing or bark. She was 200 feet long with a 36 foot beam and was used to service the Hudson's Bay Company's Western Arctic Trade. Built in Vancouver, British Columbia, the vessel was launched on March 21, 1921. The Lady Kindersley was named after the wife of the 28<sup>th</sup> Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company, Sir Robert Molesworth Kindersley.

On June 28, 1924 the Lady Kindersley departed Vancouver, under the command of Captain Gus Foellmer on what was destined to be her last voyage. The Lady Kindersley arrived at Barrow Station, in the Western Arctic, on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1924. At 8 p.m. the Superintendent of cargo, Percy Patmore, and First Mate Clifford Smith moored their vessel to the shore ice and left to buy provisions and see about hiring some men. When they returned they found that the shore ice had broken away and had carried the schooner with it. Patmore immediately put a rescue operation into effect and in an attempt to rescue the officers and crew on board. A heavy fog had set in and the vessel was drifting away in the midst of a vast field of heavy ice.



Over the course of the entire month of August attempts were made to locate and rescue Lady Kindersley and everyone on board. Several ships were involved in the rescue mission. The Arctic, the Teddy Bear, the Boxer and the Baychimo had all been called upon to lend a hand. The conditions were horrible for days on end and the men had to endure heavy ice, thick fog, torrential rain and freezing rain at various times during the rescue attempt. On August 10 the Arctic hit some heavy ice at 3:45 a.m. and quickly began to sink. With the holds full of water the vessel was kept afloat by the pressure of the surrounding ice. An SOS was sent out but at 10 a.m. Captain Bertancini and his crew rounded up some wireless radio equipment and then abandoned ship. That same afternoon the captain sold the cargo and the vessel for \$275. The next day the Arctic was lying over at a 45° angle. With the wireless radio salvaged from the Arctic the captain and crew joined Patmore and continued their quest to rescue the Lady Kindersley.

On August 17<sup>th</sup> the Teddy Bear had joined the rescue party, having finally pushed through heavy ice just below Barrow Station.



The Lady Kindersley iced in.

Wireless radio watches were maintained day and night and contact was made intermittently with the Lady Kindersley but due to magnetic interference she was unable to relay her position. Finally, on August 26<sup>th</sup> Lady Kindersley was able to give her position to the Boxer. The Boxer pushed on and managed to come within about six miles of the Lady Kindersley. Supercargo Patmore and some men made their way up to the Boxer using dog sleds and a launch. On August 31<sup>st</sup> Percy Patmore, First Mate Smith and six natives launched a skin boat and a dogsled from the Boxer toward the Lady Kindersley's location. After about a mile and a half off the Boxer, Patmore met the captain and a sailor named Fitzgerald leading their men hauling one of three canoes on sleds. All arrived to safety on the Boxer.

The Baychimo finally arrived at Barrow on September 1<sup>st</sup>, a day after the rescue. They took the Lady Kindersley crew south to Tin City, near Nome, Alaska. The Baychimo was then ordered back to the ice in an attempt to free the Lady Kindersley. For the next two weeks the Baychimo hunted for the Lady Kindersley until they finally abandoned their search on September 15<sup>th</sup> and returned to Vancouver. By this time the Lady Kindersley, fated to sink to the bottom of the Arctic Ocean, was likely well on its way to the North Pole.

A highly detailed account of this entire incident is housed in the Hudson's Bay Archives in Winnipeg, Manitoba. We can thank Percy Patmore for this. He wrote in his diary every night during that month of August 1924. Patmore died aged 84 on February 16, 1964. He received the only 9 ct gold medal awarded for his part in the rescue of the Lady Kindersley crew. This recognition was well deserved. Patmore proved relentless in his efforts to save the captain, the crew and the ship. He succeeded in the most important part of that mission.

But what about the rest of the men to receive medals? The Company had 45 medals struck for the occasion. It is not known what method was used to ascertain who was 'worthy' of a medal. When we look at the list of recipients one cannot help but wonder why so many were awarded to the crew of the Baychimo when, in fact, they never set eyes on the Lady Kindersley during the rescue mission or after. In fact many of the Baychimo recipients expressed surprise at even being considered. The captain of the Lady Kindersley, Gus Foellmer, appears to have not even been considered. By all accounts Foellmer did everything in his power to facilitate in the rescue of his crew.

The medals were awarded as follows:

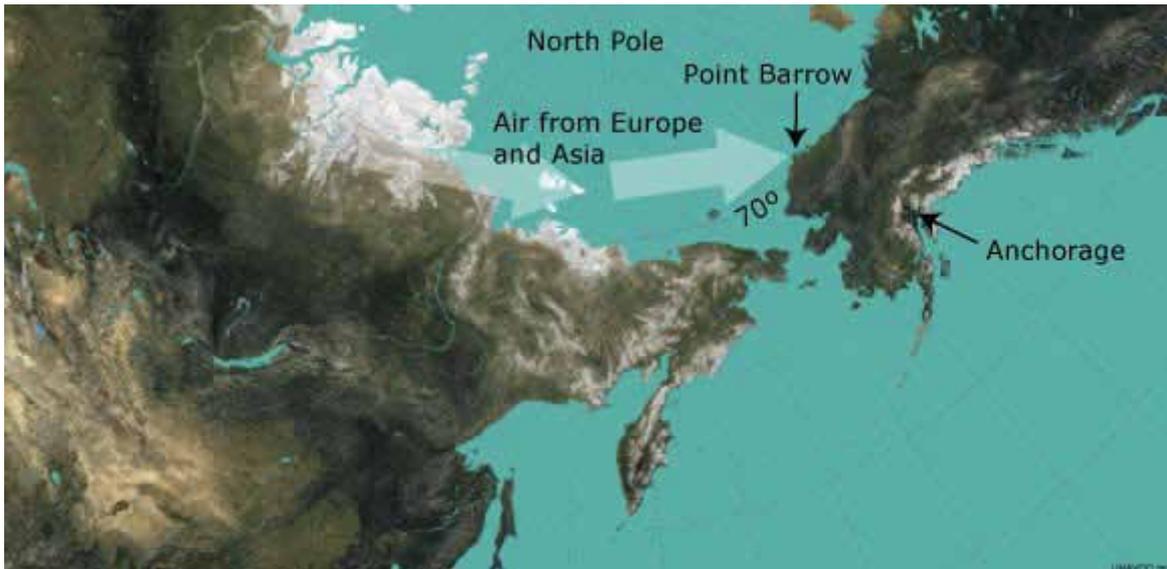
9 ct Gold	Percy Patmore	Supercargo	Lady Kindersley
Bronze	Clifford Smith	First Mate	Lady Kindersley
Bronze	Newton, W	Radio Op	Lady Kindersley
Bronze	Killman, G.R.	Radio Op	Lady Kindersley
Bronze	Whitlam, F.	Captain	Boxer
Bronze	Hough	Radio Op	Boxer
Bronze	Bertancini	Captain	Arctic
Bronze	Nottingham	Radio Op	Arctic

Bronze	Barr, N		Baychimo
Bronze	Black, W	Engineer	Baychimo
Bronze	Cornwall, S.A.	Captain	Baychimo
Bronze	Coe, F.L.	First Officer	Baychimo
Bronze	Davey, A.		Baychimo
Bronze	Delacruz		Baychimo
Bronze	Denley, W.H.		Baychimo
Bronze	Ellis, T.A.		Baychimo
Bronze	Ivory, J.		Baychimo
Bronze	Jackson, S.	Third Officer	Baychimo
Bronze	Metcalf, B.		Baychimo
Bronze	Kerridge, C.		Baychimo
Bronze	Mitchell, D.		Baychimo
Bronze	Richardson, R.		Baychimo
Bronze	Roberts, L.		Baychimo
Bronze	Rogers, E.		Baychimo
Bronze	Servant, R.		Baychimo
Bronze	Shires, A.		Baychimo
Bronze	Summers, R.J.	2 <sup>nd</sup> Officer	Baychimo
Bronze	Topping, E.	2 <sup>nd</sup> Engineer	Baychimo
Bronze	Taylor, A.		Baychimo
Bronze	Wallace, G.		Baychimo
Bronze	Winscombe, J.	3 <sup>rd</sup> Engineer	Baychimo
Bronze	*Blann, R.		Baychimo
Bronze	*Woolhouse, M.		Baychimo
Bronze	*Aldcraft, N.K.	Deck Boy	Baychimo
Bronze	Wagner, J.H.		Bureau of Education, Seattle
Bronze	Historical Exhibit at Winnipeg (not engraved) 2 medals		
Bronze	Historical Exhibit at Victoria (not engraved) 2 medals		
Bronze	Natives at Point Barrow** 6 medals		

\*These three medals had been sent out to the recipients and they were returned as unknown. The medals are held in the Hudson's Bay Company archives. All of these medals are of a second issue. The first issue had an error in design and when this was discovered only one medal, to the Deck Boy Aldcraft, had been sent out. As luck would have it this medal was returned from a dead letter office and was immediately destroyed. The medal now held in the archives with Aldcraft's name inscribed is of the second issue.

\*\*A great amount of care and effort was made to have the six native recipients receive their medals and \$300. F. Whitlam, the Captain of the Boxer, took special care to get the names of the natives and brought the medals back, now appropriately inscribed, to the six Point Barrow natives.

Likely, the extra effort was made toward these six individuals because of the difficulty in getting most of the natives to assist in helping with the search and rescue. This group of six natives displayed initiative and the Company wanted them recognised for it.



### Long Service Medals

Long service medals were first presented in 1920 in conjunction with the Hudson's Bay Company's 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary. These presentations were met with such enthusiasm that it was decided to



continue this practice in the years to come. Prior to September 1928, the year of presentation is not evident on the medal and so it appeared that some medals were presented in 1920 when in fact they were not. To correct this situation the year of presentation was engraved on the medal from 1928 onward. The 30-year medals were struck in 9 ct gold and were presented between 1920 and 1935. The number of years' service was engraved on the medal after being struck. After 1935 the obverse inscription for 15-year medals changed to "Hudson's Bay Company, Incorporated May 2, 1670".

During the years of service following a medal presentation, employees were presented with a service bar stating "Five Years" to be attached to the ribbon of the presentation medal. For example a 30-year medal with one "Five Years" bar indicated 35 years of service.

This medal of 15 years' service adorned with two "five years" service bars indicates the recipient had a total of 25 years service when presented with the second bar. In another five years this employee would be entitled to a gold, 30 years of faithful service, medal.

The obverse of this medal was the one used in 1920 to celebrate the Company's 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

This gold medal, presented to William Fuller in 1942, was for 30 years' service. The ribbon has one Five Years bar indicating a total of 35 years of service.



### Afterword

The Hudson's Bay Company has the most in-depth records, dating back to 1670, that anyone could imagine, except when it came to recording the particulars of their tokens, medals and scrip. Especially the tokens. The year of issue or the amount of tokens or medals struck seems to have completely escaped their ledgers. They did a little better with the paper scrip, using a numbering system that helped keep the books straight. Today, numismatists covet anything associated with the Hudson's Bay Company. The tokens are rare, the medals are scarce and the scrip can be impossible. This situation, of course, makes collecting Hudson's Bay Company material an expensive pursuit. Like anything that becomes rare and expensive it encourages counterfeiting. Hudson's Bay Company material is no exception. If one is not familiar with the various features or characteristics of Hudson's Bay Company artefacts one can easily be fooled. Like any aspect of numismatics the most important tool you can possess is a working knowledge of what you collect. Education is power and the best way to gain that power is through exposure to numismatic friends, numismatic dealers, museums, archives and educational symposiums sponsored by your local or national coin clubs.

Although the Internet makes research a much easier task in 2014, one must be careful to avoid blind acceptance of what is often presented as fact. In all the research I have done over the years I have never been able to fully complete my project from information gathered solely from the Internet. A library or museum or archive is always part of the equation.

It is my sincere hope that this paper, although far from a complete history or catalogue, may be useful to anyone interested in the pursuit of Hudson's Bay Company-related numismatics.

Scott E Douglas  
Acton, Ontario  
CANADA

## Acknowledgements

In researching any of my past numismatic efforts it has always amazed me how quickly numismatists and collectors alike will step forward to offer assistance. Most of the time it is a willingness to share a part of their collection to be studied, scanned, and freely used in whatever way I see fit. This current project was no exception. I truly appreciate the trust placed in me by all of these people.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Len Buth for his encouragement and the use of the images of some of his Hudson's Bay Company tokens. I would like to thank Ron Greene for the use of the image of the bronze Indian Chiefs medal and Geoffrey Bell Auctions Limited for the use of the image of the spectacular North West Company token. Also, I would like to recognise Warren Baker for his unfailing willingness to allow me to use items from his collection or library whenever I need them.

I would also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge my extensive use of Larry Gingras' booklet *Medals Tokens and Paper Money of the Hudson's Bay Company*. Larry's booklet, almost as scarce as the HBC material he has referenced, was published in 1975 and is still the standard today. Larry spent hours and days at the Archives of Manitoba studying the Hudson's Bay Company records and journals.

Scott E Douglas

June 21, 2014

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2014 Maori Art: Papatuanuku & Ranginui - produced by Royal Australian Mint

Name	Alloy	Finish	Weight	Diameter	Denomination	Case	Mintage	Price
2013 Maori Art – Koru Gold Proof coin	Gold – 0.9999	Proof	31.1g	38.74mm	\$10.00	Waka Huia (ornamental carved vessel for taonga)	250	\$3,295.00
2013 Maori Art – Koru Silver Proof coin	Silver – 0.999	Proof	31.1g	40.00mm	\$1.00	Jewellery Box	2,000	\$139.00

2014 Annual Coin: Kairuku - produced by BH Mayer's Kunstprägestalt GmbH

Name	Alloy	Finish	Weight	Diameter	Denomination	Case	Mintage	Price
2014 Kairuku - Silver Proof coin	Silver – 0.999	Proof	31.1g	40.00mm	\$5.00	Jewellery Box	1,500	\$129.00

2014 New Zealand Currency set – produced by Royal Dutch Mint

Name	Alloy	Finish	Weight	Diameter	Denomination	Case	Mintage	Price
2014 New Zealand Proof Currency set	Various*	Proof	Various	Various	10c, 20c, 50c, \$1, \$2	Wallet display	1,000	\$185.00

2014 HMS Achilles – produced by Royal Dutch Mint

Name	Alloy	Finish	Weight	Diameter	Denomination	Case	Mintage	Price
2014 HMS Achilles – Silver Proof Coin	Silver – 0.999	Proof	31.1g	38.70mm	\$1.00	Jewellery Box	1,500	\$129.00

2014 Royal Visit - produced by BH Mayer's Kunstprägestalt GmbH

Name	Alloy	Finish	Weight	Diameter	Denomination	Case	Mintage	Price
2014 Royal Visit - Silver Proof coin	Silver – 0.999	Proof	31.1g	40.00mm	\$1.00	Jewellery Box	1,500	\$139.00

2013 The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug- produced by Royal Australian Mint

<b>Name</b>	<b>Alloy</b>	<b>Finish</b>	<b>Weight</b>	<b>Diameter</b>	<b>Denomination</b>	<b>Case</b>	<b>Mintage</b>	<b>Price</b>
Premium Gold Coin	Gold – 0.9999	Proof	31.1g	38.94mm	\$10.00	Wooden box	500	\$3,395.00
Premium Gold Coin Set (3)	Gold – 0.9999	Proof	93.3g	38.94mm	\$10.00	Wooden box	250	\$9,995.00
Silver Coin with Gold Plating	Silver – 0.999, Gold plating – 0.999	Proof	31.1g	40.00mm	\$1.00	Jewellery Box	20,000	\$149.00
Silver Coin Set (6)	Silver – 0.999	Proof	186.6g	40.00mm	\$1.00	Wooden box	1,000	\$695.00
Brilliant Uncirculated Coin	Al/Zn/Br (gold colour)	Brilliant Uncirculated	20g	39.00mm	\$1.00	Card with images	Unlimited	\$29.90
Brilliant Uncirculated Coin Set (3)	Al/Zn/Br (gold colour)	Brilliant Uncirculated	20g	39.00mm	\$1.00	Card with images	Unlimited	\$54.90

2014 Kiwi Treasures Mitre Peak - produced by BH Mayer's Kunstprägestalt GmbH

<b>Name</b>	<b>Alloy</b>	<b>Finish</b>	<b>Weight</b>	<b>Diameter</b>	<b>Denomination</b>	<b>Case</b>	<b>Mintage</b>	<b>Price</b>
2013 Kiwi Treasures Gold Proof Coin	Gold – 0.9999	Proof	7.78g	26.0mm	\$10.00	Jewellery Box	950	\$895.00
2013 Kiwi Treasures Silver Proof Coin	Silver – 0.999	Proof	31.1g	40.0mm	\$1.00	Jewellery Box	5,000	\$129.00
2013 Kiwi Treasures Silver Specimen Coin	Silver – 0.999	Reverse proof-like	31.1g	40.0mm	\$1.00	Card with images	10,000	\$79.00

2013 Royal Baby – produced by BH Mayer's Kunstprägestalt GmbH

<b>Name</b>	<b>Alloy</b>	<b>Finish</b>	<b>Weight</b>	<b>Diameter</b>	<b>Denomination</b>	<b>Case</b>	<b>Mintage</b>	<b>Price</b>
2013 Royal Baby - Silver Proof coin	Silver – 0.999	Proof	31.1g	40.00mm	\$1.00	Jewellery Box	1,500	\$139.00

\*Note differences in the “Collector set” coins compared to circulation strikes (circulation specifications in parentheses):

\$2 Brass 11.25g (Aluminium Bronze 10.00g); \$1 Brass 8.60g (Aluminium Bronze 8.00g); 50c Copper Nickel 5.59g (Nickel plated steel 5.00g); 20c Copper Nickel 4.45g (Nickel plated steel 4.00g); 10c Copper 3.73g (Copper plated steel 3.30g)

## LEVIN INTER-CLUB MEETING 2014

This year's Inter-Club Meeting, at the customary venue of the Red Cross Hall in Levin, drew a good attendance of 26 from the three participating Societies, along with six dealers/sellers offering a good selection of material, the "scratch trays" once again proving a strong focus of interest.

Show and Tell included a good selection of material. Catering was excellent. Door prizes were awarded to two lucky winners. Gerry O'Mahony produced a suitably difficult quiz, won by the Manawatu Society this year. Alistair Robb judged the four displays, all of good quality, with first prize awarded to Angie Kidd's display of sovereign cases. Alistair also donated generous prizes as well as auctioning and giving away recent auction catalogues and publications.

The other displays related to Chinese mulberry notes, NZ/World medallions and the 1950 Canterbury Centennial; an additional presentation comprised a dossier of documents from the British Archives regarding the background to the 1967 "Bahamas Mule".

Six talks by members covered Moroccan silver coins from the AH 1309 to 1331 era; an Indian Mutiny medal from 1857/8 to Sergeant Dermot of the 97th regiment; a Chinese coin sword and cash coins, including their production; an Australian medal produced to commemorate a flight from Antarctica to Australia by Dick Smith 50 years after the first Antarctic flight by an Australian; the Ahu-whenua bronze medal awarded in 1946 as second prize for the best kept Maori farm in the Waikato/Rotorua area; and Panamanian balboa coins.

The 2015 event is to be organised by the RNSNZ and has been scheduled for Saturday 21 February.

### NZ Historical Medals

From 1968 to 1971, the "Historical Medal Society of Australia and New Zealand" struck a series of crown-sized (38 mm) commemorative medals on a range of themes including the Wahine, James Cook (NZ Bicentenary), 1970 Royal Visit and the Auckland City and Harbour Board centenaries.

Only **500** each of the bronze versions were struck.

We have examples of several of these issues for sale.

See [http://www.translatelimited.com/medal\\_sales\\_list.htm](http://www.translatelimited.com/medal_sales_list.htm) for details.

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## NZ COMMEMORATIVE MEDALS: NEW DETAIL ON 1972/3 (PEARSE) AND 1983/3 (MICHAEL FOWLER CENTRE) VARIETIES

Martin Purdy & Jason Gray

Since publication of the second edition of the “MacMaster” catalogue of post-1940 New Zealand commemorative medals (July 2014), new information has made it possible to further refine the description of the different varieties of the Richard Pearse (1972/3) and Michael Fowler Centre (1983/3) medals. The revised details below are intended as an update to the relevant parts of the published descriptions. Refer to the Catalogue for the full medal descriptions.

### 1972/3A (Die I)

Die I shows large wing flaps, an extra strut, small letters and date digits in line (scarce – **1972/3A**); this type usually exhibits a “frosted” outer ring on the obverse on the aluminium and silver versions, though not in the other metals; examples in aluminium gilt seen by the authors had a die crack running through the second E of PEARSE and down to the right-hand wing. First A of AVIATOR to left of plane wheel.

### 1972/3B (Die II)

As 1972/3A but without wing flaps, missing extra brace and extra panel. This appears commoner than Die I. The lettering is thicker and the date above the plane has a “low 3”. First A of AVIATOR slightly to right of plane wheel.

### 1972/3C (Die III)

As 1972/3B but thinner lettering and date digits and a “high 3” in the date, poorer quality date digits overall, and close inspection of the obverse usually reveals concentric marks showing die polishing.

### 1983/3

**Metal** Sterling Silver (50), Bronze (approx. 200); Silver Finish (20) - see under “Issue” below (**1983/3A**)

**Issue** Struck by Mayer & Toyne, Wellington and sold through Modern Coins, Porirua (Ray Harwood); the Michael Fowler Centre and some local souvenir shops. The 20 Silver Finish pieces were electroplated with sterling silver on 16 gauge gilding metal and were an advance representation piece for showing at the Wellington Coin Club Fair and to observe tarnishing, i.e. trial pieces. They were issued in a blue card. Note that the Silver Finish piece used a slightly different reverse die (**1983/3A**) with taller, thinner letters, the letters W and Z not touching the ground line of the city arms. The design figures are in outline only. On the regular bronze and silver issues, the letters are squarer, the W and Z touch the ground line and the design figures are full, with a more three-dimensional effect. Illustration (top to bottom): trial (1983/3A), regular silver (1983/3), regular bronze (1983/3)



# PRESTIGE, POWER & PROPAGANDA

## Self-Promotion in Ancient Greece and Rome

Paul Etheredge

### Part I Achievement and Descent in Greece

#### Introduction

Tyrants in the Archaic and early Classical periods seized power from aristocratic governments and relied on the support, or at least acquiescence, of the middle and lower orders. Publicising their achievements in events that brought fame to them and their city boosted their popularity. Then, as now, Olympic victories brought prestige. Kings relied on descent in the royal line and the mythology surrounding its foundation to reinforce their right to rule. Men founding a dynasty had to find ways to establish their legitimacy. Coins were one means of publicity.

#### Anaxilas, tyrant of Rhegion (494 – 474 BC) and Messana

AR tetradrachm

Anaxilas captured Zancle in Sicily in 489 BC, expelled the inhabitants, repopulated the city and renamed it Messana (modern Messina).

Anaxilas commemorated winning the mule biga event at the 74<sup>th</sup> (484 BC) or 75<sup>th</sup> (480 BC) Olympiad by establishing the obverse type that was to remain the feature of the tetradrachms of that city until its destruction by the Carthaginians in 396 BC. The olive leaf symbolises the Olympic victor's wreath.



Reverse: ΜΕΣΣΕΝΙΩΝ. The bounding hare is associated with the god Pan, popular in Messene in the Peloponnesos, the homeland of the first settlers of Rhegion and Messana. Anaxilas, himself of Messenian descent, used the same types on his Rhegion tetradrachms.

#### Philip II of Macedon 359-336 BC

Philip was born in 382, the youngest son of Amyntas II and Eurydice. He was raised in Thebes where he had been taken as hostage by Pelopidas. Under Epaminondas he learned the tactics that had produced the victory of Thebes over Sparta at Leuctra in 371. Philip succeeded his brother Amyntas III at the age of 19 with Macedon beset by enemies and his own authority challenged. He soon demonstrated his skills in politics and war. Within a few years he had created a first-rate Macedonian army devotedly loyal to him. He recognised and rewarded merit and shared with his men the rigours of the field and kept his army in constant training, building roads and fortresses. By the time he was 24 he had secured his position internally and beaten off external threats. He began extending Macedonian power, seizing Greek cities on the Macedonian coast, establishing his authority over Thrace and Thessaly and, finally, in August 338, defeating the Athenians and Thebans at Chaeronea. This made him master of Greece. He had launched his campaign to invade the Persian Empire by sending an advance force to Asia when he was assassinated in 336.

## Coinage

In 360/359, the people of Thasos established a settlement on the mainland at Krenides, 'The Springs', near Mount Pangaeus. The discovery of new alluvial gold deposits seems to have been the motivation. Philip captured Amphipolis in 357 and immediately took Krenides under his protection, added new settlers, established a garrison and named it Philippi after himself. The immense output of the mines rapidly brought down the market price of gold in relation to silver in European Greece from 12:1 to 10:1

Philip used this wealth to create a major gold coinage, staters on the Attic standard of 8.6 g. The obverse was a laureate head of Apollo and the reverse a racing biga and Philip's name. Apollo's head emphasised Philip's friendly relations with Delphi and his desire to become the leader of the Hellenic world. The reverse commemorated his victory with a chariot at Olympia at a date not earlier than 352.



Philip's silver Tetradrachms were another change for Macedon. The obverse, laureate head of Olympian Zeus, is an expression of Philip's descent from the god and good pan-Hellenic propaganda but also complements the second reverse type. The first reverse, king on horseback, represents Philip and is an earlier Macedonian type. The second, a mounted jockey carrying a palm-branch of victory, commemorates the success of Philip's horse in the Olympic Games of 356. Legend is ΦΙΛΙΠΠΟΥ (Philip).



Both the gold staters and the silver tetradrachms had an enormous impact on the ancient world. 'Philippics' at Rome became a generic term for non-Roman gold coins, a usage which survived into the late Empire. In Asia Minor it was soon superseded by Alexander's gold coinage. In Europe, however, its designs were adopted by tribes in the Danube valley and transmitted by them to Switzerland, Gaul and, ultimately, Britain, where pre-Roman tribal coinage displayed the final and barely recognisable disintegration of Philip's types.

The silver tetradrachms were enormously popular in the tribal areas adjoining Macedonia, and local imitations were produced in lower Austria, Hungary and Romania into the first century BC. They were produced in Macedonia during Alexander the Great's reign to serve the demand in those areas.

### **Alexander III of Macedon 336-323 BC**

Alexander reinforced Macedonian domination of Greece with his destruction of Thebes in 335. He crossed into Asia in 334 and by 330 had conquered the bulk of the Persian Empire. He appointed satraps to look after the conquered territories and campaigned in Bactria, Sogdiana and India. Alexander's death in 323 was followed by wars between his followers until some sort of stability was reached about 280.

The coinage of many cities was replaced, first by coinage of, or in the name of, Alexander and then of the successor kingdoms. Major dynasties were the Lagid (Egypt 323-30), Seleucid (Syria 321-96), Antigonid (Macedon 306-168) and Attalid (Pergamum 282-133). Other significant kingdoms were Pontus (302-47), Bithynia (297-74), Cappadocia (330-AD 17) and Bactria and India (250-55).

### **THE INFLUENCE OF HIS IMAGE ON COIN TYPES**

"The statues that gave the best representation of Alexander's person were those of Lysippus (by whom alone he would suffer his image to be made), those peculiarities which many of his successors and his friends used to affect to imitate, the inclination of his head a little to one side towards his left shoulder, and his melting eye, having been expressed by this artist with great exactness. .... he was fair and of light colour, passing into ruddiness in his face...." (Plutarch, Dryden translation, revised by A.H. Clough, 1864.)

Alexander is frequently portrayed with wide open eyes raised towards the sky and a luxuriant mane of hair, the locks rising above the forehead, the gaze conveying the relationship of the person to both the earthly and divine spheres. Unlike earlier Greek portraits of mature, bearded heroes and famous men, his image is one of youthful beauty and clean-shaven features. These and other aspects of his image, Amon's horns, Dionysos' elephant scalp, Herakles' lion skin and club, Pan's horns, Poseidon's trident and the blue royal diadem of the Persian kings became part of the iconography of his successors and rulers down the centuries.

The kings of Macedon claimed descent from gods, demi-gods and heroes (Zeus, Dionysos, Perseus, Herakles and Achilles). One tradition has his mother, Olympias, claiming that his father was Zeus, not Philip.

The obverse type on Alexander's tetradrachms is Herakles wearing his attribute of the skin of the Nemean lion. As Herakles and Dionysos achieved divine status through great deeds, Alexander argued that he should reach the same status as his deeds surpassed theirs. Some believe that Alexander's official portrait was the model for the young, beardless Herakles.



The seated Zeus reverse advertises his divine ancestry. Legend reads ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΥ, King Alexander.

### **Lysimachos, Satrap of Thrace 323 - 305, King 305 - 281 BC**

AR tetradrachm 297 - 281

Lysimachos, a Bodyguard (328) and general of Alexander the Great, was a fine officer, cautious and tenacious, a hard man and very strong. In the division of the Empire on the death of Alexander, he took control of Thrace and nearby areas and in 305 took the title of King. As Satrap and King, his first coinage was in the name and types of Alexander. To strengthen his claim to be a legitimate successor to Alexander, he was the first to strike coins with the portrait of Alexander and in his own name, from 297-281 striking coins of this type. Following the defeat in 301 of Antigonos Monophthalmus (the one-eyed) at Ipsos he extended his rule over much of Asia Minor. He was killed, at the age of 80, in the Battle of Korupedion, 281, and his kingdom disappeared with him. But his memory lived on and generations later a number of mints in the Black Sea area restored his coin types for their autonomous issues.

The obverse type is an allusion to Alexander's visit to the oasis of Siwa in 331 when Alexander claimed to have been greeted by the God as 'My Son'. The Greeks saw Ammon as a manifestation of Zeus so this reinforced his claim to be a son of Zeus. The ram horns of Ammon became a common feature on coin portraits of Alexander. The eyes looking up to the heavens became a standard in royal portraits from Alexander's time as did the diadem which still featured on portraits on the coinage of the Late Roman Empire. The tousled hair hints at the frenzy of Dionysos whose exploits Alexander emulated by his conquest of India.



Athena's shield on the reverse bears what may be Lysimachos' own device, a lion's head. He is said to have killed a large lion single-handed when hunting in Syria. The name Lysimachos, ΛΥΣΙΜΑΧΟΥ, means 'one who ends strife' and this seems to be the character of the seated Athena, her weapons laid aside and Victory in her hand. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ = King.

## Part II Ancestors and Politics in the Roman Republic

### Introduction: The Office of Moneyer

Moneyers during the Roman Republic were minor magistrates elected annually to oversee the striking of the coinage. Other magistrates such as quaestors and curule aediles struck coins occasionally and there were military issues during the Second Punic War, 219-202 BC, the civil war between Sulla and his enemies, 90-80 BC, and the prolonged civil wars from 49 to 27 BC.

Early issues were anonymous but it was soon the practice to sign issues no matter the circumstances of striking. It was the privilege of those who struck the coinage to determine the types on coins. Initially, Roman conservatism meant a restricted number of types but, in time, ambitious men used the coinage to advertise themselves, their family connections and history, and their politics. In 139 BC the Lex Gabinia enforced secret balloting in elections. The moneyership, as a step in the *cursus honorum* (the path of honour through public office), suddenly became more important as coins provided an opportunity for the self-advertisement that was necessary to launch a successful political career. Subsequently, the most consistent feature of the typology of the denarius was allusion to the moneyers' ancestors or deities with whom they had family or personal connections.

Type selection soon became influenced by the political conflicts between Optimates and Populares which were the major feature of the period 140-27 BC. Members of these groups came from the wealthier classes (patricians, equestrians and noble plebeians).

Populares ('Demagogues' or 'Populists') used and defended the powers of the popular assemblies and the office of Tribune of the Plebeians. They advanced measures such as the grain dole, settlement for veterans on state lands, debt cancellation and the extension of Roman citizenship to Rome's Italian allies. Notable populares included the Gracchi brothers, Gaius Marius, Lucius Cornelius Cinna and Julius Caesar. Marius, against opposition from the optimates, secured the enlistment of poor citizens in the legions.

Optimates ('Best Ones', 'Boni', Aristocrats) supported the dominance of the Senate, disliked the rise of 'novi homines', 'new men' such as Marius and Cicero, distrusted the links between the plebs and ambitious generals such as Marius, Pompey and Caesar, and opposed the populares' programme. Sulla, Cato and Brutus were leading optimates.

Allegiances shifted as individuals struggled for power. Pompey The Great started his career under Sulla, made his name with the support of the populares and, at the end, found himself leader of the optimates in the war against Caesar. Cicero, despite being a new man and looked down on by the boni, supported the optimate view of the constitution, tried to steer a middle course between the optimates and Caesar. He eventually supported Caesar's assassins and was proscribed and executed by the Second Triumvirate (Octavian, Antony and Lepidus).

The coins in this section are silver denarii.

### Tiberius Minucius Augurinus 134 BC.

Obverse: Bust of Roma; X behind



The reverse type represents the Columna Minucia. The popular hero of the Minucia gens was Lucius Minucius who, as praefectus annonae in 439 B.C., when there was a serious famine, obtained a supply of corn from abroad and in three market days lowered the price of corn to a maximum of one as for a modius. The grateful people erected a statue to him on a column, everyone subscribing an uncia. The togate figure on the column, holding a staff as an attribute of a Consul, is Lucius Minucius. The corn ears beside the base of the column are not part of it but symbols appropriate to him. The figure on the left holding loaves is probably Publius Minucius or Marcus Minucius Consuls in 492 and 491, years when a corn distribution took place. The figure on the right of the column is Marcus Minucius Faesus, one of the first plebeian augurs to be elected after the passing of the Lex Ogulina in 300 B.C.

This is a 'Popularis' type issued in the years immediately preceding the Tribunate of Tiberius Gracchus. One of the main themes of the populares concerned the agrarian reforms and the corn supply. One of the most frequently employed symbols of this programme was the corn ear. This is its earliest appearance and the message is strengthened by its association with the column honouring a famous friend of the people.

### **Cnaeus Cornelius Lentulus Marcellinus 76-75 BC**

Obverse: Male bust right (Genius Populi Romani), draped hair tied with a band and with sceptre over shoulder; above, G.P.R.



Reverse: Sceptre with wreath, globe and rudder; on left EX; on right SC; below, CN.LEN.Q.

The moneyer was a quaestor and paymaster to Pompey's troops in Spain in the war against Quintus Sertorius. The types assert the claims of the Roman state against the rebel state of Sertorius by association of the Genius of the People of Rome with domination of land and sea.

Sertorius had been appointed governor of Spain by the populares in 83. When Sulla seized Rome, Sertorius endeavoured to establish a separate state in Spain with the help of forces fleeing Sulla and by enlisting the support of Iberian tribes. A gifted general, he had considerable success against commanders sent by the Senate. Despite his successes, he was assassinated in 72 by Marcus Perpena and some other Roman officers who resented his authority. Perpena was soon defeated by Pompey and executed.

EX SC indicates this was one of several issues struck by the authority of the Senate rather than the monetary magistrates. This issue was struck in Spain.

### **Marcus Aemilius Scaurus 58 BC**

Obverse: King Aretas kneeling beside a camel, holding reins in left hand and olive branch in right. M.SCAVR / AED. CVR above; EX on left; SC on right; REX ARETAS in exergue.



Reverse: P. HYPSTAE / AED. CVR above Jupiter in quadriga left; CAPTV on right; C. HYPSTAE COS PREIV in exergue; scorpion below horses. Jupiter holds reins in left hand and hurls a thunderbolt with right hand.

The obverse is notable because it is the first example of a Roman moneyer commemorating his own exploits on the coinage, in this case, the surrender to Scaurus, in 62 BC, of Aretas III, king of the Nabataean Arabs. Aretas had interfered in the affairs of Syria and Judea, besieging King Aristobolus in Jerusalem. Scaurus, sent against him by Pompey, drove him off. However, Aretas continued to give trouble and Scaurus was sent against him once more. Aretas made peace, securing good terms by buying Scaurus off with three hundred talents.

Publius Plautius Hypsaeus also served under Pompey and the scorpion on the reverse may refer to some exploit performed by him in the province of Commagene, of which it is an emblem. Equally, it may be linked to the rest of the obverse design, recalling the ancient belief that men born under Scorpio were sackers of cities. The legend (C. HVPSAE COS. PREIVER. CAPTV.) links Jupiter Propugnator with the Consul Caius Plautius Decianus, falsely given the cognomen Ypsaeus, who captured Privernum in 329 BC. This victory by the moneyer's ancestor marked the final conquest of the Volscians. Probably the type refers to the Consul's triumph after his campaign, for in a triumph the victorious general appeared in the character and guise of Jupiter.

The precise date of the curule aedileship (AED.CVR. in the legend) of Scaurus and Hypsaeus has been recorded (58 BC), providing a valuable fixed point in the chronology of the later Republican coinage. The EX SC indicates that this large issue was specially authorised by the Senate. An estimated eleven million denarii were struck in 58. This large production can be explained by the passage of Caesar's agrarian law and the increase in the corn dole in 62. After 58 the corn dole cost nearly twenty-seven million denarii a year.

**Q. Servilius Caepio Brutus = M. Junius Brutus 54 BC**



Obverse: LIBERTAS Head of Libertas right

Reverse: L. Junius Brutus (Consul 509 BC) walking in procession left between two lictors, preceded by an accensus; BRVTVS in exergue.

# **New Zealand Commemorative Medals**

**1941 - 2014** (2nd edition)

**Hamish MacMaster FRNSNZ**

**Martin Purdy FRNSNZ**



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**The moneyer**, Marcus Junius Brutus, the most famous of Julius Caesar's assassins, was born about 85 BC. He was the son of M. Junius Brutus and Servilia, daughter of Quintus Servilius Caepio. His father was executed in 77 after surrendering to Pompey on the promise of safe conduct. Brutus was adopted by his uncle Quintus Servilius Caepio, thus changing his name to Quintus Caepio Brutus. At the time of this issue Brutus was opposed to Pompey's real or supposed intentions of seizing sole control of the Republic. His mother was the favourite mistress of Julius Caesar. Despite this recent family history, Brutus sided with Pompey in the civil war of 49-48. Pardoned by Caesar after Pharsalus, he was appointed governor of Cisalpine Gaul in 46 and urban prefect in 44. He joined in the conspiracy to assassinate Caesar believing he was defending the Republic against tyranny and the restoration of monarchy.

**The Types** of 54 refer to his famous ancestor L. Junius Brutus, and to his devotion to the freedom of the Republic. A second issue by Brutus in this year has the head of L. Junius Brutus on the obverse and that of Q. Servilius Ahala, ancestor on his mother's side, on the reverse. L. Junius Brutus was the son of M. Junius and Tarquinia, the sister of Tarquinius Superbus. His elder brother was murdered by Tarquinius and Lucius escaped by feigning idiocy, from which he got the surname Brutus. After Lucretia stabbed herself, Brutus aroused the Romans to expel the Tarquins. He was then elected first consul along with Tarquinius Collatinus, the husband of Lucretia.

### Part III Propaganda in the Roman Empire

**Introduction:** Roman Emperors used the coinage to display the offices they held, their successes, virtues, family connections, and how they wanted their rule to be perceived.

#### Caius Julius Caesar Octavianus (later Augustus)

Triumvir, Imperator and Divi filius, Augustus 27 BC – AD 14.

AE Sestertius or dupondius Italy 38 BC

Obverse: Bare head of Octavian right; before CAESAR downwards; behind, DIVI. F downwards.



Reverse: Wreathed head of Caesar right; before, DIVOS downwards; behind, IVLIVS downwards.

Octavian was the nephew and adopted son of Julius Caesar. Struck when relations between Octavian and Antony were bad, this type, showing Octavian as the son and heir of the god Julius, had great propaganda value.

**Germanicus Caesar Tiberii filius Augusti nepos**, born 15 BC, died AD 19

1917 copy of brass dupondius struck by his son Caligula AD 37-8

Obverse: GERMANICVS CAESAR. Germanicus standing, to right, in quadriga, holding a sceptre surmounted by an eagle; the chariot ornamented with a Victory and wreath in bas-relief. In exergue R.



Reverse: SIGNIS RECEPT DEVICTIS GERM. S.C Germanicus in military dress, standing to left, right arm outstretched and holding a sceptre surmounted by an eagle in left hand. In small letters in lower field: XVII left; MCMXVII right.

Germanicus was the son of Nero Claudius Drusus and Antonia, the daughter of Marc Antony and Octavia the sister of Augustus. Tiberius adopted him in the time of Augustus. His son Caligula struck the original coin in memory of his father's great triumph in AD 17.

In AD 9 three Roman legions with their general, Publius Quinctilius Varus, their officers, auxiliaries and the general staff, were massacred by the Germans in the Teutoburgerwald. Five years later the Roman armies, led by Germanicus began a series of campaigns during which they were able to crush the Germans, bury the bodies of dead and recover the legionary standards.

This copy was struck in 1917 when the Italians were fighting the Austrians and Germans in northern Italy and was meant to encourage the populace by recalling the victories of the past after earlier defeats. In 1917 the Italians needed all the encouragement they could get because, after two years of hard and unrewarding fighting on the Isonzo, they were shattered at Caporetto and almost forced out of the war.

**Marcus Ulpius Traianus, AD 98 – 117**

AR Denarius Rome 112-117



Obverse: IMP TRAIANO AVG. GER. DAC. P.M. TR.P. COS VI P.P. Laureate, draped bust right.

Reverse: S.P.Q.R. OPTIMO PRINCIPI.

Spiral column, on a square base, surmounted by a statue of Trajan in military garb; two eagles on the base; the reliefs on the base are indistinct.

Trajan conducted two campaigns against the Dacians who were led by Decebalus. The first, 101–102, led to Decebalus acknowledging Roman suzerainty. Trajan returned to Rome, celebrated a triumph and assumed the title *Dacicus*. That appears as *DAC* in the obverse legend. Decebalus decided to try his hand again and, in 105, attacked the Roman provinces south of the Danube. Trajan conducted a new campaign in 105 and 106 that led to the defeat and death of Decebalus and the incorporation of Dacia in the Empire.

Today, Trajan's Column stands in what remains of Trajan's Forum. The spiral design is a pictorial narration of incidents in the Dacian wars. It was topped by a statue of the Emperor and after his death his ashes were placed in the base. Originally it could be observed from the balconies of Trajan's library so that the visitor could follow the storyline. It shows the army: building a bridge to cross the Danube; on march; in camp; being reviewed and addressed by the Emperor; besieging cities; and fighting battles. As the column was a monument to the achievements and glory of the Roman army and its commander Trajan, so the coin type served to remind the people of the Empire of those achievements. The reverse legend on the coin, with its reference to the Senate and the People of Rome and the Best of Princes, reinforced the message.

Propaganda has not been the preserve of the ancients. Indeed the word comes from the *Congregatio de Propaganda Fide* set up by the Papacy in 1622 to organise missionary work. It was a Counter-Reformation Pope, Sixtus V, 1585-1590, who replaced Trajan's statue on the column with one of St. Peter to symbolise the triumph of Christianity over paganism.

### **SEPTIMIUS SEVERUS, Emperor, 9 April AD 193 - 4 February 211**

AR Denarius Date: 204 AD



Obverse: SEVERVS PIVS AVG. Laureate, bearded, head right

Reverse: INDVLGENTIA AVGG. In exergue: IN. CARTH.

The Dea Celestis, with elaborate head-dress, looking front, riding right on a lion, holding a thunderbolt and sceptre; below water gushing from rocks on left.

The favour of the Emperor to Carthage. The Dea Celestis (Cybele), the mother of the Gods, was a favourite with the Carthaginians. Here, the lion, which Virgil tells us (*Aeneid* Bk. III, 111-113) was tamed by Cybele, may be taken as the symbol of Africa. Severus, who was of African origin and attached to the land of his birth, conferred benefits on Carthage and Utica. The type seems to be connected with the city's water supply (perhaps a new aqueduct), but the details are not known.

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### General

- William Smith, *A Classical Dictionary of Biography, Mythology and Geography.* 16<sup>th</sup> Ed. John Murray, London, 1878

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**BUYING PACIFIC ISLANDS: All coins wanted from New Hebrides, French Oceania, Tuvalu, Kiribati, New Guinea (1929 to 1945), Fiji sixpence, shilling, florin from 1934 to 1967, Tonga 1 pa'anga, 2 pa'anga, French Polynesia 50 cent, New Caledonia 50 cent, Tokelau UNC cased dollars, Pitcairn UNC dollars.**

## VARIETIES, ERRORS & FAULTS

### Some personal thoughts on nomenclature

The terms “variety” and “error” seem to be used largely interchangeably, and I’m aware that my own usage has been less than consistent in the past. I’ve started looking at these from a causative aspect and would like to suggest the following breakdown as a general rule-of-thumb:

**Variety:** the result of deliberate action by a human (die recut, die details changed, changes in position of elements etc.) Examples: 1984-85 NZ obverses with recut dies; 1984 & 1988 50c type I and II reverses; 1945 burnished penny; differing numbers of rim beads/teeth; wide/narrow/high date varieties. I’d include the 1956-57 “strapless” obverses here as these were clearly the result of a transition between dies, though the 1957 6d is an anomaly after a gap of a year.

**Error:** accidental action, usually but not always by a human (mismatched dies, spelling error, dies rotated or inverted, brockages, clipped planchets, wrong planchets, wrong metals, etc.). Examples: Bahamas mule 2c, 1999 “rotated die” 5c. Also the 1942 “one dot” 3d, assuming the diamond was omitted by mistake and not the result of die filling.

**Fault:** other problems caused by die degradation, wear and tear, oil-filled dies, foreign objects: cuds and cracks, delamination, paper clip impressions, etc. Examples: 1955 “2 dots” 3d; “butterfly lips” and “goitre” \$1; “wart-nose” 5c. The no horizon and no tail 1967/68 5c, broken back shillings, etc., should also technically fit in this category as they are the result of die filling or progressive die wear, rather than either of the first two causes. - M.P.

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## HANDY DEVICE

One of the most brilliant new aids for numismatists is on sale at Bunnings in Australia and similar warehouses in New Zealand at around \$12. This is a Dynamo Solar Torch. Made in China, of course. It is pocket size, powered by a solar panel and if you are in McMurdo Sound where there is no sun for a time, there is a hand crank to charge the batteries. The pin-point LED light it gives shows up every little mark on a coin or stamp and is much better than squinting through a magnifying glass. - JCMC

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In Westminster Abbey there is a marble monument, installed somewhat belatedly in c. 1790, to the memory of Martin Folkes (1690-1754), who was buried at Hillington in Norfolk. He was the author of two books. He was president of the Royal Society and wrote “The Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society”. His other book was a treatise on medals. The memorial, designed by William Tyler and sculpted in marble by Robert Ashton, has a figure of Folkes leaning on his two books. Two cherubs bear a globe and a third places a veil on an urn.

# ANNUAL REPORT 2014

David Galt FRNSNZ

The major events held in the year to 31 March 2014 are listed below with some brief comments on highlights at each. The table demonstrates a very active year with the Society engaging in informing its members, promoting trading opportunities and promoting members' interests with organisations where we are stakeholders.

<b>2013</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Topic</b>
Wednesday 24 April	Te Puni Kokiri (TPK) Wellington	Members' Short Talks: Topics included Shipwreck coins (Hamish MacMaster); "The Bears of Bern" (Flemming Sorensen); "Images of Queen Elizabeth II" (David Galt); Portraiture on European Coins (Wayne Newman); Swiss Shooting Thalers (Gary Weston-Webb); and Unlisted medallic token varieties (Craig Kitchen)
Wednesday 29 May	TPK	AGM: Shayne Bradley stepped down as Librarian. Craig Kitchen became Secretary, replacing Hamish MacMaster, who stepped down to take up appointment as Ambassador to Saudi Arabia and was elected a Vice President of the Society.
Wednesday 26 June	TPK	Auction: Clint Libby and Flemming Sorensen again organised a superb auction with a higher turnover than in recent years, in part because of the generous donation of coins from the estate of Mr S Wells to the Society.
Wednesday, 31 July	Dutch Club, Lower Hutt	Members' Short Talks: John Eccles described how he responded to public views about the planned sale of medals awarded to a member of the Maori Battalion, George Rihia, where a family member planned to sell the medals but wanted them back after a public outcry. John returned the medals. Other talks were: David Galt – The Canadian Dollar Martin Purdy – Round the Bay Run 1973 – 1997 medal and 1912 Russian "Horseblanket" 500 Rouble banknote Flemming Sorensen Cocos-Keeling Islands coins Gary Weston-Webb Scottish University sports and academic medals Vadim Lukyanovich - Russian Winter Olympics coins Peter Eccles –Tug of War medals awarded to T.M. Hirma of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> NZ expeditionary Force in 1941

Wednesday, 28 August	TPK	Brett Delahunt spoke about the medals of George Tindal Pretyman, a Boer War General, whose medals ranged from early Canadian campaigns against Fenian attacks to his KCMG in 1901. Pretyman is also said to have written the rules of snooker in 1882.
Wednesday, 25 September	Reserve Bank	Viewing of new displays at the Reserve Bank Museum, set up by the Curator, Mark Holland.
Friday 11 October	Wellington West Plaza	The Society's annual post auction function proceeded well with thanks to Mowbray Collectables, Translate Ltd (Martin Purdy); John Eccles and Alistair Robb for their generous sponsorship.
Wednesday, 30 October	TPK	Simon Allison, who replaced Ivor Masters as Head of Coins and Stamps at New Zealand Post, spoke on current issues surrounding commemorative coins
Wednesday, 4 December 2013	Valentines, Petone	End of Year Dinner and Awards for 2013 service
<b>2014</b>		
Wednesday 29 January	TPK	Paul Bicknell spoke on the Bahamas Mule, sharing original research on the Mule, drawing on British Treasury files. Revelations included the high importance placed on the incident by the British Government, with fears of losing minting contracts to competitors of the Royal Mint and suspicions of sabotage at the mint.
Saturday 22 February	Red Cross Hall, Queen St, Levin	The Levin Inter-club meeting was ably hosted by the Wanganui Numismatic Society, with a notable feature being the quality of displays provided and recognised by prizes donated by Alistair Robb.
Wednesday 26 February	TPK	The role of and items produced by the NZ Mint - Brent Hindman, Head of Sales and Marketing at the New Zealand Mint, spoke about its roles and marketing approaches in a fascinating account of the numismatically important, but less well known, New Zealand organisation.
Wednesday 26 March	TPK	Wayne Newman spoke on the various ways Roman coins might be approached beyond collecting "one of each emperor"

There have been several innovations. The most significant is the plan to host a conference, walking tour and fair from 3-6 July 2014 in Wellington, which owes much to the support of the NAA and the Numismatic Society of Auckland, both in developing the concept and willingness to participate. This is a big deal for the Society, with over 70 registrations of interest in one or more events by 31 March 2014. Speakers have provided strong support. The event is currently budgeted to run at a small loss which will be able to be absorbed, partly thanks to generous sponsorship of dealers

prominent in the New Zealand market, including John Bertrand Ltd; Translate Ltd, New Zealand Post Ltd, J.H. and M.A. Johnson Ltd, Mowbray Collectables Ltd, and Peter and Margaret Eccles. A huge thank-you is also due to those who worked on the committee to organize the event with me, Gary Weston-Webb, Clint Libby and Paul Bicknell.

A further innovation is moving more meetings to other venues within the Wellington region, in recognition of the travel required for some members. The Society's auctions have also become more ambitious as we have assisted long-standing members to dispose of large collections on a non-commercial basis.

We continue to provide support to Government agencies, with advice on currency issues and Museum displays and in turn have enjoyed donations to our library from them and the renewal of special member posting privileges with New Zealand Post. We actively work to develop and maintain good relationships with other organisations, which has helped to keep the desirability of issuing commemorative circulating coins in front of the Reserve Bank.

Financial support was provided for Paul Bicknell's Bahamas Mule research and discussions continue with a number of people about possible new publications where the Society may be able to lend support through launches, underwriting or publication in the Society's name. We again published three Newsletters and one Journal. Dr Ray Hargreaves FRNSNZ, a contributor to both publications over many decades, indicated that he would soon be ceasing writing, heralding the end of a long and distinguished chapter of numismatic research.

Most officers continued in office through the year, but our Librarian resigned, necessitating a shift of our library from temporary storage in his private home to Gary Weston-Webb's home. Hamish MacMaster was appointed New Zealand's Ambassador to Saudi Arabia and Craig Kitchen is now ably filling the role of Secretary. A pleasing development was the taking up of a list seat in Parliament by one of our active members, Paul Foster-Bell.

A large number of people contribute to the Society's success and thanks are due to all of them. Particular contributions were recognized through the Society's 2013 service medal, awarded to 28 members, for active participation, significant contributions to publications or knowledge, work behind the scenes or substantial support to the Society. Be assured that all these efforts are highly valued, as are the contributions of those who support our meetings by attendance. Typical meeting attendance was in the range of 17 to 22 at ordinary meetings while we continue to cater for non-Wellington members through the Journal, Newsletter, auction, lobbying for members' interests and other means.

There is always a risk in singling out a few, but certain contributions stand out in this period. Martin Purdy continues to do an excellent job as Editor of the Journal, Gary Weston-Webb was a huge contributor as noted further below and Craig Kitchen does valuable work as Secretary.

At the end of the Society's 2014 year, we had 260 members, including eleven junior members, up from 234 in 2013. Sadly, we must record a number of deaths of significant contributors to the Society and wider numismatic scene, including Tom Taylor-Young, a Christchurch dealer; Dr Gordon Shortland; and Michael (Mick) Collins, one of the founders of the Waikato Numismatic Society.

We were advised at the end of the year by Alistair Robb of his plan to establish a foundation to support numismatic activity in New Zealand, including matters of research, dissemination of knowledge. The Society's Council is likely to be source of advice to the Nikau Foundation in applying the earnings from this very generous gift in future. Once again, a huge thank-you is due to Alistair for his support of numismatics in this way.

## Post Year End Developments

It is unusual to comment in detail on post year-end developments in an annual report but the sad news of Gary Weston-Webb's sudden death in mid-April 2014 at age 60 requires comment. Gary was a tireless worker who did a huge amount for the Society. He carried out a large amount of work as Treasurer, he provided access to Te Puni Kokiri's excellent facilities for our meetings and stored the Society's Library at his house pending relocation to more accessible premises. He was a compelling speaker, including at the Numismatic Association of Australia Conference in Brisbane in 2013 and a valuable member of the 2014 conference organising committee. He is sorely missed by many and our sympathy goes out to his family, including his three children who were members of the Society over time, with Jade and Zeke often participating in meetings.

The magnitude of Gary's contribution has been starkly evident in the month after his death as others had to pick up his responsibilities, with year-end accounts to be completed, membership records to be maintained; conference deposits to be reconciled, our library to be relocated to a new position in the Karori RSA and new premises for ordinary meetings to be secured. We are moving to St Andrew's on the Terrace's new conference centre as from May 2014.

Thanks to all who have contributed so much at a time of extra stress on the small number who hold the most active roles in the Society.

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[Notes to accounts continued from p. 74]

4. Tax refund for 2009/10 is estimated at 30% tax rate on overall loss; still to be claimed
5. Medals, other commemoratives produced, catalogues and publications are expensed when purchased. Sales revenue is recognised as income when sales are made.
6. NAA is the Numismatic Association of Australia. It held some receipts for us until 2013/14, pending payment for Journals on behalf of members.
7. Former Otago Branch funds of \$1090.82 are included in members' funds from 2013/14. They were transferred to the main Society BNZ account after balance date.
8. All payments received in 2013/14 for the 3-6 July 2014 conference are treated as prepayments, to be recognised as income at the time of the conference.
9. The Society received a donation of coins from Mr S. Wells in 2012, most of which were auctioned in the 2013 auction, realising \$4014. Other donated coins were sold in the auction, realising \$676. These are all included in donations.
10. Much Turnbull House rental expense paid in 2012/13 related to the previous year. The Society met at no rental cost at Te Puni Kokiri for most meetings in 2013/14.
11. The Society's Treasurer, Mr Gary Weston-Webb, died after the end of the financial year before full completion of these accounts.

## AUDITOR'S REPORT

I have examined the books and accounts of the Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand Inc and am satisfied that the above Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet correctly set out the financial results and position of the Society.

A W Grant	D A Galt
(Signed)	(Signed)
Hon Auditor	President

**ROYAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED**  
**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2014**

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>2012-13</b>	<b>2013-14</b>	<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>2012-13</b>	<b>2013-14</b>
Subscriptions & Donations	\$3,770.67	\$7,813.36	Catalogue	\$0.00	\$0.00
80th Celebrations	\$12.00	\$0.00	80th Celebrations	\$0.00	\$0.00
Catalogues	\$706.18	\$270.00	Rent/post box	\$3,673.96	\$385.00
Interest	\$3,704.19	\$2,978.17	Resident withholding tax	\$648.20	\$521.16
Journal Income/Advertising	\$1,820.00	\$2,050.39	Journal costs	\$1,672.85	\$287.50
Auction	\$4,472.60	\$4,595.34	Auction costs	\$4,130.54	\$4,896.37
Publications/book sales	\$161.80	\$146.35	Newsletter costs	\$944.60	\$1,184.00
Functions	\$260.00	\$200.00	Postage	\$1,625.12	\$1,303.88
NAA subscriptions	\$74.18	\$48.00	Honoraria	\$1,500.00	\$1,000.00
Sundry	\$603.82	\$14.42	Books	\$2.80	\$77.00
Medals	\$1,566.75	\$70.00	Sundry Expenses	\$57.48	\$40.00
			Website	\$432.99	\$582.40
			Medal expenses	\$3,137.20	\$0.00
			NAA Journal costs	\$280.82	\$114.67
			Research	\$0.00	\$200.71
			Advertising	\$373.75	\$373.74
			Relocation/shelving	\$481.86	\$122.50
			Function	\$400.00	\$400.00
			<b>Conference</b>		
			Medals		\$2,070.00
			O'print banknote printing		\$524.40
			Surplus (- = Deficit)	-\$2,209.98	\$4,102.70
	<b>\$17,152.19</b>	<b>\$18,186.03</b>		<b>\$17,152.19</b>	<b>\$18,186.03</b>

**BALANCE SHEET**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2014**

<b>LIABILITIES</b>	<b>2012-13</b>	<b>2013-14</b>	<b>ASSETS</b>	<b>2012-13</b>	<b>2013-14</b>
Opening Members' Funds	\$130,077.54	\$127,867.56	BNZ Current Account 00	\$9,178.84	\$19,170.90
Otago Branch Funds		\$1,090.82	BNZ Term Deposit (1)	\$54,083.75	\$54,083.75
Plus Surplus	-\$2,209.98	\$4,102.70	BNZ Term Deposit (2)	\$11,014.07	\$11,489.55
			ASB Term deposit	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00
			Westpac, Moray Place		\$1,090.82
			Fixed Assets	\$2,941.63	\$3,741.63
<b>Closing Members' Funds</b>	<b>\$127,867.56</b>	<b>\$133,061.08</b>	NZ debtors accrued	\$0.00	\$0.00
			NAA A\$25.34 @ 0.80	\$31.68	\$0.00
Creditors	\$16.00	\$0.00	Tax refunds	\$603.59	\$603.59
Conference prepayments	\$0.00	\$7,149.16	Petty Cash	\$30.00	\$30.00
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$127,883.56</b>	<b>\$140,210.24</b>		<b>\$127,883.56</b>	<b>\$140,210.24</b>

**NOTES**

1. Auction income includes sales receipts and postage costs charged to bidders. Settlements for auctions can span several financial years. Donated items are shown under Subs and donations. Much Turnbull rental expense paid in 2012/13 related to the previous year.

2. Fixed Assets include Catalogues, Books, Journals, Medals, Coins, Banknotes, Slides, Projector, Screen, Chairs, Display, Shelving and Cases.

3. Details of Investments are:

	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Interest Rate</b>	<b>Maturity</b>	<b>Invested</b>
BNZ Term Deposit (1)	\$54,083.75	4.95%	19 Jun 2014	19 Jun 2011
BNZ Term Deposit (2)	\$11,489.55	5.15%	27 Apr 2015	27 Apr 2012
ASB Term Deposit	\$50,000.00	4.75%	26 Aug 2015	26 Aug 2012

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY 2014-2015  
(Elected A.G.M. May 2014)

PATRON:	His Excellency The Rt Hon Sir Jerry Mateparae, Governor-General of New Zealand
PRESIDENT:	Mr DA Galt*
VICE-PRESIDENTS:	Professor B Delahunt*, Dr RP Hargreaves*, Messrs B Connor, FK Gottermeyer*, AW Grant*, CR Libby*, HC MacMaster*, LG Morel*, ML Purdy*, AF Robb*† and Mrs A Lampard
SECRETARY:	Mr C Kitchen
TREASURER:	Mr M. Bain
ASSISTANT TREASURER:	Mr F Sorensen*
AUDITOR:	Mr AW Grant*
KEEPER OF COLLECTION:	Mr F Sorensen*
ASSISTANT KEEPER:	Mr ML Purdy*
LIBRARIAN:	Mr R Hall
JOURNAL EDITOR:	Mr ML Purdy*
NEWSLETTER EDITOR:	Mr DA Galt*
COUNCIL:	President, Vice Presidents, Society position holders and Messrs PL Bicknell, JR Eccles, JH Johnson, W Newman and DM Russell

\* FRNSNZ; † Since deceased.

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PUBLICATIONS AND MEDALS AVAILABLE

(all prices in NZ dollars at current rates, plus postage)

- <b>New Zealand Commemorative Medals 1941-2014 ("MacMaster II")</b> <b>(published July 2014) (NZ post free)</b>	<b>\$49.95</b>
- <b>New Zealand Challenge Coins: A Catalogue (2011) (NZ post free)</b>	<b>\$45</b>
- 2006 Anniversary medal (38mm, bronze)	\$35
- Special publication, "The Numismatic Birth of the Dominion, The 1933 New Zealand Coinage", by Dr Mark Stocker (2005), 36pp, A5 format (issued to members as Journal 82A, June 2005)	\$8.95
- Transactions of the Society, 1931-1947 (three vols, photocopied, fcp reduced to A4, unbound), indexed	\$40 each
- Set of Journals, nos. 1-52, 54-59, 61-82 (including three volumes of Transactions and reprints of out-of-print issues)	\$350
- Set of Journals, nos. 4-52, 54-59, 61-82 (as above, minus Transactions)	\$250
- <b>Full set of Journals, nos. 1-52, 54-88 (December 2008), incl.</b> <b>Transactions + Vol. 60 (Lampard Catalogue), on CD in PDF format</b>	<b>\$95</b>
- Individual numbers	\$5
- Index of nos. 4-42 (published 1966)	\$3
- Index of nos. 71-85 (published 2007)	\$3

## MEETING DATES

The ROYAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND meets 7:30 p.m. last Wednesday of each month, Jan-Oct. Base venue St Andrew's on the Terrace, (Common Room in the St Andrew's Centre), 30 The Terrace, Wellington, with occasional meetings at other locations. Contact Secretary for details. Visitors welcome. 'November' meeting (actually early December) usually an early Christmas function held at a different venue. See <http://www.RNSNZ.org.nz>; Contact e-mail [Secretary@RNSNZ.org.nz](mailto:Secretary@RNSNZ.org.nz).

The RNSNZ is a sponsoring society of the Numismatic Association of Australia, PO Box Z5211, Perth St George's Terrace, WA 6831, Australia. Website [www.numismatics.org.au](http://www.numismatics.org.au). RNSNZ members can opt to receive the annual NAA Journal for a small extra charge with their annual subscriptions.

### Other clubs and societies in New Zealand:

The Numismatic Society of Auckland, mailing address PO Box 818, Shortland St, Auckland 1140. Meets at 7.30pm on the second Tuesday of every month except January in 'Discovery 4', a room within the MoTaT complex. Anyone wishing to attend a meeting should contact either Jim Duncan (09-422-3525) or David Baird (09-846-7463) for directions.

Manawatu Numismatic Society, c/- 15 Troup Road, RD 3, Woodville 4999. Meets at the RSA, Broadway Ave, Palmerston North, second Tuesday of each month except January; meet in foyer 7:15 - 7:30 pm to be signed in.

Tauranga Numismatic Society, PO Box 202, Seventh Avenue, Tauranga 3140. Meets Wesley Church Centre, first Wednesday of month, 100 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue, 7.30 pm. Phone (07) 533-1881.

Waikato Numismatic Society, 203 Waite Road, RD 5, Hamilton 3285. Meets 3rd Wednesday of each month (Feb-Nov) at 7:30 p.m. Contact Secretary for venue details: [etheredge@xtra.co.nz](mailto:etheredge@xtra.co.nz).

Wanganui Numismatic Society, PO Box 123, Wanganui Mail Centre, Wanganui 4540. Meets 7.30 pm last Tuesday of every month except December. Contact (06) 345-6587 for details.

## GUIDE FOR CONTRIBUTORS

Submissions for the NZ Numismatic Journal are welcome at any time; however, copy received after about August may be too late for the current year's issue and may have to be held over.

Please submit copy electronically if possible, preferably by e-mail or on disc or CD, in Word or RTF form. To assist the Editor, please use Arial 11pt or 12pt for body text, which should be fully justified. Titles should be in Arial 14pt, in capitals and centred. The author's name should be on the next line and right-justified. Footnote numbers should precede full-stops. Illustrations should be in TIFF or JPEG format.

Advertising: Copy should be provided in Word or InDesign (up to CS5.5) where possible, or as a high-resolution PDF file.



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