

INSIDER

SPINK

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AUTUMN 2017

STAMPS COINS BANKNOTES MEDALS BONDS & SHARES AUTOGRAPHS BOOKS WINES



PRINCE OF HORROR • HISTORICAL FIGURES ON BANKNOTES • THE TISBURY COLLECTION
TIFLIS • FIGHTING ON THE FRONTIER • THE CURRENCY OF COMMUNISM



SPINK GLOBAL EVENTS SCHEDULE

Wherever you are in the world there will be an event at which you can meet our specialists, discuss your items or gain our professional advice. All dates subject to change.

Country	2017 September	Type	Dates
Poland	Warsaw Coinexpo, Warsaw	Coins	1st/2nd
USA	Valuation Day, Warner Centre Marriott, Woodland Hills, CA91367	All	7th
USA	Valuation Day, Hilton Los Angeles North, Glendale, CA91202	All	8th
USA	Valuation Day, JW Marriott, Olympic Blvd, Los Angeles, CA90015	All	10th
USA	Valuation Day, Hyatt Regency, Embarcadero Center, San Francisco CA94111	All	12th
UK	Stampex, London	Stamps	13th-16th
UK	OMRS, Stratford-upon-Avon	Medals	16th/17th
UK	Coinex, London	Coins	22/23rd
Holland	Maastricht Paper Money Fair	Banknote	23/24th
China	CICE Guangzhou	Coins	22/24th
UK	World Paper Money Fair, London	Banknote	29/30th
Italy	Roma Collezione, Rome	Coins	30th & 1st
2017 October			
UK	Valuation Day, Chelmsford, Essex	All	2nd
France	Valuation Day Paris	All	TBC
UK	Valuation Days, North Midlands	All	TBC
France	Salon Philatelique, Paris	Stamps	9th/11th
SA	South Africa Nat. Stamp Exhibition	Stamps	11th/14th
France	Salon Brongniart SNENNP, Paris	Coins	14th
Australia	OMRS Conference, Canberra	Medals	21-23rd
2017 November			
UK	London Coin Fair, Holiday Inn	Coins	4th
Germany	Numismata Frankfurt	Coins	5th/6th
Canada	Valuation Day, Four Seasons Hotel, Vancouver, V6C 2TC Canada	All	6th
USA	Valuation Day, Sheraton Seattle, Seattle, V6C 2TC Canada	All	8th
USA	Valuation Day, The Heathman Hotel, Portland, OR97205	All	10th
UK	Valuation Days, NW	All	TBC
Portugal	Valuation Day, Lisbon	All	10th TBC
Portugal	Collectors Fair, Lisbon	All	9th/11th
USA	Valuation Day, Waterstone Resort & Marina, Curio by Hilton, Boca Raton, FL33432, by appointment only	All	20th/21st
2017 December			
Monaco	Grand Bourse, Monaco	Coins	3rd
Holland	Maastricht International Fair	All	7th/10th
2018 January			
UK	Valuation Days, Yorkshire/NE	All	TBC
UK	York Stamp & Coin Fair	Coins/Stamps	19th/20th
USA	Fun Show, Tampa, Florida	Coins	4th-6th
USA	NYINC, New York, NY	Notes	11-14th
2018 February			
Germany	World Money Fair, Berlin	Coins/Notes	1st/4th
UK	Valuation Days, Midlands	All	TBC

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Autumn 2017

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1666

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A word from our Chairman

Dear Clients and Friends,

I am delighted to be back after two editions of your *Insider* and a life-changing sabbatical break. After 15 years of investment banking followed by 15 years at Spink, I thought it was a good idea to take a long sabbatical break for the first time in my life, and to come back fully recharged with energy, the desire to promote our hobbies and with new ideas for another decade, at least, at Spink – God willing. I shall not bore you to death with details, but I spent most of this wonderful time in Nepal, Cuba and the Caribbean. Even when relaxing, those who know me would guess that there was a purpose in each main location – beyond thinking of the future of the collectables auction industry.

In Nepal, a country I have visited many times in my life for climbing and trekking, I spent the Himalayan winter in a small, isolated house in a valley around twelve hours journey from the closest road, next to the Annapurna valley. The rare human contacts I had were simply the richest ever in my life and I took this opportunity to establish a local charity with two dear friends to focus on Health, Education and Environment in this amazing place where 5,000 people live at high altitude, totally forgotten by the Kathmandu government. Not really a very ambitious goal, and a far cry from finding a cure for malaria, but still with life-changing local impact. No doubt, in the next few years, you will hear more about this project

and maybe visit the house we are building for donors to enjoy the amazing views of Machapuchhare, the most sacred mountain for the Gurung people and the only one which is not open to climbers.

In the Caribbean, after two months spent writing and enjoying the life in Havana, I visited almost all the rum distilleries in the Caribbean, island after island, to further advance my knowledge of my favourite spirit.

And of course, as one cannot change one's collector DNA that easily, I have started a collection of Nepalese banknotes and of rare rums!

I would like to thank again all the extraordinary staff of Spink worldwide who have more than held the fort in my absence with amazing auctions and private treaty transactions. Without them, all this would not have been possible. And after 351 years of existence, it clearly shows that the Spink global franchise is much greater than any one individual.

In fact to really take advantage of our truly global franchise, we have recently decided to appoint global coordinators in each category, so your items will always be sold in the location which will yield the maximum proceeds for you.

On that point, many clients have shared their concerns about selling in London due to the weakness in sterling. It is a very valid concern. However, a lot of buyers now love to buy



in sterling, as many have been surprised by Brexit and hence “trapped” in the currency and they are psychologically very keen to use their pounds to buy collectables which are a de facto global currency. So, the prices are currently very good in pounds and it is a great time to sell in London. I know that it is a bit counter intuitive but so true!

We are also delighted to announce a new partnership with Taisei Coins in Japan, or to be more accurate, a renewal of an old partnership from the 1980s. Japan has always been an insular market within some areas of numismatics and this partnership is simply the only way for a collector to sell in Japan with an international house. Our first auction will be in November in Tokyo and we are already full. The next one will be in April 2018. Please contact your specialist to see which type of coins fetch better prices in Japan – a land of very avid and passionate collectors, who are looking at international items more and more, and where premiums over the international prices of 30% or 50% are not unheard of!

This edition of the *Insider* has something to interest everyone, regardless of what they collect. We have a fascinating feature article on historical figures on British banknotes by Jonathan Calloway and a very informative overview of medals awarded during the Zulu campaign by Peter Duckers.

We have the usual round-up of items in our forthcoming auctions – except that the auctions are anything but usual! To start the ball rolling in Stamps we have three sales of some very fine collections starting our auction season in London in September. This is followed up in October by Part 2 Bermuda, of The David Pitts Collection. Then we have the auction of Revenue Stamps of the World in which the sole surviving complete set of “Paymaster General’s Service” issue of 1890-92 – surely one of the most elusive sets of British Revenues in existence and whose story is shrouded in mystery – takes pride of place. And in our Philatelic Collectors Series we have an absolute gem on offer. One of only six known genuine examples of the legendary Russian Tiflis local of 1857 – a great world rarity.

Then in Banknotes we can look forward to The Shamshir and Lion Collection of Persian Banknotes, The Medici Collection of Italian Banknotes, The Bruce Smart Collection of British Commonwealth - Part Two and a World Banknotes sale to round off. Truly something for every banknote collector here.

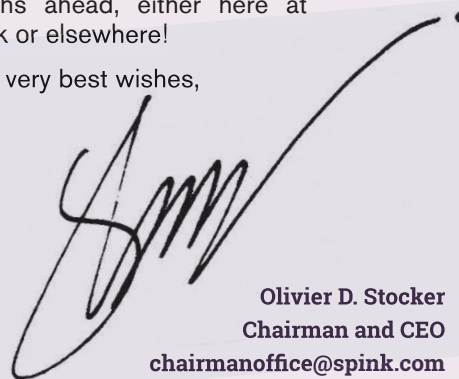
In Coins, we have what is probably the finest collection of Commonwealth silver coinage in private hands – The Tisbury Collection. And during September before the auction takes place there will be an exhibition of this wonderful collection in our Lon-

don showroom. Please come along and feast your eyes. It is unlikely that any of us will ever see such a remarkable and important collection in its entirety again.

And so, to the jewel in our crown! Our medal specialist David Erskine-Hill has acquired what must be one of the most exciting collections that we have ever seen at Spink – namely, an outstanding collection of awards, from his rich military and acting careers, relating to Sir Christopher Lee, C.B.E., C. St. J. (1922-2015) – Count Dracula, Scaramanga, Count Dooku and Saruman. You know him, your grandparents knew him, so did your parents – and your children and your grandchildren know him! We will be auctioning a collection of his awards on 31st October – Halloween, an appropriate day for the man known as the ‘Prince of Horror’.

While waiting for this tremendously exciting auction season to begin, I want to wish all of you a good end of the summer and hopefully some amazing finds for your collections in the months ahead, either here at Spink or elsewhere!

With very best wishes,



Olivier D. Stocker
Chairman and CEO
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THE CURRENCY OF COMMUNISM

By Tom Hockenhull



In 2016, with the centenary of the Russian Revolution fast approaching, the British Museum's Department of Coins and Medals took the opportunity to survey its holdings of communist-era currency. The collection is well-stocked

with coins and notes from former communist countries. Nevertheless, some gaps in the collection emerged, especially with regard to the note collection, even of relatively common notes. Aided by a research and acquisitions grant from the Art

Fund, the Museum has been able to plug these gaps, as well as to explore new avenues for collecting.

In terms of gap-filling, acquisitions have included the first banknotes to enter the collection from South Yemen, strictly

Figure 1

The Currency of Communism



Figure 2

speaking the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (fig.1). The imagery on its notes was retained from South Arabian Currency Authority notes and gives little indication that the state was Marxist, as it continued to be right through until its unification with the north in 1990. From China, the Museum has acquired a 50 yuan note issued in 1980, featuring an intellectual alongside portraits of a female peasant and an industrial labourer (fig.2). It is hard not to view the inclusion of the intellectual in this group portrait as a conciliatory gesture, after years of persecution during China's Cultural Revolution. Meanwhile, an object that perhaps best demonstrates the global reach of the project is a Cuban 20 peso note from 1961 (fig.3). It bears the printed signature of the then president of the National Bank, Ernesto Guevara. He allegedly signed using his 'Che' nickname as an indication of his contempt for money. The note is one of the well-known F series fakes, thought to have been printed by the CIA in preparation for the failed Bay of Pigs invasion.

Rarer items acquired through the project have included a magnificent 5000 dinar

note of Yugoslavia, 1950, purchased through Spink in April 2017 (fig.4). The image of the foundry on the note's reverse is a common motif in communist imagery, a metaphor for the forging of the socialist state. In the same sale the Museum acquired a set of Yugoslav *bon*, or coupons (fig.5). In Yugoslavia in the early-1950s, Tito tried to move the economy towards a slightly softer form of communism, 'market socialism', in which workers were made shareholders in cooperatives. Items were paid for only partly in cash, with the remaining balance payable in discount vouchers. Different working sectors were issued their own vouchers with varying discounts applied. They illuminate one of the more interesting aspects of the monetary system, that of currency substitution.

Most communist states have at one time or another experienced a significant fragmentation of their monetary economies, in which the use of vouchers and the 'shadow' economy has become increasingly important. Partly, this has been a consequence of rationing and shortages of basic goods and commodities, especially in the Soviet-bloc



Figure 3

in the 1970s and 1980s. The currency became less useful because, quite simply, there was nothing that one could buy with it. Citizens therefore had to rely on the black market, barter and their social connections in order to obtain the products they needed.

Governments of communist states have themselves done much to fuel the ideological and physical devaluation of the currency. In East Germany coins were deliberately made from aluminium, 'aluchips' as they were known colloquially, in a deliberate attempt to make them feel light and therefore cheap. Cambodia's brutal Khmer

Rouge tried to do away with money altogether, with disastrous consequences. The international exchange value of all communist currencies has generally been minimal, and states have frequently faced shortages of foreign currency reserves. One voucher system in particular, issued for use in chains of state-run luxury goods shops, tried to alleviate the problem. The shops were known by various names – *Intershop* in East Germany, *Intertourist* in Hungary and *Tuzex* in Czechoslovakia, for example – and sold primarily Western goods such as cosmetics, confectionary and clothing. They did not accept state currency, only

Figure 4



The Currency of Communism



Figure 5

healthcare, these include generous leisure time, heavily subsidised travel and access to state-run sanatoriums and holiday centres. Another form of payment substitution, and one that has tied neatly with the aims of the collecting project, has been through the awarding of medals and honours for special achievement.

The USSR introduced a particularly complex system of decorations under Stalin in the 1930s. Before 1947 all honours came with a monthly stipend, and many orders and decorations carried specific benefits such as free travel passes. Recipients of awards could be from all sorts of backgrounds and positions. Illustrated is a late award, the Order of Labour Glory, 1st Class (fig.7). This version dates from 1985 and was awarded to a female machine builder in Donetsk, Ukraine. As a recipient of all three classes she received a 15% increase to her pension, first priority on the state housing list, free public transport, a free annual pass to a sanatorium and one first class round trip flight per year. The medal is one of more than fifty medal acquisitions made possible by



Figure 6

vouchers, exchangeable only for hard currency, or hard currency itself, thus raising revenue for the state (fig.6). One might find local hustlers outside many of these shops in the 1970s and 1980s. They made their living by illegally exchanging state currency for vouchers, enabling locals to get their hands on luxury items.

Stalin said that 'the Soviet people have mastered a new way of measuring the value of people...not in roubles, not

in dollars...[but] according to their heroic feats'. A common riposte to Stalin's words could be found in a factory workers' saying: 'we pretend to work, they pretend to pay'. Nevertheless, communist states have found numerous ways in which to reward citizens through non-direct payment, with the ultimate objective being to change citizens' attitudes to wealth and the things that they value. Besides state housing, free welfare, education and

the Art Fund grant. They include such top honours as a Soviet State Prize medal, a Hero of Socialist Labour medal, Hero of the Soviet Union medals and awards for numerous civilian campaigns.

One final aspect of the project has been the acquisition of posters advertising banking services, government bonds, insurance and other themes relating to money. These are among the most visually striking of the acquisitions and have enhanced our understanding of how money has worked and how it is represented within different artistic media. Illustrated is a 1990 anti-corruption poster, *Shadow Economy, Corruption and Crime* (fig.8), by the Russian cartoonist Boris Yefimov (1900–2008). Its inscription reads 'people taking bribes are a scandal in our organisational order; we have to organise to repulse them and break free from them'. The poster represents one of very few official acknowledgements that the aforementioned 'shadow' economy existed. In the USSR, as elsewhere, a degree of illicit economic activity was tolerated, at least until it threatened to destabilise the political order. This poster was issued at a time when the Communist Party's grip on power was at its weakest, shortly before the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Some of the four hundred or so acquisitions made so far, as well as historic acquisitions, are on display in the British Museum's Room 69a exhibition *The currency of communism*. As well as giving a broad overview of how money works in the communist system it shows how banknotes in

particular have been designed to serve the ideological needs of the state. Bold imagery celebrates the ordinary worker, peasant and soldier; collective farms are shown yielding bountiful crops; while industrial landscapes showing oil refineries and hydroelectric dams demonstrate the technological progress made possible by the planned economy. The broad optimism and romantic realism expected of socialist art has lent itself well to banknote design, resulting in designs that are dynamic and original.



Figure 7



The currency of communism is on view in Room 69a of the British Museum from 19 October 2017 to 18 March 2017; free entry.

Figure 8



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FIGHTING ON THE FRONTIER

The South Africa Medals of 1853-79

By Peter Duckers



The medal with clasp 1877 to a Trooper of the Fort White Volunteers; most men served beyond 1877 so that this single date is rare



The single dated clasp 1878. Commonly found to colonial units



Dated clasp 1878-9. This clasp was awarded to both Imperial and Colonial units

In the days before the opening of the Suez Canal in 1867 – and even afterwards – the route to India, Australia and the Far East via the Cape of Good Hope was a vital commercial link. Because of Britain's growing trade with India and the East, it became paramount for her to control this base and its surrounding areas and from 1800 onwards, she expanded her domination

over the Cape hinterland. In 1806, Britain took the nascent Cape province from the Dutch and over the next eighty years, on the principle of 'defence in depth' – pushing your defensive perimeter further from the threatened point (in this case, Cape Town) – she engaged upon a gradual inland expansion. British ambitions forced the old-established Dutch pioneer settlers (the Boers) to move out of the

Cape region across the Orange and Vaal rivers in "the great trek" after 1835, leading to the formation of the northern Boer territories, the South African Republic (or Transvaal) and the Orange Free State.

British and Boer expansion not unsurprisingly brought conflict over land occupation with the existing African kingdoms and states, some of which (most famously the Zulu and Basotho)

Fighting on the Frontier



Single dated clasp 1879, the commonest of the 1877-79 awards, issued not only for the Zulu war of that year but for a variety of other frontier campaigns



The standard obverse of the 1853 and 1877-79 South Africa medals by William Wyon



The reverse of the 1853 medal

were militarily powerful neighbours. The desire to seize land was exacerbated by the discovery of huge reserves of diamonds in Griqualand West in the early 1870s, which increased the tension between Britain, the Boers and local peoples. The result over the period 1835-81 was a series of wars, known once as "Kaffir Wars", but now less contentiously referred to as the Cape Frontier or Xhosa Wars. Most took place in the eastern Cape province.

The first general medal for service on the Cape frontiers was the *South Africa Medal* of 1853. Despite its date, it was actually awarded retrospectively for participation in one or more of three serious campaigns against local tribes – in 1835-36, 1846-47 and 1850-53. Much of the action – and there was some fierce fighting – took place in the Amatola highlands, the Perie Bush and Waterkloof area and leaders like Chiefs Sandili of the Gaika (Ngqika) and Moshoeshoe of the Basotho proved to be competent, resilient and dangerous enemies. Recipients of the medal may have served in more than one of these frontier wars but only the medal roll will confirm which.

The obverse design features the familiar 'young head' of the Queen by William Wyon, with titles, while the reverse has a protea bush in front of which is a lion 'couchant'. This design caused some adverse comment – it was meant to symbolise "the lion of Africa kneeling in submission", but it was pointed out that it also could be taken to represent the "British Lion" being subdued or wounded. It carried the award's date of institution 1853 in the reverse exergue.

Medals were given only to survivors and were impressed with personal details at the Royal Mint; those to naval forces (which do not carry the ship's name) are scarce and were conferred only for the last of the three campaigns. Medals to the approx. 190 men who survived the famous sinking of *HMS Birkenhead* on 26th February 1852 are particularly prized and expensive on the market.

What was essentially the same medal and ribbon (but with 1853 replaced by an African shield and crossed spears) and designated *The South Africa General Service Medal, 1877-79*, was awarded for the complex series of campaigns fought on the Cape Frontier between those dates. It is sometimes rather generally and wrongly

Special Feature

referred to as 'the Zulu War Medal' but in fact the Zulu campaign of January-September 1879 was only one of many 'native wars' on the frontier which attracted the award of this medal.

It was originally proposed to award the medal with clasp *Caf-fraria 1877-9* (after the old term for the border region) and/or *Zu-luland 1879* and/or *Basutoland 1879* but in the end the authorities – who seem to have been somewhat confused by the variety of enemies and campaigns! – produced a more complicated arrangement of dated bars which reflected the year in which the recipient had seen active service, rather than reflecting the area.

The various dated clasps eventually authorised in August 1880 and in 1881 were for operations against:

- the Gaika, Galeka, Tambuki and others between 26th September 1877 and June 1878
- the Amazizi leader Pokwana, 21st to 28th January 1878.
- the Griquas, 24 April to 13th November 1878
- the Zulu, 11th January 1879 to 1st September 1879
- the Bapedi under Chief Sekukuni (Sekhukhune), 11th November to 2nd December 1879
- the Baphuthi Chief Morosi, Basutoland, 25th March to 20th November 1879

The clasps issued to cover these various campaigns (and recipients could of course have served in more than one operation in one year) were: 1877, 1877-78, 1878, 1878-79, 1877-79, 1877-8-9 and 1879. Other than by error, no recipient could receive more than one clasp and the dates re-



Altered reverse for the 1877-79 awards



The reverse of the 1877-79 medal and clasp

Rank and Name	Exp't & Information received against Herald	Engaged against Herald 1877	Engaged against Herald 1878	Engaged against Herald 1879	Engaged against Herald 1879	Engaged against Herald 1879	Engaged against Herald 1879	Engaged against Herald 1879	Engaged against Herald 1879	Engaged against Herald 1879	Remarks
St. Taylor A.H.	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	x
" Thornton J.	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	x
" Tice F.	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	x
" Tate H.	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	x
" White S.L.	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Dead	Mother of Doone
" White J.	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Dead	do
" Williams A.	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	Edison	x
" Wilson D.G.	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	x
" Willmott J.	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	x
" Wallace R.	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	Edison	x
" Wolfe F.	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	x
" Woods J.	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	x

Comparatively few British units were engaged in some of the smaller frontier campaigns before the Zulu War – notably the 88th, 1-24th and 2-24th, the 90th, the 1-13th, elements of the Royal Artillery and small Naval Brigades. Some fairly large colonial units took part in these campaigns, like the famous

By far the most famous campaign for which the medal was issued was the Zulu War of January-September 1879. There have probably been more published works on this campaign than any other colonial 'small war'. This intense interest was probably sparked by

Special Feature

Stanley Baker's film *Zulu*, which appeared in 1964, and the publication of the influential and highly-regarded history *The Washing of the Spears* by Donald R. Morris. Since then, the campaign has been an enduringly popular collectors' theme. Today, the sheer volume of published works on the Zulu War has escalated the campaign far beyond its actual historical significance – but it does at least mean that collectors have plenty of reference material!

The invasion of Zululand – deemed to be potentially too dangerous to be allowed exist on the margins of a British-controlled federation of South Africa – began on 11th January 1879 and within less than a fortnight had produced two of the most famous actions in British military history – one a disaster and one a heroic defence.

On 22nd January 1879, part of Lord Chelmsford's 'Central Column' was attacked at its camp at Isandlwana and, in what was perhaps the most crushing defeat inflicted upon a British force in colonial warfare, suffered over 1,300 killed. The honour of British arms was somewhat redeemed when, later that day and into the night, a small garrison of around 130 men successfully defended the depot and hospital at Rorke's Drift. As is well known, no fewer than 11 Victoria Crosses were eventually awarded for that single action. It is perhaps unnecessary to say that medals to casualties at Isandlwana (mainly 1-24th Foot) are very much collected and, at the time of writing, fetching over £7,000. Equally needless to say is that medals to confirmed Rorke's

Drift men can reach *anything* over £30,000 depending on how well the recipient is 'written up' for the defence.

Many of the approx. 16,000 men who fought the Zulu in 1879 had been engaged in earlier frontier wars, so received the appropriately dated clasp, but most of the reinforcements who were flooded into the area to renew the campaign after the disaster of Isandlwana received the medal with clasp simply dated 1879. The multi-dated clasp 1877-8-9 – which covers such a range of military operations – has always been popular with collectors where it includes the recipient's participation in the Zulu War. Also popular are medals to units which took part in the 1st Boer War or Transvaal War of 1880-81. This largely disastrous campaign (culminating in the serious British defeat at Majuba Hill) unsurprisingly produced no medals of its own (apart from gallantry awards) so that South Africa medals to units which went on to be engaged against the Boers in 1880-81 are keenly sought after. Examples are those to the 3/60th Rifles, the 58th, 91st, 92nd and 94th regiments.

For the Zulu operations, medals without clasp were awarded to mobilised forces, both British and colonial, who were based in the frontier zone but did not cross into Zululand (e.g. the Durban Volunteer Artillery) and to naval forces who only served on RN warships and transports in support operations off the coast; naval personnel who landed and actually served in the campaign received the dated clasp.

It is important to state, how-



Multi-dated clasp 1877-8-9, as awarded to British and colonial forces. The clasp reflects some serious fighting and arduous campaigning



Medal with clasp 1877-8-9 to Pte. Henry Laws of the 90th Light Infantry. Laws, who died in 1950, was one of the last survivors of the Zulu war; the last (identified so far) died in 1953

Fighting on the Frontier



Medal for 1879 without clasp as awarded to RN personnel serving offshore - in this case to a recipient on the troopship HMS Himalaya - with his Naval Long Service and Good Conduct Medal

ever, given the popularity of the Zulu War, that not all medals with dated clasp 1879 or incorporating that date (e.g. 1878-9) reflect anything to do with the Zulu – men could earn these clasps for service against other African communities and leaders in 1879, for example Sekukuni or Morosi, without ever seeing a Zulu warrior! Some soldiers of the 80th Regiment and a large number of scratch-raised colonial units would fit this bill, so if you are looking to buy a medal for the Zulu War, check the medal roll first!

Medal group including the South Africa Medal to a recipient who went on to serve in the Sudan in 1885, with the relevant British and Egyptian awards. Many recipients had of course received medals for earlier wars or went on to serve in later campaigns



HISTORICAL FIGURES ON BANK OF ENGLAND BANKNOTES

Jonathan Callaway

There has never been so much interest in who gets on to the back of new Bank of England notes! Considerable media attention was generated in 2013 by the Bank of England's announcement that it intended to introduce a new polymer fiver in 2016 with Sir Winston Churchill on the back, replacing Elizabeth Fry. A man replacing a woman – no wonder half the population decided this was not good enough! A campaign was born and, among other successes, it encouraged the Bank of England to change its approach to the selection of the historical figures we have been enjoying on our notes for over forty years.

This article looks at who we have seen so far and considers who is coming next. Prior to 1928 Bank of England



banknotes had hardly changed since the 18th century; they all looked like the old white fiver. But 1928 saw the introduction of a green £1 note and a reddish-brown 10 Shillings note to replace the UK's Treasury issues. The white fiver, meanwhile, continued to reign supreme right up until 1956. The many higher denominations had all

been withdrawn in 1944 thanks to Operation Bernhard, the massive counterfeiting operation undertaken by Nazi Germany, so until 1956 the population had to make do with just three Bank of England denominations and nothing larger than a £5 note.

The white fiver was replaced by the blue 'Lion and Key' five pound note, a beautiful but

Sir Walter Raleigh - adventurer and explorer did not appear since the note was replaced by the 50p piece

Historical Figures On Bank Of England Banknotes



The Duke of Wellington - military leader and politician, who later became Prime Minister

short-lived design replaced after only ten years. It was only in 1960 that the Queen first appeared on a Bank of England note, accompanied on the reverse by a stylised image of Britannia. Britannia, an allegorical female representation of Britain, had always appeared on Bank of England notes in a vignette based on the Bank's seal. She had also frequently appeared on English provincial banknotes in the 19th century, usually with sword and shield

and sometimes with a lion at her feet in a range of poses from the frankly militaristic to the demurely feminine. The front of the Lion and Key fiver carried a bold image of Britannia wearing a Roman helmet, an image more classical Victorian than modern Elizabethan. Britannia continues to appear on every note, be it as a small vignette, in the watermark or as one of the images in the hologram security device. Arguably, therefore, current Bank of England notes already

have two females on them – the Queen and Britannia.

In the late 1960s the Bank started thinking about further changes to its banknote designs and the view was formed that including historical figures on them would enhance their attractiveness while giving scope for the designers to bring in more anti-counterfeiting design features. It took until July 1970 for the Bank finally to get round to putting the first historical figure on one of its notes. The note chosen to initiate the new Pictorial Series was the newly re-introduced £20 note in a lovely design with the Queen on the front accompanied by a delightful vignette of George and the Dragon. On the reverse we see the first in a long line of historical figures, **William Shakespeare** (1564-1616).

The Pictorial Series was designed by Harry Eccleston OBE, assisted by Roger Withington and David Wicke. The Bank was delighted with its new note and in September 2015 Victoria Cleland, the current Chief Cashier, said in a speech:

"Our modern notes can arguably be said to stem from 1970 when we included a historic character for the first time. The counterfeit resilience of the William Shakespeare £20 was provided by the watermark, the embedded thread, and the note's complex multi-coloured design. At the time, it was a triumph in note sophistication, and very hard to copy."

Special Feature

It is difficult to think of a more fitting figure than our national poet and playwright to start this new series of notes but less well known is the fact that, had the Bank decided in the same year, 1970, against issuing a new 10 Shillings note, then the honour would have gone to **Sir Walter Raleigh** (1552-1618), one of Shakespeare's contemporaries. He was better known as an adventurer and explorer than as a writer but he did also write poetry. The 10 Shillings note, and its projected follow-up denominated as 50 Pence, was scuppered when a 50p coin was introduced instead.

Shakespeare lasted 23 years on the £20 note before making way for Michael Faraday. We will now look at all those who came after him, taking them in chronological order. A summary at the end lists all these historical figures by denomination and date.

In 1971, the next figure to appear was Arthur Wellesley, the first **Duke of Wellington** (1769-1852), who shared the back of the new £5 note with a depiction of one of his famous victories, the Battle of Fuentes de Onoro. He lasted 20 years on the note. The Duke was not only a famous military figure but later became the Prime Minister responsible for the passing of the Catholic Emancipation Act (he was Irish born, though a Protestant) and presiding over the 1832 Reform Act.



Sir Isaac Newton - the most eminent scientist and astronomer of his day, who also became Master of the Royal Mint

The next figure to appear, and the first female historical figure, was **Florence Nightingale** (1820-1910) in 1975. She enjoyed 19 years on the back of the £10 note and her image as the 'Lady with the Lamp' was accompanied by a scene from the hospital in Scutari (now part of modern Istanbul in Asian Turkey) where she first came to public attention for nursing soldiers wounded in the Crimean War. In 1856, after the war ended, she returned to Britain and went on to establish a number of training facilities for nurses.

In 1978 the last £1 note was introduced with **Sir Isaac Newton** (1643-1727) on the reverse. This small note, known as the 'Luncheon Voucher', was in circulation for only ten years and was the Bank of England's final £1 note before it was withdrawn and replaced with a coin. Newton seems most famous for the moment when an apple fell on his head and he 'discovered' gravity. This story is, however, apocryphal

and such an image was wisely not included on the note. He did, however, write of watching apples fall and wondering why they always fell straight to earth. In 1687 Newton published his single greatest work, the *Philosophiæ Naturalis Principia Mathematica* ('Mathematical Principles of Natural Philosophy') which embodied his studies on gravity. He was by far the most eminent scientist of his day and felt by many to have been as influential in the development of physics as Albert Einstein himself. His position as an eminent astronomer is reflected on the note which includes an image of his telescope and a depiction of the solar system with the sun at its centre. He found time among his scientific research and writing to become the Master of the Royal Mint, a position he took very seriously in his pursuit of counterfeiters.

In 1981 we see the Pictorial Series completed with the issue of a newly re-introduced £50 note featuring **Sir Christopher**



Historical Figures On Bank Of England Banknotes

Wren (1632-1723). This was the first note of this denomination since 1944 and remains the highest Bank of England denomination (and is likely to stay as such, the Bank having firmly decided against issuing a £100 note even though banks in Scotland and Northern Ireland still issue this denomination).

Wren appears alongside a view of St Paul's Cathedral, his most famous creation, with an outline of its floorplan below. Apart from being one of our most celebrated architects, Wren was also one of the founding members of the Royal Society and devoted much of his earlier years to the study of astronomy.

In 1990 the Bank launched the new Historical Series of notes, designed by Roger Withington and slightly reduced in size compared to previous issues. The theme of featuring a historical character on each note was continued and the new series began with a new fiver portraying **George Stephenson (1781-1848)** on the reverse. He is seen with the *Rocket*, the famous steam locomotive he built and first ran on the Stockton and Darlington Railway in 1825. Skerne Bridge is also shown. The *Rocket* had a top speed of an impressive 36mph. Its success ushered in the railway age when thousands of miles of lines were built all over the UK, making a huge contribution to the success of the Industrial Revolution.

A year later, in 1991, a new £20 note joined the fiver, this time the featured figure being **Michael Faraday (1791-1867)**. Faraday was another scientist, his speciality being electromagnetism, a principle which paved the way for the development of electric motors. He devoted much time to lecturing and instituted the annual Christmas Lectures at the Royal Institution which continue to this day. An image of him delivering a lecture on his electro-magnetic spark apparatus appears alongside his portrait.

The £10 note was updated the following year, in 1992,



Florence Nightingale - the 'Lady with the Lamp' famous for nursing soldiers wounded in the Crimean War

Sir Christopher Wren - architect of St Paul's Cathedral and founding member of the Royal Society



Special Feature

and **Charles Dickens** (1812-1870) joined the illustrious list of historical figures. Dickens is still a hugely popular author as attested to by the numerous screen and TV adaptations of his novels. The note carries a scene from the cricket match at Dingley Dell described in *The Pickwick Papers*, one of his most successful novels.

In 1994 the £50 note was re-designed and a new figure appears on the reverse, **Sir John Houblon** (1632-1712), the Bank of England's first Governor. Arguably the least well-known historical figure to appear on their banknotes, he is also one of the longer lasting, only bowing out after some 20 years. He appears alongside an image of his house in Threadneedle Street on the site of which the Bank itself was later located.

In 1999 it was decided to replace the £20 note once again, the new design prompted perhaps by the increasing occurrence of attempts to

forgo the notes. The notes had originally been designed by Roger Withington but were modified by Andrew Ward. The previous £20 note had lasted just ten years and this new one, featuring **Sir Edward Elgar** (1857-1934), lasted just eleven. Elgar is one of Britain's most famous composers who wrote a number of popular works such as his *Pomp and Circumstance* marches, including *Land of Hope and Glory*, played and sung every year at the *Last Night of the Proms* at the Royal Albert Hall. He made his name

in the pre-First World War period with his composition *Enigma Variations*. He appears on the note alongside an image of Worcester Cathedral where his first work was performed.

A year later in 2000, a new £10 note was issued, featuring **Charles Darwin** (1809-1882). Darwin is rightly lauded for his hugely influential work *The Origin of Species*, which revolutionised scientific thought and propelled Darwin into the forefront of top-ranking scientists. It was, however, a controversial book in its day and even today

George Stephenson - pictured with his steam locomotive *The Rocket* which ushered in the railway age



Sir Edward Elgar - one of Britain best-loved composers whose music is always played at the Last Night of the Prom



Michael Faraday – a scientist whose speciality was electromagnetism and who started the annual Christmas Lectures at the Royal Institution



Historical Figures On Bank Of England Banknotes

its conclusions are challenged by some. Indeed, the Bank had previously thought his inclusion to be 'inappropriate'. Darwin's luxuriant beard is said to have influenced the choice of his portrait given the apparent difficulty it presented to the banknote engravers – and thus to potential forgers. This consideration does not appear to have worked against the almost bald and clean-shaven Churchill.

In 2002 **Elizabeth Fry** (1780-1845) was selected to grace the reverse of a new £5 note. She was a prominent 19th

century philanthropist and penal reformer, a Quaker born into the Gurney banking family who were one of several Quaker families whose banks were merged to create today's Barclays Bank. Her husband was a member of the Fry family who founded the J S Fry chocolate and confectionary business.

In 2007, yet another £20 note was issued following a further re-design of the note. The new £20 featured the first Scot to appear on an English note, **Adam Smith** (1723-1790). Smith is considered by many as

the father of modern economics whose work *The Wealth of Nations* argued in favour of free trade and the division of labour – thus providing a theoretical basis for the modern industrial factory system. There is no sign of any of the Scottish banks wishing to reciprocate by putting an Englishman on one of their notes, and indeed the Clydesdale Bank could rightfully accuse the Bank of England of pinching their idea – Adam Smith featured on their £50 notes from 1981 to 2009.

In 2011 there was another first, in that two figures were selected to appear together on the reverse of the new £50 note, **Matthew Boulton** (1718-1809) and **James Watt** (1736-1819). Their claim to fame was their collaboration in the devel-



Charles Dickens - still a hugely popular author showing a scene from *The Pickwick Papers*



Sir John Houblon - the first Governor of the Bank of England and possibly the least well known of all the figures



Special Feature

opment of the steam engines which were used to power many of the factories of the Victorian industrial revolution. They also established a coin mint in Soho, near Birmingham which supplied the Royal Mint, as well as many foreign governments.

The choice early in 2013 of **Sir Winston Churchill** (1874-1965) to go on the Bank's first polymer £5 note proved somewhat controversial despite the towering role he played in leading the UK through the dark days of the Second World War. A feminist campaign group threatened legal action under the Equality Act, insisting that the Bank reconsider its decision and choose another female figure. The Bank initially resisted this but the campaign grew quickly and after a brief period of reflection the Bank decided that engagement and co-operation was a better way forward. It helped considerably that they already had one female figure on the shortlist of four for the new polymer £10 note and in June 2013 the outgoing Governor Sir Mervyn King announced that **Jane Austen** (1775-1817) had been "*quietly waiting in the wings*" and was one of the figures they had been considering. The new Governor, Mark Carney, confirmed the choice soon after (though it would have been difficult for him not to!).

The polymer £10 note is finally expected to be released in September 2017. The portrait on the note is based on a post-



Elizabeth Fry - a prominent 19th century philanthropist and penal reformer



Charles Darwin - whose book *On the Origin of Species* revolutionized scientific thinking

humous engraving, attributed, possibly wrongly, to the famous Scottish engraver William Home Lizars. The engraving was itself based on a posthumous portrait by James Andrews painted in 1869, some years after the author's death. The choice of Jane Austen was applauded by her many fans – her remarkable books are still being filmed or serialised on television.

One result of the furore over the replacement of Elizabeth Fry was that the Bank set up a

selection panel to guide them on future choices of historical figures. Clearly they wanted to avoid making the same mistake again! The new selection process involved the appointment of outside specialists sitting with Bank officials on an advisory committee. The permanent external members of the Banknote Character Advisory Committee, who accompany Ben Broadbent (Deputy Governor for Monetary Policy) and Victoria Cleland (Chief Cashier)

Historical Figures On Bank Of England Banknotes

are Professor Sir David Cannadine, a leading British historian, Sandy Nairne, former Director of the National Portrait Gallery and Baroness Lola Young, an experienced writer and broadcaster. They were chosen for their breadth of knowledge across a range of areas, including history and the arts.

The first decision made by the core members of the Committee was to choose a

historical figure from the visual arts for the new £20 note. The issue was then opened up to the general public and suggestions were invited for a representative figure. Almost 30,000 people responded suggesting 590 different names (the whole list can be found on the Bank's website). For the process of deciding which of these many names were to be shortlisted for the Governor's final decision

(it always was and will remain the Governor's decision) the Committee was supplemented by three new members, Alice Rawsthorn, Andrew Graham Dixon and John Akomfrah, whose specialised knowledge of the visual arts helped draw up the shortlist.

In fact there was a long list of 67 names (all on the Bank's website) from which the final shortlist of five was selected. The five were Joseph Mallord William Turner, Barbara Hepworth, Charlie Chaplin, Josiah Wedgwood and William Hogarth. During this process, stakeholders in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland were all consulted, given that the Bank, despite its name, is the central bank for the whole of the UK and its notes are used in all four of the home nations. Finally the decision was made and it was announced on 22nd April 2016 that **J M W Turner** (1775-1851) would appear on the polymer £20 note, due to be released by 2020.



Adam Smith - the father of modern economics and the first Scot to appear on an English banknote

Matthew Boulton and James Watt - they collaborated on the development of the steam engine, so powering the Industrial Revolution



Special Feature

The reverse of the note will include Turner's self-portrait, painted c.1799 and currently on display in the Tate Britain, alongside an extract of one of his most lauded paintings, *The Fighting Temeraire*, a tribute to the ship *HMS Temeraire* which played a distinguished role in Nelson's victory at the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805. The quote '*Light is therefore colour*' will appear, these words coming from an 1818 lecture by Turner referring to his innovative use of light, shade, colour and tone in his pictures.

Who might come next? According to the Bank it will probably be quite some time before they need to start another selection process, so they remain open-minded on which field of endeavour might be selected, never mind which figure might eventually go on the next new note. It is not even clear which note will be the next to be replaced as they appear to be in no hurry to replace the Boulton/Watt £50 note, given low issue volumes. It may be a long time before this article needs any further updating.

Acknowledgement

Many thanks to Pam West for providing some of the illustrations and allowing me to draw on information contained in her catalogue *English Paper Money*.

This article is an updated and extended version of one which appeared in Coin News in August 2013

ALL IMAGES ARE "COPY-RIGHT THE GOVERNOR AND COMPANY OF THE BANK OF ENGLAND"



JMW Turner - an artist known for his seascapes and his innovative use of light, shade, colour and tone



Sir Winston Churchill - Britain's wartime Prime Minister who proved to be a controversial choice



Jane Austen - the writer who has been 'quietly waiting in the wings' and whose books are still being filmed and serialised on television



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Numismatist

WANTED Choice Collections and Individual Items

The Celebrated Petition Crown



CHARLES II PETITION CROWN 1663 (the celebrated 'Petition Crown') by Thomas Simon.

Obv large medallion laureate bust of the King facing right with Simon in script below bust. The portrait fully frosted, the legend finely edged with frosting within, all surrounded with a heavy toothed border.

Rev four crowned ornate shields, between the interlinked Cs and St George and dragon in garter in centre.

The shields, Cs and legend finely edged with frosting within all surrounded by a heavy toothed border.

The edge inscribed –

THOMAS SIMON.MOST.HUMBLY.PRAYS.YOVR MAJESTY TO.COMPARE.THIS.HIS.TRYALL.PIECE.WITH.THE.DVTCH.AND.IM.MORE/TRVLY.DRAWN.& EMBOSSED.MORE.GRACE:FVLLY.ORDER'D.AND.MORE.ACCVRATELY.ENGRAVEN.TO.RELIEVE.HIM. in two lines between palm and laurel leaves.

Provenance – Bought 'for a trifle' by the dealer Abraham Edwards from a silversmith in the Strand and ex T. Dimsdale, Sotheby 18/6/1824, Lot 1788

T. Thomas, Sotheby 23/2/1844, Lot 387

J.D. Cuff, Sotheby 8/6/1854, Lot 1373

Major-General W. Yorks Moore, Sotheby 21/4/1879, Lot 255

The Hon. R. Marsham, Sotheby 19/11/1888, Lot 731

A.D. Clarke, Christies 15/6/1891, Lot 364

H. Webb, Sotheby 9/7/1894, Lot 692

R.M. Forster, Sotheby 3/11/1903, Lot 243

B. Roth Pt. 1, Sotheby 19/7/1917, Lot 348

Col. T.G. Taylor

E.H. Wheeler, Sotheby 12/3/1930, Lot 500

W.L. Raynes Coll' bought Spink December 1962

Norweb Coll', Spink 45, 13/6/1985, Lot 223

Perley Storer, Spink III, 21/11/1995, Lot 101

St. James's Auction 18/6/2008, Lot 333

A little rubbing in field before face (in antiquity) otherwise a magnificent example of this great rarity, perhaps the most spectacular and desirable coin in the entire British series.

Deeply toned and Extremely Fine: £585,000

Born from the competing parties of Jan Roettier and Thomas Simon vying for the King's favour to produce the gold and silver coins for currency. Roettier having been successful prompted Simon to produce this crown with the edge inscription being a petition to the King to relieve Roettier of his post and reinstate himself.

For appointments in London or my latest circular, please contact me at
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Forthcoming Events

THE TISBURY COLLECTION OF COMMONWEALTH SILVER COINAGE

London, 26 September 2017

By Robert Parkinson

Spink is delighted to be auctioning the first instalment of arguably the finest collection of Commonwealth silver coinage in private hands in its upcoming London sale on 26th September 2017. From 1649-60, it is recorded that £750,000 worth of this coinage was produced, but after the restoration of the monarchy in 1660, it was demonetised and all but £100,000 recovered and melted down. As a result, these coins are comparatively scarce and desirable, famous for the conspicuous absence of a monarch and the fact that entirely English legends instead of Latin are used.

This collection amounts to nearly £11 in period currency through every denomination from crown to halfpenny. Many of the coins are the only known examples, with 38 illustrated in *English Silver Coinage* (Maurice Bull, published by Spink, £40). Here follows an overview of the assemblage underpinned by historical accounts.

1649

The year 1649 marked the execution of Charles I and the establishment of the Commonwealth of England. Parliament could no longer claim to be serving the king and thus soon removed the royal arms and portrait from their coinage, issuing instead a new design in keeping with Puritan ideals, minimising ornamentation and any vestige of Roman Catholicism. Thomas Simon, chief engraver to the mint, was occupied with the production of government seals and medals at the time and so is quite likely to have delegated the design for the Commonwealth coinage to his two under-engravers. This would somewhat explain the simplicity and lack of elegance of the coinage; bearing the

conjoined shields of St. George and Ireland (leading to Samuel Pepys dubbing them "Harp and Cross money") with legends in English rather than Latin, reading **'THE COMMONWEALTH OF ENGLAND'**, and **'GOD WITH VS'**.

Even though the design transition was fairly rapid, coin production began in very limited numbers, meaning that those minted in 1649 are scarce while no silver coinage whatsoever is recorded to have been produced in 1650. It is impressive thus that this collection includes six coins of 1649, consisting of two extremely rare 1649 crowns, a halfcrown, two shillings and a sixpence.

1651 Patterns

For many centuries English coinage had suffered through the unscrupulous activity of clipping, and towards the end of the Civil War the coinage of Charles I had become untidy, irregular and poorly struck, exacerbating this issue. As a result, soon after the establishment of the Commonwealth, the Council of State decided that rounder, neater coins with lettered or engrailed edges should be produced to help combat clipping. Having heard that the French engineer and moneyer Peter Blondeau (operating out of the Paris mint) was famous for his milled coinage, in 1649 the Committee extended an invitation to him in the hope that he could assist in introducing this more advanced method to England.

This, however, caused consternation among the moneyers of the Mint led by David Ramage, previously assistant to Nicholas Briot (a prominent French engraver and engineer, Chief Engraver at the Royal



A rare 1649 crown variety with a wire-line inner border

The Tisbury Collection

Mint from 1633 until his death in 1646) along with Thomas Simon. The moneyers believed that they too could achieve the same result and that it was merely a matter of time and expense. They therefore requested £1,000 for the equipment necessary to coin milled money 'as fair, beautiful and cheap as any Frenchman in the world'. As a consequence, in May 1651 the Committee ordered both Ramage and Blondeau to produce pattern coins for trial.

On 3rd July 1651 the patterns were presented before the Committee. Blondeau had produced 300 coins of a similar style to the 'Harp and Cross' hammered coins, but of a much higher quality, engraved by Simon, with the larger denominations bearing crisp and regular edge inscriptions. Ramage's patterns, featuring an angel motif with the legend '**GAVRDED WITH ANGELES**' produced using leftover equipment by Briot and Mestrelle, numbered merely twelve halfcrowns, shillings and sixpences. Furthermore, in attempting to inscribe the edges of his coins, Ramage was forced to steadily increase the thickness of his planchets, giving coins of inconsistent weights. Although initially no determination was made in favour of either party, the Blondeau patterns remained in the hands of Sir James Harrington, chairman of the Committee, for nearly two years while Ramage's were delivered back to the moneyers by Thomas Violet who said of

Master David Ramage, Whitehall, June 14, 1651.
These are to authorise you, to make some patterns as broad as a shilling, a half crown, a twenty shillings peece of gold, in a mill; and if you can do it, with letters about the edge or otherwayes, according to Queen Elizabeth's patterns of mill-money or any other modell or peecees you are to make; that so the Committee of the mint may see your several peecees, and thereupon consider what is fittest to present to the Counsell of State, for the more handsome making of the monies for the HONOR of this Commonwealth.
James Harrington,
Thos. Chaloner
At

The original letter sent to Ramage requesting his patterns

his milled coinage, "*It is faire to the Eye, but not safe for the Commonwealth*".

Within this collection is an excellent assemblage of patterns relevant to this competition, including two halfcrowns, a shilling and two sixpences produced by Blondeau, and an exceedingly rare halfcrown and shilling produced by Ramage. The weight of this Ramage halfcrown is 19.79g, heavy for this denomination, implying it is one of the last he produced with a thicker flan in order to improve its edge lettering. The shilling is of the same flan, struck by the same dies, but on a thinner planchet with a milled edge, weighing 6.20g. Additionally, there are three curious patterns of half crowns, namely a thin flan copper pattern produced by Blondeau, a 1651 hammered pattern attributed to Simon and an exceptional 1651 milled pattern of indeterminate manufacturer and of the highest rarity.



From top to bottom, Ramage's pattern half crown, Blondeau's pattern, and the extremely rare unattributed pattern

Forthcoming Events

1651-1657

Despite Blondeau's success, the powerful Corporation of Moneyers ensured no action was taken to introduce his methods into English coin production until 1656. As a result, the Tower continued to produce hammered, lower quality coinage throughout the 1650s.

This collection presents a comprehensive coverage of the period 1651-7 with 107 pieces, including many error varieties and very rare dates, such as a 1657 halfcrown of which only two are known. In addition, two 1656 half crowns in the collection appear to have been produced as proofs or patterns in collars and made to a very high quality, potentially to compete with Blondeau and his Cromwell coinage of the same year.

1658-1660

On 9th November 1657, Oliver Cromwell issued a warrant ordering an assay to be made regarding the circulating Harp and Cross coinage, known as the Trial of the Pyx. This retained gold and silver coins of



Rare 1659 half crown and sixpence

the mint and tested them for weight and metal purity. On the trial's completion, the sun mint mark, universal on Commonwealth coinage, was changed to that of an anchor. The following year, 1658, Oliver Cromwell died, and was succeeded by his son Richard. Thus, those coins bearing the anchor mintmark are often associated with the protectorate of Richard Cromwell.

Richard, however, was weaker-willed than his father and lacked authority. With no respect from the army or Parliament, his reign was short-lived and lasted only until 1660. Before Oliver Cromwell's death, Blondeau had been designing a new milled coinage bearing his portrait but ceased in 1658 so the Tower went back to hammered coinage during Richard's two-year protectorate between 1658-60. These coins were poorly produced and in very limited numbers, and as such are accordingly rare to acquire in high grades. The Tisbury collection boasts 19 coins from this short period including 11 from 1658, an exceptionally rare 1659 sixpence and halfcrown and six from 1660, the Commonwealth's final year.



The two 1656 collar-struck half crown patterns

We are currently holding an exhibition of the collection in its entirety in our London showroom at 69 Southampton Row. Such an academic collection gives a once-in-a-generation opportunity to compare and contrast production style, allowing unique insight into the progression of Commonwealth coinage. Contact Robert for information about the sale and exhibition at rparkinson@spink.com.

PORTRAITS OF GREEK COINAGE TAUROMENIUM

R.J. Eaglen

TAUROMENIUM, modern Taormina, has the most beautiful setting of any ancient Greek or Roman amphitheatre. Located upon a prominence on the north-easterly coast of Sicily, it looks out beyond stage columns to the sea close to the toe of Italy. Beneath, a narrow, rocky path gives access to the Isola Bella, now a nature reserve, while on the skyline inland broods the smouldering outline of Mount Etna.

Although the theatre is Greek in origin the extensive use of brickwork is evidence of its remodelling and extension in Roman times. The auditorium now measures 117 yards in width, second in size only to that at Syracuse, some fifty miles to the south. The site became celebrated from the nineteenth century onwards, attracting Goethe and many other notable visitors. D.H. Lawrence made Taormina his home for two years from 1920.

The city was established in 396 BCE by the Carthaginian, Himilco, on territory occupied by native Sicels. In 394-3 Dionysius I of Syracuse besieged the settlement and in 392 evicted the local population in favour of his former soldiers.

Between then and the late third century BCE control of the city changed hands on a number of occasions. In 358 Andromachus, father of the famous historian, Timaeus, became its tyrant with the support of refugees from nearby Naxos. In 345, when Timoleon was sent from Corinth to remove Dionysius II of Syracuse and other unscrupulous tyrants in the island, he landed at Tauromnium and was prudently supported by Andromachus in fulfilling his mission. When in about 316 BCE tyranny was re-established at Syracuse by Agathacles, Tauromenium also came under his dominion. Following his assassination in 289/8 he was succeeded at Tauromenium by a local autocrat, Tyndarion, who in 276 lent his support to the Molossian king, Pyrrus, in his campaign against Rome's allies, the Carthaginians. Subsequently, under Hieron II of Syracuse (c.271-216) by an agreement with Rome in 263 Tauromenium returned to Syracusan control and remained so until 211 when it became designated as a federated state (*civitas foederata*) of Rome.

The design of the coin illustrated above, featuring a



Obverse
(Figure A)

Reverse
(Figure B)

AR 4 Litrai (Drachm), c.275-210 BCE.

3.13 g (17 mm diameter), die axis 45°.

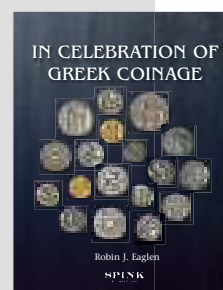
Ex Spink auction, 24 Sep 2008, 4.

Obv. Laureate head of Apollo r., with locks of hair and curl at neck, surrounded by a border of fine pellets. Star in field behind.

Rev. Tripod resting on ground line with lion paw feet, stabilising struts and handles in the form of crosses within circles (so-called tripod-lebes). Inscription TAYPOME vertically downwards on r. and NITAN upwards on l. Monogram and letter I in upper left field.

trident, did not originate at Tauromenium. The tripod had been associated with the coinage of Croton in Italy from as early as the sixth century BCE and eventually, in 360, the city issued a fraction with the head of Apollo on the obverse to accompany the customary Delphic tripod on the reverse. Staters of similar design followed from 330. More significantly, Apollo on the obverse had been paired with a tripod-lebes reverse for 50/25 litrai denominations struck in electrum at Syracuse between 357 and 353 and for trihemioiols in gold between 275 and 210. The type illustrated from Tauromenium clearly derives from these issues at Syracuse when Hieron II held sway in both cities.

If you enjoyed this article you can read about many other finely illustrated coins in the author's collection by ordering a copy of *In Celebration of Greek Coinage* by Robin J. Eaglen from Spink (www.spinkbooks.com), priced at £40, plus P+P.



IN CELEBRATION OF GREEK COINAGE BY ROBIN EAGLEN

By Alan Walker

Robin Eaglen is a well-known figure in British numismatics: he was President of the British Numismatic Society (BNS), and is responsible for a number of erudite publications on medieval English coinage (they include a major two volume work on the coinage of Bury St Edmunds, as well as an equally major study on the mint of Huntingdon). In many ways, RE's interest in English coinage has always been that of a scholarly and serious collector; this is in contrast to his fascination for ancient Greek coins, which comes from sheer enjoyment! He seems to have first been 'reeled in' through a purchase of a drachm of Alexander from Baldwin's in 2000, but then was taken in hand by David Miller and John Pett, who turned an interest into an obsession. The ultimate result of this passion for Greek coins is the extremely pleasant book under review here – it is also a monument to what happens when an enthusiastic collector has the help of knowledgeable, friendly and approachable dealers.

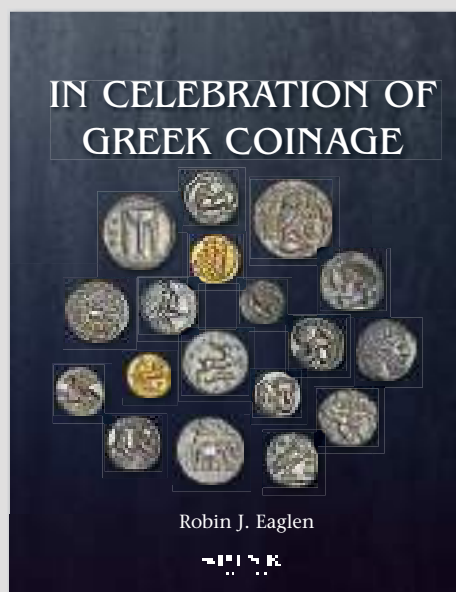
Before going further, let me point out how well written this book is: at a time when so many scholarly books tend to be written in ever more impenetrable jargon, the clarity and readability of RE's text is a joy. Even if he's wrong, *and he sometimes is*, his writing is always a pleasure to read. The book collects a series of 50 short essays that were originally published in Spink's late, lamented *Numismatic Circular*, the place where so many major articles and notes had appeared over the past hundred years. It begins with two introductory chapters, the first is on why RE loves coins; the second

is a revised version of his 2014 BANS lecture on *Greek coins as art* and provides us with the author's enjoyably personal view of Greek numismatic art.

The rest of the book is composed of 50 chapters arranged chronologically from *Lydia, Ionia and the birth of coinage* (late 7th century BCE) to *Coson* (c. 40s BCE), all very well illustrated with excellent photographs (somewhat oddly captioned, however: instead of being numbered consecutively throughout the book, each coin is lettered A,B,C,D, etc. by chapter; i.e. the two coins illustrated in Chapter 4, Aegina, are 4, A&B – obverse and reverse of a turtle, and 4, C&D – obverse and reverse of a tortoise; to me this is very cumbersome). Each chapter is in the form of a short, and always interesting, essay about a coin and its mint (sometimes with parallels). The basic problem is that the accuracy of each chapter is dependent on the accuracy (or recentness) of the references RE used to describe the coins, or RE's own knowledge. I do not think this is particularly important since it basically does not affect the overall usefulness of the book as a whole. For example, in Chapter 4 the discussion of the reason behind the adoption of the turtle as a type at Aegina, would have both been more accurate, and more intriguing, if RE had been aware of G. Welter's suggestion in the 1954 AA (pp. 28-30; and cited by Ross Holloway in the 1998 RISD catalogue, p. 3), that the early, pre-coinage, plano-convex silver ingots from Aegina were colloquially termed 'turtles' from their shape; thus, when Aeginetan coinage began in the late second quarter of the 6th century – inspired by Kroisos's initiation of pure gold and pure silver coinage

– the turtle type was selected to remind users of the pure silver ingots that had been used as a kind of money earlier. This is, of course, an omission, not a mistake.

Actual mistakes can often be found but are seldom of any importance. For example, here is a selection of minor glitches: pp. 66-7, the Athenian New Style tetradrachm is not from 164/3 BC but 132/1 (RE has still used Thompson's long disproved high chronology); there is constant confusion, primarily in the text, between *gamma* and *pi* (as on p. 106 where we see EΓI, *Egi*, for



In Celebration of Greek Coinage

ΕΠΙ, *Epī*; though this is probably because the original *gamma* has a short right hasta) – on p. 135 the lower case Ν (ν) is used instead of the lower case Υ (υ), etc.; on p. 203 we learn, for the first time, of a decadrachm from *Catania*; on p. 212 the inscription “Epiphanous Dionysou” cannot be translated as “illustrious Diodotos”. A marginally more serious problem appears pp.100-102, in relation to a stater of Corinthian type from Anactorium. This coin, p. 100, C-D, is actually the type of Calciati 44 and SNG Delepierre 1211, and is struck from the same reverse die as Camman 48 (= BMC Corinth p. xxxi, 11 = *Traité* IV, 174 & pl. cclxxvii, 7): *pace* RA, but we have Ε – Π – Ι on the reverse, not just Ε, and the facing head is probably Acheloos and not a Gorgon.

The snotty will find the constant appearance of David Sear's admirable *Greek Coins and Their Values* grounds for both tut-tutting and a raised eyebrow, but collector-oriented as it is, one must never forget just how useful and good those books are! Back in the late 1960s, when I dug in Fishbourne, Portchester Castle and Dorchester, Sear's then single volume *Roman Coins and Their Values* was the one book every Roman archaeologist could use to provisionally identify coins found. It is worth pointing out that RE's bibliography consists primarily of books that are easily available to the interested reader, rather than to more obscure specialist works (albeit often more accurate).

While I have spent some time pointing out faults, or perceived faults, in this book, I would like to make it very clear that I really do recommend it highly. It is highly readable, filled with enthusiastic idiosyncrasies, and illustrated by coins that are invariably clear and attractive without being sterilely perfect gems, the way they tend to be in the usual books highlighting the artistry of Greek coins (though I could have lived without the dig on Alexander's cheek – Chapter 35, A-B).

When I was about five, the American *Life Magazine* produced a series on the history of the Earth entitled *The World We Live In*; and in September 1953 the issue was on the beginning of life through the Dinosaurs. I seemingly got so excited that I ran around the neighborhood showing it to anyone I could catch: among them were the mailman and the local painter, a Glasgow Ulsterman named Jim Sloan who used to regale me with the thrilling tale of him fishing in a dinghy and almost being swamped in the wash when HMS Hood came out on one of her first sea trials. In the same youthful way, though RE is no longer five, I can just visualize him button-holing everyone he could catch at a BNS meeting, and excitedly telling them about the glories of Greek coins! Robin Eaglen wrote this book so that everyone could share that enthusiasm: we can thank him for doing so, and give thanks to Spink for publishing it.

Dr. Walker, who has a degree in Classics from the Johns Hopkins University and a doctorate in Classical Archaeology from the University of Pennsylvania, joined Nomos AG – where he is a Director and Senior Numismatist – after 28 years with the numismatic department of Bank Leu and its successors. He received field training in archaeology in England; later in Athens he worked, under the auspices of the American School of Classical Studies, on the coins from the Agora Excavations. In his years in Zürich Dr. Walker has been responsible for researching and writing some of the world's finest numismatic auction catalogues.

R. J. Eaglen, *In Celebration of Greek Coinage*, (London, Spink, 2017). 229 pp., many illustrations. Cloth, with dust jacket (£40)

Other books mentioned in this review (all available from Spink, www.spinkbooks.com) are:

The Abbey and Mint of Bury St Edmunds to 1279 by Robin Eaglen, BNS SP £55

The Abbey and Mint of Bury St Edmunds from 1279 by Robin Eaglen, BNS SP £45

Greek Coins and their Values Vol 1: Europe by David Sear, Spink, £35

Greek Coins and their Values Vol 2: Asia and Africa by David Sear, Spink, £40

Roman Coins and their Values 4th edition by David Sear, Spink, £35

Roman Coins and their Values Vols I-V by David Sear, Spink, available individually from £45

EAST INDIA COMPANY

COINS & HISTORY

By Peter R Thompson

On 31st December 1600 'The Governor and Company of Merchants of London trading to the East Indies' were granted a Royal charter giving them a monopoly of English trade with the East. A monopoly of trade was important to such an enterprise in order to attract the large investment required and promise a reasonable return. Although the grant was later extended to merchants outside London and interests were merged (in 1708) to form 'The United Company of Merchants of England Trading to the East Indies' their monopoly was always important to them and had to be defended. Other European nations also had companies trading to the East, England's main rivals being the Dutch and the French, but there were other less formal companies like the Ostend Company and interlopers too who challenged the monopolies of them all. The East India Company was in competition with all

of these when seeking markets in the East and protecting its monopoly.

The story of how a company of London merchants became the vast territorial organization in India and the East which eventually passed to the Crown in 1858 is complex and interesting and can be illustrated by the coins that it used and issued.

For its first voyage which cleared Woolwich in February 1601 the Company supplemented the Spanish dollars (pieces of eight reales) it wished to take to the East with £6000 worth of coins specially struck at the Royal Mint. These were at Spanish weight and fineness and are known today as *Portcullis* coins because of the prominent use of that device on them. These were English versions of the standard trade coins of the day, the Spanish (usually Spanish American) eight reales and its divisions. The Portcullis coins



Portcullis eight reales (sometimes termed 'eight testerns') struck at the Royal Mint for the first voyage

East India Company



Silver coinage introduced for internal use at Madras. Two fanams denomination

were struck in four denominations: eight, four, two and one reales but were only struck for this first voyage. They were not popular in the East and for subsequent voyages adequate supplies of Spanish coins were available.

In order to trade in eastern ports, the Company had to acquire permission, usually termed a 'firman', from the local ruler. The negotiations for these were often complicated and involved commitments on both sides. The Company would usually seek to exclude other European traders to the port but in return may have had to promise support for the local ruler. Such support may have been rewarded by grants of land, the rents of which would defray the Company's expenses. In this way, the Company first became involved in the administration of land and when it was granted the right to settle at Madras in around 1640 it was also given the right that any other local ruler would enjoy, to coin money in local style.

While Spanish coins could be used for buying spices and pepper in the eastern archipelago the Company soon expanded its trade to the Indian sub-continent and there it usually had to convert its bullion into local coins. In the Moghul areas of India (Surat, Bengal and the north in general) the silver rupee was the standard while further south, in the predominantly Hindu regions, gold pagodas and fanams were

in use. Some expense was involved in exchanging Spanish coins into local currencies so the right to its own mint at Madras was very useful. Here the Company soon began producing local pagodas and fanams in gold to purchase its investments on the Coromandel Coast of India. Before long Madras was also striking coins for its own internal use in the garrison and city introducing the silver fanam in 1689 to replace the tiny gold fanam of general currency. In this way the Company first began to influence coinage in India.

By 1692 the Company had obtained a Moghul grant to strike rupees at Madras which they put into immediate effect. These were not for use in the region around Madras which continued to use gold coins for some time. The Madras struck rupees were for use in Moghul Bengal where the Company was developing its trade but did not yet have sufficient influence to be granted a mint.

Throughout the East the Company's factors sold English goods and collected together the homeward cargoes at settlements termed factories. Without these factories (the first of which was set up at Bantam in Java by the first voyage) the ships would have been delayed indefinitely while trading took place. Around some of these factories quite large communities, like cotton weavers at Madras, grew up to supply the Company's needs. In Sumatra, the Company estab-



Madras struck rupee in Moghul style for use in Bengal



The Company's famous star pagoda struck at Madras from 1740. This replaced the purely local types produced since the 1640s



Bencoolen fanam and cash coins supplied by the Madras Mint

Special Feature

lished a system of factories subordinate to Bencoolen to supply its pepper. As the need for a subsidiary coinage grew among the plantations specially struck fanams and cash were supplied from the Madras Mint from about 1687.

Bombay (Mumbai) came into the Company's hands in 1668 and was soon also striking coins for use in the garrison and later for general trade. Like Madras, Bombay was soon producing coins for use elsewhere and generally supplied the needs of Company factories on the Malabar Coast of India.

As the factories grew in economic importance their defence became a concern not just to the Company but to the nation as well. In the mid-18th century, at a time when Britain and France were frequently at war, the French attempted to increase their influence in India by involving themselves in local politics. To counter this, the United East India Company did the same and the era of European led armies in India had arrived. Greater land grants were required to support these armies and soon the Company was administering large tracts of land. Events in Bengal in the mid-18th century led in 1765 to the Company taking over the revenue collection (in effect the civil administration) for the whole of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa and the Company had already opened its own mint at Calcutta in 1757. By the end of the 18th century the Company

was administering vast areas of India and after the Maratha wars of the early 19th century could consider itself to be the paramount power in India.

However complicated the Company's organization and affairs had become, it must be remembered that its original purpose was to make a profit from trade. The basic aim was simply to buy goods in Asian markets, to sell them in Europe and to export as little bullion as possible in the process. Ultimately the Company's administrative functions became more important but they had evolved through a desire to protect and regularize its trade and to collect the revenues of the areas under its control.

As these developments occurred the British Government took an increasing interest in the Company's affairs through the Regulating Act of 1773, the India Act of 1784 and at the various Charter renewals. The Company became little more than the Government's agent in the administration of 'British India' and, although there was no obvious alternative it seemed odd that a trading company should have such powers. The solution was to gradually reduce its trading role by opening the India trade to competition and at the 1833 Charter renewal The East India Company lost its last trading monopoly (The China trade). It became an administrative organization only. The incongruity of a private company exercising rule in India on behalf of the



Bombay Mint. (Top) Tin double pice for local use (Middle) Moghul style rupee in the name of Muhammed Shah (1719-1748) (bottom) Bombay struck fifth rupee for use on Malabar Coast

East India Company



Bengal (Murshidabad)
mohur from the Compa-
ny's Calcutta Mint



Fort Marlboro (Sumatra)
two sukus of 1784 struck
at Calcutta



Penang half dollar 1788

Government was hotly debated in Parliament where it was acknowledged that the Company was '*...the strangest of all governments, but it is designed for the strangest of all empires*'.

Outside India the Company provided coins for its settlements in Sumatra, the Malay Archipelago, Java and St Helena. Examples of these are the silver two sukus struck in 1783/4 for use in Sumatra and the coinage in Spanish dollar denominations struck for use in Penang from 1787 both from the Calcutta Mint but there were many others.

The Napoleonic War brought Java temporarily into the Company's hands from 1811 to 1816 and during this period the Company struck a whole series of coins for the island in gold, silver, copper and tin.

In the long voyages to the East it was important for the ships to have secure ports of call where they could rendezvous and where stores and water could be replenished. It was for this reason that the island of St Helena in the South Atlantic was settled in 1659. When a small coinage was required for the island in 1714 it was the Madras Mint that supplied it. The only subsequent currency supplied specifically to St Helena was the halfpenny of 1821 struck by Boulton's Soho Mint in Birmingham.

In India itself Madras, Bombay and Calcutta were all producing coins in local style. The chief officials at these major factories were

soon termed "Presidents", the regions under their control being "Presidencies". The rupee was coming into more general use at Madras but all three Presidencies were producing rupees at different weight and fineness. Administration would be simpler if all of them were on the same standard and in 1806 the Directors instructed that they should work towards this. They felt also that it was time to move away from the Moghul style of coin to a more European design. It took some time for all three Presidencies to adjust rupees to the same standard and even when they had done so they were still of the old Moghul style. By 1835, though the Company was finally able to produce its uniform British Indian rupee. It showed a portrait of the British king on the obverse and a mainly English legend on the reverse, an unstated but overt assertion of paramountcy. This uniform coinage continued, with a change of portrait after the accession of Queen Victoria, until the handover of control to the Crown in 1858 had been completed.

The immediate reason for the handover to the Crown was the Indian Mutiny of 1857 which led to a fundamental reassessment of the Company's government. The India Act of 1858 took effect on 1st September of that year and Company rule came to an end and the Company lost its administrative function. There was naturally much business that had to be completed



Java rupee for the period
of British rule



Tin doit 1814

Special Feature

before the Company could be formally dissolved on 1st June 1874. It was the United East India Company (the result of the merger of old and new interests in 1708) that was dissolved at that time but what of the old London Company which had been chartered in 1600? It had of course been absorbed into the United Company but had it ever been formally dissolved?

In the 1980s a group of British investors thought not and claimed the right to its name and armorial bearings. They felt it would be appropriate if they could trade in teas as the original company had done. After some years they came into contact with Mumbai-born entrepreneur Sanjiv Mehta who immediately saw the potential for such a business using a name already familiar to millions of people around the world.

In 2005 Sanjiv Mehta secured all the shares in this reinstated enterprise becoming the owner of The East India Company with a right to trade in its name – a remarkable twist for anyone familiar with its history. With a deep understanding of that history Mehta's vision was to rekindle an awareness of what the Company had once been by bringing quality products to a discerning market as the original Company of Merchants had done; to establish an international luxury brand for the modern world while preserving the memory and history of the company he now owned.

His first store was opened

in Conduit Street in central London on 15th August 2010. This flagship store is still the Company's head office but there are now additional stores in the United Kingdom, the Middle East and across the world. Initially concentrating on fine foods, The East India Company Ltd soon expanded into other fields - Publishing, Restaurants, Home Accessories, Silverware and Bullion. This includes the production of collector coins, many of them issued by St Helena, which specifically celebrate the history and heritage of the original Company.

The coins we examined above are tangible connections to The East India Company of old and to the great trade and commerce that joined East and West all those generations ago. The collector coins produced by the Company today remind us, and will remind future generations, of how that came about.

Peter Thompson's interest in The East India Company and its coins was inspired by service in the eastern trades as a young Merchant Navy officer and a lifelong interest in numismatics. He is a member of both the Royal and British Numismatic Societies, the Oriental Numismatic Society, the Numismatic Society of Ireland and the Ormskirk and West Lancashire Numismatic Society and is the author of *The East India Company and its Coins* published in 2010.

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St Helena halfpenny of 1714 struck at Madras



Milled halfpenny of 1821



Bombay rupee at the new uniform standard but still in the name of the Moghul Emperor



Victoria rupee dated 1840



The Company's uniform rupee of 1835 bearing the portrait of William IV



Victoria mohur dated 1841



If you enjoyed this article you can read about many other finely illustrated coins in the new book by Paul Stevens, *The Coins of the English East India Company: Presidency Series – A Catalogue and Price List* from Spink (www.spinkbooks.com), priced at £60 hardback, £40 paperback, plus P+P.



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Forthcoming Event

THE OFFICIAL HONOURS AND RELATED FILM AWARDS BESTOWED UPON SIR CHRISTOPHER LEE, C.B.E., C. St. J.

London, 31 October 2017

By David Erskine-Hill

At Spink we greatly value an international following based upon all manner of wonderful 'collectables'. By way of example, in December 2013 we were pleased to offer a selection of fascinating memorabilia associated with the famous actor Bruce Lee. The auction – a popular and successful event – was held at our Hong Kong office.

In one of those strange coincidences known to auction specialists, we are now delighted to announce another important auction relating to the world of film and cinema, namely a diverse and quite outstanding collection of awards relating to Sir Christopher Lee, C.B.E., C. St. J. (1922-2015).

Popularly known as the 'Prince of Horror', Sir Christopher needs little introduction here. Apart from anything else, his career was distinguished by numerous leading roles in a spate of Hollywood blockbusters, more often than not as a 'baddie' in one guise or another. From Scaramanga in *The Man with the Golden Gun* to Count Dooku in *Star Wars* and Saruman the Wizard in *The Lord of the Rings*, he attracted an international audience of admirers. The list is endless and conjures up all manner of famous scenes, his closing – and memorable – 'Golden Gun duel' with Roger Moore's Bond among them.

Yet Sir Christopher's career – embracing as it did nearly seven decades of diverse and dedicated work – commenced with an equally impressive array of roles. In terms of duels, he famously clashed broadswords with Errol Flynn in *The Dark Avenger* in 1955. In one take – as Flynn's double, an Olympic sabre champion, deftly withdrew from the scene – the Hollywood star threw himself at Lee, slipped and struck him a glancing blow on his right hand: the broadsword's

Lee's mention
in despatches
certificate



By the KING'S Order the name of
Flying Officer C. Lee,
Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve,
was published in the London Gazette on
1 January, 1945,
as mentioned in a Despatch for distinguished service.
I am charged to record
His Majesty's high appreciation.

Archibald Sinclair
Secretary of State for Air





Lee's miniature dress medals

Below: Lee as an RAF Officer at Alexandria in 1942:

'When the Second World War finished, I was 23, and already I had seen enough horror to last me a lifetime. I'd seen dreadful, dreadful things, without saying a word. So, seeing horror depicted on film doesn't affect me much.'



Lee with the 'absolutely fabulous' Joanna Lumley: *'I've always acknowledged my debt to Hammer. I've always said I'm very grateful to them. They gave me this great opportunity, made me a well-known face all over the world for which I am profoundly grateful.'*



Left: 'Lee and Jon Belushi: *'Chris, you are the best in the biz. John Belushi - second best.'*



Lee as Lord Summerisle in *The Wicker Man*: *'a marvellous part in a wonderful story'.*



Furthest left: Lee with his wife Gitte and daughter Christina, Buckingham Palace, 2001.

Left: Lee and his 'World Awards' Lifetime Achievement Award, which was presented to him by Mikhail Gorbachev at a ceremony in Vienna in 2003.

Forthcoming Event

Lee's 'President's Crystal Globe' Award from the 43rd Karlovy Vary International Film Festival; Robert de Niro was likewise honoured on the same occasion.



blade nearly cut clean through Lee's little finger, which 'bled like a fountain'. As recounted by him in his autobiography, *The Lord of Misrule*, Flynn's instant reaction was to exclaim 'Oh, f---!'. His bleeding opponent – stated by *The Guardian* to be 'the coolest actor on the planet' – responded with admirable restraint: 'Quite'.

And who can forget Sir Christopher's role as Count Dracula in the Hammer Productions of the 1960s or '70s, or for that matter his chilling portrayal of the pagan Lord Summerisle in the 1973 film *The Wicker Man*? Some film fans consider the latter as one of his best performances but from a personal perspective Sir Christopher preferred his portrayal of Pakistan's founder in *Jinnah* (1998).

Most of us will no doubt have a firm favourite and this leads to mention of a more specialist cast of fans, among them fellow actors and directors. In his introduction to Sir Christopher's *Lord of Misrule*, Peter Jackson described him as 'an icon; somebody we have grown up with.' He spoke too of a life that was imbued with 'more surprises, laughter and human drama than could be found in any motion picture film'. One surprise to many film buffs will be that Sir Christopher was also a great fan of heavy metal and released his first 'symphonic metal' album in 2010, followed by a second when he was 91!

Of friendships made with fellow actors, the list is as long as it is distinguished but not perhaps as lengthy as his screen credits: the latter gained him an entry in *The Guinness Book of Records*. In fact, Sir Christopher held all manner of records within the film world, among them 'tallest actor in a leading role' and 'most films with a swordfight'. In 2008, as a result of software developed by

the University of Virginia – which mapped the working relationship between 1,250,000 actors in the Internet Movie Database – he was declared the most connected actor living 'at the centre of the Hollywood universe'.

He may not have won an Oscar but, as the actor Nicolas Cage once observed, that didn't matter: because he was cool.

And it doesn't come much better than that!

The Event

The auction will be held at Spink, London on the evening of 31 October 2017 – Halloween, of course – and will be preceded by a special reception.

The sale will comprise around 50 lots, some of them inevitably linked to Sir Christopher's more famous roles in *Star Wars* and *Lord of the Rings*. Hence the inclusion of his Empire Award for Scene of the Year in 2013 – 'Yoda's Duel – Star Wars Episode II: Attack of the Clones' – see front cover illustration. In the previous year he had received the Empire Award for 'Lifetime Achievement'.

It is the eclectic nature of the awards – and their design – that reflects the real joy of the collection. One such is Sir Christopher's 'World Awards' Lifetime Achievement Award, which was presented to him by Mikhail Gorbachev at a ceremony in Vienna in 2003 – it comprises a finely cast bronze figure of a seated Atlas and weighs in at about eight kilos. As its grateful recipient later recalled in *Lord of Misrule*, it was quite a struggle to carry his newly acquired honour off stage: when '...the Pope received his he very wisely made no effort to pick it up'.

In July 2008, Sir Christopher was awarded the splendid 'President's Crystal Globe' award at the 43rd Karlovy Vary International Film Festival; Robert de Niro was similarly honoured on the same occasion.

Sir Christopher Lee, C.B.E., C. St. J.



Lee's UNICEF Award of 2012 and his 'Cinema for Peace' Award of 2014, both presented to him at ceremonies in Berlin, the latter by Angelina Jolie.

The diversity of the collection is further reflected in awards granted for Sir Christopher's well-known support of charitable causes. Cases in point include his UNICEF Award of 2012 and his 'Cinema for Peace' Award of 2014, both presented to him at ceremonies in Berlin, the latter by Angelina Jolie. In terms of overall career importance, however, high on the list is his British Film Institute Fellowship Award, presented to him by Johnny Depp in 2013.

No less important are Sir Christopher's official insignia and awards, including his Knight Bachelor's Badge – he was knighted in 2009 – and his C.B.E. (2001), in addition to such distinctions as a Commander's badge of the French Ordre des Arts et des Lettres (2012). His good deeds were also rewarded by his appointment to Commander of the Order of St. John (C. St. J.) in 1997.

As is well known, he lent valuable service as an RAF officer in the Second World War – he was mentioned in despatches for gallant and distinguished services in 1944 – and the collection also includes his medals from this notable chapter in his life. When Peter Jackson was directing him in *Lord of the Rings* and trying to explain to him how he wanted him to play being stabbed, he quietly asked the director, "Have you any idea what kind of noise happens when somebody's stabbed in the back? Because I do..."

This aspect of active service – in which Sir Christopher had contact with Special Forces as a liaison officer – is one he shared with some notable British actors of his generation. One is reminded of David Niven, who saw action in Normandy in 1944; Kenneth More, who braved the Luftwaffe off Crete in 1941 and Richard Todd, who landed on the end of a parachute near the River Orne on D-Day.

Such experiences left each of them with a genuine sense of humility. It's a rare quality. No wonder that Sir Christopher – and they – will be held in high esteem for generations to come, or certainly by those who understand and value such qualities.

Please contact David (erskine@spink.com) or Marcus Budgen (mbudgen@spink.com) for further details.

For those who wish to attend the sale or receive catalogues, please contact Rita Ariete: rariete@spink.com



COWDRAY PARK POLO CLUB

By Edward Hilary Davis

As readers will remember, this year is the first season of Cowdray Park Polo Club that Spink has been the Sponsor. Spink has designed and produced the highly prized members' and players' badges. The 19th May saw Spink take pride of place at the club in West Sussex for the Spink Cicero Cup. Watched by Spink staff and guests from the clubhouse, a spectacular match was eventually won by Armis Snake Bite, who were awarded specially designed Spink medals – presented by Spink's Thomasina Smith and Edward Hilary Davis.

Later in the year, on July 23rd, Spink was invited to be part of one of the world's biggest days in polo, the Cowdray Gold Cup (the Wimbledon of Polo). Despite inclement weather Spink staff eagerly manned the Spink stand in the trade-park by the pitch, showcasing upcoming auctions of all departments. As part of the relationship with Cowdray, Spink has produced a half-size gold cup – an exact copy with the dimensions halved. As with all great cups, one has to return the gold cup, however, winners and former winners of the Cup (now over sixty years old) may apply for the 'Spink Gold Cup' as a memento of their prodigious achievement.

We look forward to having more friends of Spink at the Polo Club next season and during the rest of this one.



Cowdray Park Polo Club



NEW NOVA SCOTIA BARONET'S BADGE

This month saw the Special Commissions Department manufacture a 'new' Baronet's Neck Badge. Baronets, although not they are not peers, hold the hereditary title of 'Sir' with the post-nominals 'Bt' and rank below Barons and above knights (except for Knights of the Garter or Thistle!).

Unlike English Baronets, the creation of Baronets of Nova Scotia was a scheme devised by James I and Charles I to aid in the settlement of this new colony. In exchange for a Baronetcy, Scottish Gentry were expected to support six colonists for two years and give a sizable sum towards its plantation. 'Cash for Honours' was acceptable in the 17th century! The first was created in 1625.

Charles I gave these new baronets the right to wear a neck badge suspended by an orange tawny ribbon, consisting of a white shield with a blue saltire with an inescutcheon of the Royal Arms of Scotland, Imperially crowned and a blue and gold motto around the outside: *Honestae Gloria Fax Mentis*. Other Baronetcies were not granted a badge until 1929, making this one of the oldest medals in constant use in the British Order of Wear. Each one usually has the surname and territorial designation of the baronetcy engraved on the reverse.

Spink is proud to be the first to produce one of these in several decades – silver gilt, hallmarked and vitreous enamel in a personalized leather presentation box. As there has never been a set or detailed specification for this badge, for nearly 400 years these decorations have been open to slight artistic embellishment. This badge was made from a photograph of our client's predecessor's badge.

For further information please contact
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Forthcoming Event

1890-92 PAYMASTER GENERAL'S SERVICE GREAT BRITAIN'S RAREST REVENUE STAMPS?

Revenue Stamps of the World
London, 24 October 2017

By George James

Over the course of a year Spink sells many remarkable, unique and rare lots. One set of stamps coming up for sale in October's Revenue Stamps of the world auction is unique in that it is the first time in my career I have handled a set of stamps which is so rare, that extensive research had to be carried out to prove the stamps are genuine — not easy when the lot we have consigned is the only recorded complete set and many of the current catalogue listings are erroneous or incomplete.

As a result, the "Paymaster General's Service" issue of 1890-92 is surely one of the most elusive sets of British Revenues in existence. Its story is shrouded in mystery, and in the course of my research I was surprised to discover that the history of these stamps is chequered with misinformation, guesswork and may even be tarred by a very sad story as we will see later...

Who is the Paymaster General?

The Paymaster General is a role which exists to this day, reporting to the Chancellor of the Exchequer. The key responsibility of the position is the payment of government staff, including the armed forces. In 1890, when these stamps were issued, it was a most important position in the British Government, with a growing remit:



Robert George Windsor-Clive,
1st Earl of Plymouth, who held
the role between 1890-92

"The Paymaster General's duties, originally confined to the pay, etc, of the armed services, were extended in 1848 when he absorbed the offices of Paymaster of Exchequer Bills and Paymaster of the Civil Service. He thus became the principal paying agent of the government and the banker for all government departments except the revenue departments and the National Debt Office. In 1872, he took over the duties formerly exercised by the Accountant General of the Court of Chancery."



1890 – 92 Paymaster General's Service

Considering the number of employees and servicemen this covered, and the fact that the types of payments included (but were not limited to) "*salaries, contractors' accounts, subsidies, compensation and payments relating to social and other services, and the payment of retired pay and pensions to officers of the Armed and Civil Services including their widows and dependants*" one quickly is able to ascertain the scale of the task facing.

Early Reports of the Stamps

The first traceable record is this snippet (below) which was sent to Moen's *Le "Timbre Fiscal"* (No. 205, 1891). The text in French reads, "Here is the design of the Paymaster General's Service stamp which was announced during the last month".



The stamps were first reported (in English) in *Morley's Philatelic Journal* (Dec. 1906, Vol. 7 pg. 93), when reporting on information provided by "Messrs. Gilbert & Kohler... fortunate purchasers of Judge Philbrick's fine collection of British fiscals", with Morley stating that "*Besides the stamps, some valuable information with regard to the several series of fiscal stamps came into their possession and this has been embodied in the present work, rendering it an important document for those philatelists who are studying the fiscal issues of this country*" The work they are referring to is *Catalogue Illustré des timbres fiscaux de Grande-Bretagne - Irlande-Ecosse*.

The paragraph continues, "*The somewhat mysterious series of Foreign Bill stamps surcharged "Paymaster General's Service" was supplied gratis to the Paymaster General, who previous to the issue, which seems to have been made in about 1890, had to purchase such Foreign Bill stamps as he required. This however was a matter of rare occurrence, it being stated that from 1890 to July 1892, only 40 stamps were issued to him*".

Recorded examples

The specimen set pictured is — as far as can be ascertained — complete, and comes from the remarkable collection of Oswald Marsh, eminent fiscal philatelist, contemporary of Walter Morley and lifelong stamp dealer.

Eagle-eyed readers may notice the lack of a £1 value, as reported by *Forbin* (1915) *Booth* (1990) and *Barefoot* (2010), although this stamp is not given a price in any of these listings. Barefoot lists this value (and the £2) in brackets for "reported but not seen". Given that the £1 has been given this status in every published catalogue available, and the overall quality of the Marsh collection, it would not be a surprise to discover that even if the £1 was issued, none have survived, particularly when Marsh was able to assemble the rest of the set, and did not leave a space on the page for the 'missing' £1, as was standard procedure across the rest of his collection. So, it would be a truly marvellous story were a reader of the *Insider* to come forward with this value.

A friend and fellow revenue collector was able to help with this article by providing scans of his own two examples (pictured below) overprinted "Specimen", (acquired in 2009 in a mixed lot) and will no doubt be delighted to learn that the handstamps exactly match the Marsh set.

Marcus Samuel owned the 6d., 9d., £2 and £5 values, again overprinted "Speci-



Forthcoming Event

men", which were sold (but not pictured!) by Spink in our 2005 sale of his collection.

Booth reports that "*Specimen stamps are known and also several copies date cancelled in manuscript "1891" and "1892" (probably from a sample book)*", without mentioning which values he has seen. Tantalisingly he finishes, "I know of no mint examples and I have never encountered or heard of any used copies..."

The Mansfield £5 values – a sad story?

Pictured right are two £5 values, originally purchased by an Australian philatelist, who recounted a hazy memory of them coming "*in a bulk lot of Foreign Bill revs I bought via Ruby Auctions in the US*", they then formed part of a swap to the late Peter Mansfield, who wrote about the pair in the December 2007 *Revenue Society Journal* (Vol. XVIII No.3).

Tragically Peter compared these copies to John Barefoot's catalogue illustration, and despite Barefoot's published response: "*The illustration was prepared in the days before scanners. I have taken it on trust ever since, but never found a better photo despite various requests at the time of doing newer editions. Don't reproduce it as 'genuine' as it might be an artist's impression!!*". Peter surmised that: "*After examining them in detail I came to the conclusion that the stamps were genuine, but in all probability the overprints were fake. My only yardstick for comparison was the illustration in Barefoot (2000). This has a well-centred overprint in clear, unsmudged, rounded sans-serif type, while on Dave's examples the overprint lettering is poorly centred, of uneven quality, tall and 'rectangular' rather than rounded – even though, unlike the Barefoot example, it appears to have an apostrophe between the "L" and "S" of "GENERAL'S".*" The article finished with an appeal to readers to help solve the mystery either way. This Article's title? "GB - Forged Overprints".

As a result, it seems, the stamps were

The missing £5 values discovered by Peter Mansfield



lost, as they were not included in the auction of Peter's material after his death, a fact confirmed by examining his archive of scans from that sale. If any reader was lucky enough to acquire the stamps from Peter- all available evidence points to the fact that they are in fact genuine.

Listing Status

In the same December 2007 article, Barefoot is quoted saying, "*I'm in two minds whether to 'delist' this issue as it is really only a control cachet, not a denominating imprint (I think)*", and in the header to his listing he states, "*It is open to debate whether they deserve catalogue status when other precancels are not listed; however, they have been "recognised" in revenue publications since the days of Forbin*".

To his credit, Barefoot also states that they were "*officially requisitioned and used by a Government Department*", and the historical information provided at the start of this article proves the sheer scale of administrative duties, the rationale for their issue, and an idea of the quantities issued. Morley's estimate of 40 issued stamps also justifies the crude nature of the overprint — if it was always known that the number required would be low — why spend money and time on a typeset overprint when a

1890 – 92 Paymaster General's Service

simple handstamp will suffice?

The nuance of the 'Specimen' overprint also gives great weight to their legitimacy, in that on most of the recorded examples the Specimen handstamp has been aimed between rows of the 'Paymaster General' overprint, implying that these were returned to the relevant bodies as Specimens for official reference after manufacture. Most Foreign Bills of the same type have "Specimen" applied as centrally as possible, (or at least at a consistent height/location on the stamp below the portrait).

Given all the available facts, the size of the Government department and the official 'Specimen' overprints I see no reason why these stamps would not be given the same status as Inland Revenue, or Land Registry departmental overprints. Furthermore, the lack of recorded usage seems irrelevant when one considers that "GAOL" overprints on Ely, Gloucestershire and Northamptonshire issues, and early "Matrimonial Cause" issues have a similarly sparse record of usage.

Continuing the Story

I hope that the arguments presented here, along with the first clear scans of genuine overprints to appear for many years lead to more examples of these extremely rare issues coming out of the woodwork. They are certainly discreet and obscure enough that it would be very easy to miss them should you not know what to look for. If Morley was right, and the number provided is below 40, these are surely some of the most spectacularly rare Great Britain Revenues ever issued, and deserve recognition as such. Forbin certainly believed so; putting a price of 260 Francs on the set to 1/-. For perspective, the British South Africa Company £200 on £10 provisional (2 recorded, appearing in today's Barefoot at £2,000) was priced at a comparatively paltry 100 francs!

There are still many questions which need answering.

- Does the 1906-07 *"Catalogue Illustré des timbres fiscaux de Grande-Bretagne - Irlande--Ecosse"* provide a more detailed summary than Morley transcribed in December 1906?
- Did the £1 value ever exist, and if so, are there any surviving copies?
- Where are the missing £5 values which belonged to the late Peter Mansfield?
- And lastly, can any reader add to the 'numbers recorded' table below?

Face Value	Colours	Mint	Specimen	Used
1d.	lilac	0	2	0
2d.	lilac	0	1	0
3d.	lilac	0	2	0
6d.	lilac	0	2	0
9d.	lilac	0	2	0
1/-	green	0	1	0
£1	lilac	0	0	0
£2	lilac	0	2	0
£5	lilac	2	1	0

Total reported: 15, plus unspecified values reported by Booth (1990)

If you have any answers to some of the questions posed in this article or any queries regarding the auction please contact GJames@spink.com

Thanks to the following people who assisted with this article: Andrew McClellan, Dave Elsmore, Dr Mike Tanner.

Taisei
monthly
magazine

NEW PARTNERSHIP

Tokyo, 26 November 2017

From London to Tokyo, Spink-Taisei – a history of the international auctions that paved the way to the development of the numismatic market in Asia.

Spink and Taisei Coins Corporation have both recently celebrated key milestones in their development. Spink, the diversified global collectables auction house is enjoying its 351st year; the Japanese lead coin retailer and auctioneer celebrated its 50th anniversary last April. This year will see a revival of these two companies' long-standing relationship from the 80s-90s, when they were jointly running auctions around the world. The 21st century will see a rebirth of this strong partnership.

The Japanese market is a particularly difficult one to break into and this partnership will offer a unique and direct conduit into the high-end Japanese collector market. It is only through Spink in association with Taisei that vendors from around the world can access this market, as no other non-Japanese auctioneer has ever run local auctions in Tokyo.

Rare coin collectors around the world will still remember the previous Spink-Taisei auctions, which took place from 1986 to 1993 in Singapore, Tokyo and Hong Kong. Their auction catalogues are still sought after and have even become key numismatic reference works for many collectors interested in those prestigious provenances.

This initial series of auctions were a key innovative factor in supporting the development of the Asian and South East Asian coin markets; notably of Asian collectors of Ancient, British, French and Chinese rare coins. These auctions were also major elements in sup-



porting the growth of the first Singapore International Coin Fair (SICF) and a few years later the instigation of the first international coin show in Hong Kong run by the local subsidiaries of the Taisei Stamps & Coins Corporation.

Together Spink and Taisei were leaders in initiating a new international auction model and in offering world class services to many new collectors. One of them, Mr Gerry Pronk, recalled, "I made my living in aviation and that led me often to the Far East ... My first contact with the Asian numismatic world was the local dealer in Singapore, Mr. B.H. Lim from Taisei Stamps & Coins Singapore...For me, the revival of Spink-Taisei is a great news. As a collector of Dutch colonial coins, I found the best material in the auctions, especially in the ones that took place in Singapore. The [first of these in] 1986 offered a lot of material in my area. In those years, I was always advised and helped by very professional and capable numismatists like Mr B.H. Lim and his colleagues at Spink London. I was able to form my collection with nice and rare material at very reasonable prices. Through the auctions, I built up a very personal friendship with these experts, a friendship that still exists and has enriched my life. I welcome the revival of Spink-Taisei and wish you a lot of success. I am sure that collectors will find a lot of interesting material in Tokyo."

But how did Spink and Taisei first join forces? Taisei Coins Corporation was created 50 years ago in 1967. Headquartered in Tokyo, it expanded to Singapore early on by creating a wholly-owned subsidiary Taisei Stamps & Coins Singapore Ltd. in 1980.

In the 1970s, the Japanese collectors' coin market

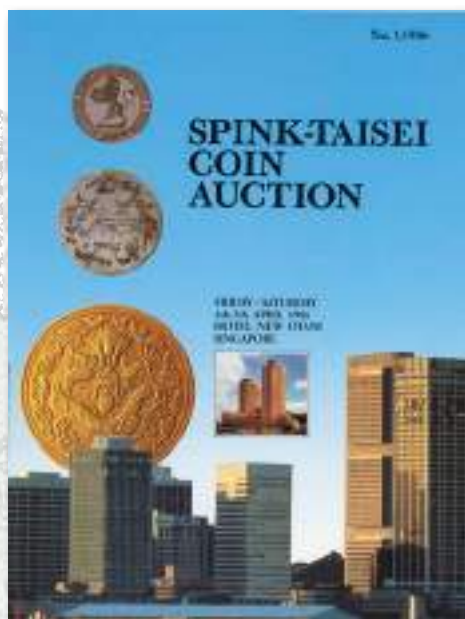
New Partnership

was experiencing an exponential growth thanks to Taisei's efforts in promoting foreign numismatics and especially in introducing the commemorative and bullion coinages of various European mints such as the British Royal Mint and Monnaie de Paris. In 1977 and 1978, they ran their two first auctions in Tokyo, which mainly featured Japanese coins and medals, and they started developing a strong relationship with Spink in order to source prestigious, rare British and world coins to feed the appetite of the growing number of collectors.

Spink's first modern auction took place in 1977 in London. This was quickly followed by an expansion into auctioning rare coins not only in the UK but New York, Zürich, Sydney and Melbourne too. By the mid-80s Spink had held over 50 prestigious auctions over 10 years.

However, both markets had to wait until 4-5th April 1986 to see the first Spink-Taisei auction in Singapore at the new Otani Hotel. By that time, Taisei's Singaporean subsidiary (which was created in 1980) was pursuing its goal of capitalizing on the South East Asian numismatics market and the benefits of the geographical centrality and the modern infrastructure which Singapore could offer. For Mr. Masamishi Oka, Chairman of Taisei Stamps & Coins Co, Tokyo, Japan, this auction was "to raise the standards of collecting in the AESAN region (...) promote Singapore as an international auction centre for rare coins (...) sincerely hoping that this auction will be a valuable contribution to the pleasures of coin collecting".

As Douglas Lidell, then Spink's Managing Director, stated in his opening statement of this first joint auction, "Singapore was bridging the gap between Japan and the West. Associating with



Spink came as the right expansion since the two companies had built up a long-standing relationship".

Meanwhile, the need for a live international auction, offering rare World coins and medals, grew stronger in Japan. After a

successful *Première* together in Singapore followed by a few others, Spink-Taisei decided to expand their model to suit an ever-growing, sophisticated Japanese clientèle. Finally, on 3rd July 1988, Spink-Taisei jointly ran the first numismatic auction in Tokyo. The catalogue included a fine selection of Japanese, British, French, Prussian, Chinese, Hong Kong, US and other ancient and world gold and silver coins.

This partnership was instrumental in further capturing the interest of Japanese collectors for foreign coins and medals, especially British coinage. A second auction in Tokyo (Auction No 7) took place one year after on 2nd July 1989. Shortly after, both auction houses agreed on an additional location for the group in Zürich, managing many auctions under the name Spink-Taisei Numismatics Ltd Zurich which gathered and catered to European ancient, Renaissance and vintage coin collectors.

In Asia, the auction consortium ran ten auctions over the following years in Tokyo and Singapore. When

Taisei decided to launch a new international coin show in Hong Kong in 1990 at the Holiday Inn, Golden Mile, Kowloon the HKICC, it came as a logical conclusion to involve Spink for the first international auction there to support this show. Auction 11 took place on 5th September 1991 at the HKCS. A few more prestigious joint auctions followed, including other partners, such as the American Ron Gillio Numismatics.

Over the years collectors have enjoyed a very fine variety of rare



New Venture

From left to right: Mr Oka, Muriel Eymery, B H Lim (Taisei Singapore owner-partner and initiator Singapore SICF show), Kenta Kutsumi – Taisei auction manager



offerings from both auction houses to suit their collecting interests, among which were an extremely rare Una and the Lion gold proof coin, an extremely rare silver essay 1 Tael dated Year 16 (1890) of Kang Hsu Shansi Province, a 1910 Yunnan silver dollar, the famous rare 1899 specimen gold Hong Kong Dollar and rare hand-painted bank trials from Thailand.

On the 21st April 1993, Spink was sold to Christie's. This, unfortunately, marked the end of a long successful partnership which saw many world-class, famous collections come under the hammer, such as the R.J Ford Collection of Strait Settlements and Myanmar (Burma coins), and the Amon Carter Collection of New Zealand and Indian and West Samoa banknotes.

For corporate reasons, Christie's decided to cease third-party joint auctions, forcing Spink and Taisei to end their business relationship. Nevertheless, the two companies have stayed close and continued sharing their enthusiasm for further promoting coin collecting to the Asian market and supported shows in the region with parallel auctions.

Today both companies look forward to reviving their successful history and tradition of excellent service with the resurrection of the Spink-Taisei auctions in Japan this November.

B.H. Lim of Taisei Stamps & Coins Singapore Ltd. was involved with setting up the first Spink-Taisei Auction of coins, banknotes and medals in Singapore on 5 April 1986. He states that he has: "... welcomed this new initiative heartedly, I am glad that after so long, the Spink-Taisei auctions are going to be revitalised in Tokyo. I am also confident that with Spink and Taisei Coins Corporation at the helm, collectors all over the world can look forward to a more vibrant market".

There will be a small preliminary sale

held by both auction houses on 26th November 2017, a taster event to whet collectors' appetites, including Japanese, Chinese, British gold and silver rare coins and sets, a rare selection of French and Monaco gold and silver piéfort sets and the first part of the Hubert Larivière Collection of modern French essays, (former Chief Engraver of Monnaie de Paris). Banknote lovers will also be able to enjoy a fine selection of French specimen and circulating banknotes amongst other fine rarities.

The sales will be conducted live online in Japanese, English and Chinese as both companies are dedicated to making the auction as accessible and enjoyable for clients as possible.

The second major auction will take place at the Tokyo International Coin Convention in 2018. Taisei has been running the official auction of the TICC, the largest show in Japan, for many years and we could not have hoped for a better spectacular venue!

Mr Oka, of Taisei Coins commented: "It was the first partnership between Spink-Taisei that brought the very first international numismatic auction to Japan, since then we have enjoyed thirty years of harmonious relations with Spink to continue to bring the finest coins to the market. Collectors can be reassured that when these two globally reputable companies come together again there will be not only the finest coin auction seen for many years, but the future of coin sales in Japan. Both vendors and buyers will have experienced a streamlined and dynamic means to success."

Spink are always seeking new ways to bring high-quality material to collectors and are very excited



New Partnership



Hubert Larivière featured in the Taisei magazine

about the prospect of joining forces with Taisei Coins for this venture into the Japanese market. Olivier Stocker, Chairman and CEO at Spink, reflected on the venture:

"We are honoured that Taisei Coins are working with us again in the Japanese market,

and I hope that both Spink's and Taisei's commitment to customer service and providing outstanding quality material will pave the way for strong auctions with many happy customers. We feel very strongly that this partnership with Taisei is a natural step forward in global expansion for the company. These two initial auctions will truly allow us to hit the ground running in the Japanese market."

Spink is well known across the globe for consistently breaking records in diverse areas of coin collecting. By having a professional presence in five different countries, Spink is in the unique position of being able to sell material to the most

suitable market, achieving optimal results for our customers and collectors alike.

Earlier this year, the Spink London auction room saw a 1679 Charles II (1660-85) Five-Guinea piece achieve a record breaking £180,000 against Spink's earlier record from 2015 for a Charles II 1673 Five-Guineas which sold for £162,000. This year Spink has also seen a fantastic price for a territorial California gold \$50 from 1852. This stunning coin fetched an astounding \$172,600 in New York. That sale also saw a great price for an Italian Joachim Murat (1808-1815) 1810 40 franchi which realized \$91,900. The Spink office in Hong Kong also frequently sees great results for coins. Already this year, Spink China had the pleasure of selling a China for Tibet, Anonymous (c. 1902/03), "Lukuan" (Lu Guan) Rupee for HK\$432,000 - a wonderful result for a very rare coin.

Spink is confident that these auctions will lead to further strengthening the partnership between Spink and Son and Taisei Coins Corporation for the benefit of Asian collectors. As well as these auctions organised by the biggest Japanese dealer, and the longest established UK dealer and auction house in numismatics, there are plans to extend the publishing side of the business in a joint enterprise to better service our customers.

We still welcome your consignments for the Spink-Taisei April TICC show's official auction. Please contact one of our local experts or Muriel Eymery directly or at one of the many upcoming shows Spink is attending to capture this rare opportunity to sell your coins, medals and banknotes to Japanese and world clients in Tokyo.

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THE BRUCE SMART COLLECTION OF COMMONWEALTH BANKNOTES PART TWO

London, 27 September 2017

The second half of the Bruce Smart Collection of British Commonwealth Banknotes is upon us at last. I know there are several collectors who have been waiting for this sale for years, and everyone here at Spink is very excited about it. This auction features Commonwealth countries beginning with letters H to Z. By chance this includes most of the Southeast Asian, and a large percentage of the British African notes. Both these regions are renowned for having climates inimicable to paper, so, it is no small feat that Bruce has managed to gather together such a range of wonderful condition and moreover, original, banknotes.



Lot 465

Board of Commissioners of Currency, Malaya and British Borneo, \$100, 21 March 1953,
a superb original about uncirculated, very rare in higher grades
£6,000-8,000



Lot 528

Government of Sarawak, \$25, 1 July 1929, choice very fine, and clean and very presentable example of a rare note
£7,000-9,000



Banknotes Auction

THE MEDICI COLLECTION OF ITALIAN BANKNOTES

London, 27 September 2017

It is not often that any collection of this scale comes to the market, especially from an old European country. As the name implies, The Medici Collection comprises the most extensive offering of Italian banknotes we have ever auctioned at Spink. It includes both private banks and state issues from the length and breadth of Italy, and we are sure this variety will prove attractive to collectors and researchers alike.

Lot 282

Federal Biglietti Gia Consorziale, 1000 lire, law of 1874, a presentable fine and a very attractive and rare note.

£1,800-2,200



THE LION AND SHAMSHIR COLLECTION OF PERSIAN BANKNOTES

London, 27 September 2017

The banknotes produced by The Imperial Bank of Persia are among the most handsome issues in the history of world currency. With their striking colours, often in shades of pink and green, the dignified portraits of the Shahs and the fine engraving and calligraphy, these notes showcase the very best of Bradbury Wilkinson and Waterlow & Sons. The series is highly collectable, in part due to the myriad of cities in which the notes were issued, most of which are represented here.



Lot 26

Imperial Bank of Persia, 100 tomans, Yezd, 18 June 1918, 'PAYABLE AT YEZD ONLY', very fine. It is believed only about 100 examples were unredeemed in the first half of the 20th century. Of the greatest rarity and an exceptional piece.

£15,000-20,000

Forthcoming Event

WORLD BANKNOTES

London, 27–29 September 2017

The World Banknote sale this September is a magnificent affair of almost 2000 lots. It includes spectacular selections from Fiji, Canada, Indonesia, and The Netherlands and its Colonies, among others. As ever, we look forward to a lively and well-attended auction with competitive bidding.

Lot 1939

Government of Iraq, obverse and reverse die proofs for 100 dinars, 1931, good extremely fine, excessively rare and a wonderful item. £20,000-25,000



Lot 2464

Spanish Philippines, El Banco Espanol Filipino de Isabel, 10 pesos, Manila, 1 January 1865, original paper still retaining good body, thus fine. An exceptionally rare note in fantastic condition for an early large format note. An utterly remarkable note. £8,000-12,000



Banknotes Auction

CHARITY SALE OF BANK OF ENGLAND NOTES

London, 6 October 2017

A sale of low and 'lucky' numbers of the new polymer Bank of England £10 for the issue of 14 September 2017. All proceeds are to be donated to the Bank of England's three chosen charities; Bliss, Myotubular Trust and The Lily Foundation.

Bank of England, Victoria Cleland, £10 on polymer, ND (14 September 2017), orange-brown, Queen Elizabeth II at right, transparent window at left with portrait of the Queen and view of Winchester Cathedral, the latter highlighted in gold. To the right of Winchester Cathedral is a quill, which shows as orange or purple depending on angle of view. Reverse orange-brown, a portrait of Jane Austen. To her left is an illustration of Elizabeth Bennet, the central character in *Pride and Prejudice*. A foil silver image at left depicts Winchester Cathedral.



STAFF PROFILE: THOMASINA SMITH

To those of you who collect Banknotes, Thomasina will be a familiar figure. One of Spink's youngest employees and our first female auctioneer in London, here she tells us how her career has progressed since starting as an intern four years ago.

Where and how did it all start?

My first involvement at Spink was when I was sixteen, and came here to gain some work experience. Coincidentally that was the same week Spink famously sold the Victoria Cross group awarded to Private S.F. Godley, Royal Fusiliers for £276,000. This was my first experience of a major London auction house and I was lucky enough to meet some significant collectors whose passion was unmistakable. It was a completely new world of which I had no experience, but I now realise that, even in those early days, my enthusiasm for the opportunities that lay ahead had begun to form. After my work experience, I went back to school to complete and pass my A levels. On returning to school and talking to my friends I realised how fortunate I had been to have had the opportunity to work at Spink.

Why Spink rather than university?

Upon completing my A levels, I realised I had a big decision to make. I already had a place at university, reading architecture, but I also had an opportunity to take up an internship at Spink. None of my friends or careers advice officers were aware of what this might entail, or where it might lead. As a compromise, I decided to defer my place at university and take up the internship. It was during this period that I had time to reflect on my decision. I looked at the position of some of the post-graduate leavers and many were simply not using their degrees or had no obvious career path. Given the additional time I had at Spink, and how much I was enjoying the work I was doing during the internship I made the judgement that this was the right career path for me.



And your career path so far?

My career at Spink started nearly four years ago when I first joined the internship scheme and was seconded to the auction team where I assisted them in the lead up to and on auction days. My time was then split between the auction team and the Banknote department. Time went quickly and I discovered a real interest in banknotes and continued to pursue a career in this field. After the internship I had to formally apply for a position within the company. After the application, and an interview, my position was secured after a baptism of fire when I was drafted at extremely short notice to conduct part of a live auction. Heart rate through the roof, I stepped up to the rostrum, picked up the gavel and the rest is history!

Why Banknotes?

I find my job very interesting and banknotes continue to fascinate me with their function and beauty. They are tangible objects, and I enjoy the fact that you can handle them. Everyone needs money and every banknote represents its country. Paper money represents the economic, political, historical and social development of each and every nation, or issuer. Banknotes are produced to the highest standard of technological and artistic ability and embrace complex designs to prevent forgery. The Spink banknote department is globally renowned and has an international presence of which I am proud to be part.



The most enjoyable part of your job?

I am now an integral part of the entire process - from clients, to consigning, researching and from cataloguing to selling. I enjoy all aspects of my job, but the researching and the cataloguing gives me an insight into and knowledge of the new and rare material we offer. We never know what banknotes may be consigned to us. In receiving old collections that have been cherished over many years by their owners we often discover new banknotes or rare varieties which without our expertise would go unnoticed, but which once researched and catalogued are keenly bid over in the auctions.

Do you collect?

I am not a collector but if I were to collect banknotes I would collect any notes printed by Waterlow and Sons. Waterlow and Sons was a major worldwide printer of banknotes, stamps, bonds and share certificates from 1810 to 1961. They played a major part in designing some of the most classic and beautiful British Commonwealth and world banknotes for over 150 years, throughout the Victorian era and into the 20th century. In my opinion, they were the best engravers of all time, with a very distinctive style and exquisite designs. Most notes produced by Waterlow are extremely scarce because generally the issue numbers were quite low. There were also many political and geographical changes in the countries and governments they were designed for, particularly South America and colonial Africa.

The highlights?

My proudest moment at Spink was taking my first auction when I was just eighteen years old, and I was delighted and proud to be first female auctioneer for Spink London. I have since conducted many sales including setting a world record when selling a set of Cassa Mediterranea di Credito Per L'Egitto - a short lived Egyptian series of notes produced by the Italians during the Second World War - for a total price of £108,000

What do you do outside work to relax?

In my spare time I love to paint, visit art galleries and museums, and to travel. I try and find anything that doesn't involve banknotes but, amusingly, cannot seem to escape them! No matter what country I am in now, I recognise landmarks, locations, people and objects featured on the banknotes.

And finally, what advice would you give to anyone wanting to get into the auction/banknotes world?

I love my job and would recommend a similar career path to anyone. My best advice to someone who wants to get into the auction world is to find the specialist area that interests you. With a genuine interest, you will find your enthusiasm growing daily and you will gain knowledge quickly. Furthermore, collectors and colleagues will invariably respond positively to such enthusiasm. Finally, seize opportunities you are given and create new ones where you can. With hard work and time, you will create a niche for yourself.

Spink's Global Internship

Spink offers paid internships throughout the year aimed at those with an interest in collectables or looking to make a career in the auction business.

Applications are now being accepted for placements of three to six months in all our departments globally. During the internship. Candidates will be placed in positions which will enable them to fully experience and participate in the day-to-day workings of an international auction house.

We are looking for highly organised individuals able to work under pressure while remaining good humoured

and accurate; team players with a flexible approach and an ability to communicate with people at all levels to provide a high-quality service to clients. Applicants need to be well presented along with excellent spoken and written English.

If you are interested in this opportunity. Please email your CV and a covering letter to jobs@spink.com describing your reasons for applying, in particular, and as well as what you hope to achieve from the internship.



BRITISH HISTORICAL MEDALS OF THE 17TH CENTURY

Struan Bates interviews Jerome J. Platt about his new book, recently published by Spink...

Your new book is a companion work to one previously published. Tell us more...

British Historical Medals of the 17th Century: Books, Authors, Medallists, Collectors and Antiquaries covers the medallists, authors, collectors, medal dealers and booksellers associated with the ECW period, with expanded coverage to include British medals 1600 - 1688. It's a companion to our earlier work, *The English Civil Wars: Medals, Historical Commentary & Personalities vols. 1 and 2* (also published by Spink), which drew together detailed information on some 900 individual medals reflecting some 400 subtypes of medals in private and public collections.

What were medals typically awarded for during the period?

It was during the English Civil War that the issuance of military medals came to be more of a common practice and the present system of medals began to be established. For example, medals such as those for the battles of Edgehill and Dunbar were created and awarded by King Charles I and Parliament respectively. In their conception, these generally correspond to our present campaign medals. While the Royalist medal for Edgehill was likely intended for issue to senior officers and thus may be seen to also be a continuation of the practice of rewarding leaders, but not common soldiers, the Dunbar medal was the first medal intended for issue to all ranks as a reward for their participation in that battle. Unfortunately, however, the few medals that were created were

probably given to senior officers, Parliament never having appropriated the funds to pay for a general issue of the medal to all participants, numbering about 10,000.

The ECW also saw the implementation of a practice, on both the Royalist and Parliamentary sides, of awarding medals to individuals for acts of bravery in much the same way as is the case for present-day gallantry awards. Among these early awards were the Royalist 'Forlorn Hope' medals which can be identified as a military reward to individual soldiers of all ranks. Preceding and during the ECW, awards of money, food and drink also continued to be given by commanders: one can easily see how a 'Forlorn Hope' party would particularly be grateful for the latter on the evenings before (and after) an assault on a castle or other fortified position!

An important aspect of collecting British military medals is being able to carry out research on specific recipients. This is not possible for most ECW medals, however, as in almost all cases the medals were not named and what little paperwork existed is now gone. Luckily, a very few award documents have survived with the accompanying medal and these can provide the names of the recipient. One of these medals, together with the award document signed by Sir Thomas Fairfax and issued to a soldier under his command — identified as 'Mr. John Sharpe' — remained in the possession of the recipient's family and in 2005 was gifted by his descendants to the BM's Department of Coins and Medals.

During this period, unique awards were



A small 'General Fairfax medal' (m.l.l. 318/151; 25 x 21 mm.) Of the type which was awarded to Mr. John Sharpe and recently given to the British Museum. Image courtesy the Trustees of the British Museum.

Jerome J. Platt Interview

also created for award to individual officers: Capt. John Smith and Capt. William Rainsborough were two recipients of early gold medals.

Were medals equally bestowed on both Royalist and Parliamentary sides?

Generally, the Royalists paid attention to medals more so than did the Parliamentarians. Royal warrants were written for several medals, including the 'Forlorn Hope' medal, and the medals awarded to Capt. John Smith and Sir Robert Welch (or Welsh, Walsh). The Commonwealth did catch up later when it issued a series of medals to sea commanders, including Admirals Robert Blake and George Monck and a number of captains and other officers. Parliament also issued a warrant for the manufacture of a very expensive (£800) 'jewel' in precious metals and enamels to be awarded to General Sir Thomas Fairfax on his victory at Naseby in 1645. This jewel now resides at Seaton Delaval Hall, Northumberland.

Display of a medal could cause problems for an individual if it reflected loyalty to the 'other side.' For example, the wearing of a medal with the portraits of the past or present sovereign (or Protector, in the Case of Cromwell) could have disastrous consequences if the particular ruler was out of office!

Thus, during the Protectorate, owners of medals or badges of Charles I or Prince Charles took care to either destroy them or to wear them in a concealed manner, while after the Restoration former Parliamentary supporters could not be seen wearing 'their side's' medals. In the former case, surreptitious wearing of small medals bearing the portrait of Charles I, particularly 'funeral medalets,' appears to have continued, these being broken out for more public display after the Restoration.

Have you any personal favourites?

My favorite medal, while quite rare, is an anomaly in that it has the characteristics of rarity, *base metal* composition, physical *unattractiveness* and *less than pristine* condition. This medal, illustrated on next page, was likely, as was noted by Herbert Grueber in the plates volume accompanying *Medallic Illustrations...*, "...executed as a military reward in some beleaguered place where an artist could not be found...it may have been only a badge made for some persons as could not procure those of silver."

Which medals are rarest or most prized?

I mention a medal or two in the book that have sold in the rarified £50,000+ range: these are unique pieces connected with specific events and have the provenance to support the connection. One example is the unique 'Dominion of the Sea' medal in gold owned by Charles I and given by him to Bishop William Juxon a few weeks before the former's execution. This medal recently sold for \$375,000!

Another, the 'Juxon medal,' is actually a gold pattern five-unite coin which Charles I gave to Juxon while on the scaffold. Here we have two very rare numismatic items with unique and historically important connections to an important historical event. In the first case, the medal was unique and remained in the unbroken possession of the Juxon family until 2010. In the second case, the coin, one of two identical pieces given to Juxon, had passed from Charles I to Juxon, to his niece, then to prominent collectors and finally, after auction at Sotheby's and Spink, to the British Museum. The price paid by the Museum when the piece was acquired in 1896 was £770.



A Charles I memorial medal of the kind often worn concealed by his followers after the ECW. In silver-gilt. (M.I.I 361/235; 21 x 17.45 Mm.). Author's collection.



A locket or 'funeral medalet' in silver-gilt worn by royalist supporters after the execution of Charles I. In silver-gilt (m.I.I 366/249, 21.7 X 19.6 Mm.). Author's collection.

Jerome J. Platt Interview



The Charles I, crowned, medal in pewter, civil war period, now in the British Museum Collection (m.l. 367/251; 39.7 X 29.7 mm.). Image courtesy Trustees of the British Museum.

What originally sparked your interest in the field?

My interest in English Civil War medals was part of an evolutionary progression. In 1974, having had an interest in British military history from a very early age, I was a collector of British militaria – uniforms, headdresses, swords, Victorian campaign medals and badges – until one day I came across an ECW medal. From that moment on, I realized that I was a *medal collector* – I now held in my hand a piece of history, in the form of a small work of art, which could be connected directly to a time, place and perhaps, if I was lucky, a person who had participated in history. Of course, I had tapped into the medal collector's true passion – the story of the man or woman behind the medal.

Soon afterwards I came across a Parliamentarian medal for the victory at Dunbar for sale. Although unnamed, as were almost all other medals of the ECW period, it was clearly associated with a time, place and person – Oliver Cromwell – and evocative of all that had occurred in that internecine war.

Over time, as I came across other medals from the period, I became increasingly interested in the many variants that existed and I began to see these medals as very personal; it was likely, for instance, that these medals, except perhaps those to very senior officers, were worn constantly throughout a soldier's or officer's period of service and even his lifetime. In this regard, it is interesting that the 'Forlorn Hope' medal appears to have holes for sewing it to one's jacket, jerkin, or other article of clothing.

As time went on and as my collection grew, I also became interested in the medalists who had designed and made the medal. Soon the ECW period became the single focus of my collecting. Being a researcher by both inclination and profession, I began delving deeper into ECW medals and the people connected with them, and being an academic, of course I began keeping copious notes of what I had

found: I should say 'we' rather than 'I', as my wife, whom I had caught peeking over my shoulder as I worked on my collection, soon occupied a seat at the table, and we became a research team.

The unique view we've taken in the new book is to integrate detailed information on ECW and 17th century medals in connection with the historical background and personages associated with them, either as subjects, medallists, collectors, authors or sellers. This simply does not exist elsewhere in print.

British Historical Medals of the 17th Century: Medallists, Books, Authors, Collectors, Booksellers & Antiquaries by Jerome J Platt and Arleen Kay Platt, Published by Spink, £50 plus P&P

The English Civil Wars: Medals, Historical Commentary & Personalities vols. 1 and 2, by Jerome J Platt and Arleen Kay Platt, Published by Spink, £85 plus P&P



The 'juxon medal'. Although often referred to as a 'medal', this gold piece is actually a pattern for a five unite (five pound) coin (m.l. 374/270; 38 mm.). Image courtesy of the Trustees of the British Museum.



The full interview of this Q&A session can be read on englishcivilwar.org. Struan Bates is a writer and producer. He is the editor of englishcivilwar.org.

TRUST YOUR COINS AND NOTES TO THE EXPERTS



Coin grading & authentication

NGC is the world's largest and most trusted third-party coin grading company because of its accurate, consistent and unbiased grading, backed by the industry's strongest guarantee of grade and authenticity.



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ISLAMIC COINS & THEIR VALUES VOLUME 2: THE EARLY MODERN PERIOD BY TIM WILKES

This new book follows on from *Islamic Coins & Their Values, Volume 1: The Mediaeval Period*, which was published by Spink in 2015. *Volume 2* covers the period from the 16th century CE up to the introduction of modern machine-made coinage in the 19th century, and is a price guide to the coinage of the Islamic world from Morocco to China and Southeast Asia; 1485 different types are listed, of which approximately 550 are illustrated. This book is intended to serve as an introductory guide; suggestions for further reading are given at the beginning of each section. To help readers with coin identifications, appendices are included, giving transcriptions of common mint names and proper names of the period.

The world of Islamic coins has always been a somewhat neglected area of collecting. This is a shame, because Islamic coins offer much to interest the collector. The amount of historical information found on an Islamic coin is often greater than that found on a contemporary European coin; since most Islamic coins do not depict images, there is more room for text. Many Islamic coins are aesthetically pleasing due to the artistry of the calligraphy and the styles and designs used. Many Islamic coins of the period covered by this volume were struck in large quantities and are relatively inexpensive today; consequently, it is possible to build a wide-ranging, representative collection even on a limited budget.

The chapters are arranged geographically from west to east, so the book begins with the coinage of the kingdoms of Morocco. The 10th century AH (AH is an abbreviation used in many Western languages for “after hegira,” or its Latin form, “Anno Hegirae”. The hegira refers to a journey that Muslims believe the Prophet

Mohammed took from Mecca to Medina in 622 CE) saw the establishment of the Sa’dian kingdom and the gradual conquest of the remainder of North Africa by the Ottomans (Ottoman coins of the region are listed in the Ottoman chapter). The second half of the 11th century AH saw the collapse of the Sa’dian dynasty and the beginning of that of the ‘Alawi Sharifs, who continue to rule Morocco today.

Chapter Two covers the Arabian Peninsula and East Africa. Most of the Arabian Peninsula was under Ottoman control during the period covered by this volume (again, Ottoman coins of the region are listed in the Ottoman chapter). However, in the 17th century CE the Qasimids gradually took control of the Yemen from the Ottomans; their rule lasted until the mid-20th century CE. Apart from those of the Ottomans and Qasimids, the only other Arabian coins of this period are a few rare issues of local rulers and some anonymous copper coins. East Africa is represented by the coinage of the Sultanate of Harar (in present-day Ethiopia).



Ottoman, Osman III (1168-1171h), AV Sultani, Jaza'ir (no. 3349)

Chapter Three covers the Ottoman Empire, which grew from small beginnings in Turkey to include Syria, the Jazira, Egypt, most of North Africa and the Arabian Peninsula, and at times parts of the Caucasus, Iraq, and Iran. For the early period (up to 1099h), coinage was struck at many mints, and there were a relatively small number of denominations which did not vary too much from mint to mint. For the later period (from 1099h), coinage was restricted to a small number of mints but the number of different denominations was greatly increased and different mints, particularly those in North Africa, developed their own distinct coinages; consequently, the coins of this period are listed by mint.



Safavid, Tahmasp II (1135-1145h), AV Ashrafi (no. 3702)

Islamic Coins & Their Values, Volume 2

Chapter Four covers Iran, the Caucasus, and Crimea. In the early 10th century AH the Safavids conquered the Aq Qoyunlu kingdom and the western part of the remaining Timurid kingdom. In the early 12th century AH their supremacy was threatened, first by the Hotaki Afghans and then by the Afsharids. After the fall of the Safavids, Iran was ruled by the Afsharid and Zand dynasties; reunification was achieved by the Qajars in the early 13th century AH. The mid-12th century AH saw the establishment of various minor Khanates in the Caucasus region, some of which issued coins. In Crimea, the Giray Khans ruled from the 9th century AH until their eventual absorption into the Russian empire.



Khans of Khoqand, Sher 'Ali (1258-1260h), AV Tilla (no. 4099)

Chapter Five covers Afghanistan and Central Asia. During the 11th and early 12th centuries AH most of Afghanistan was ruled by the Mughal emperors of India. However, in the mid-12th century the weakening of Mughal influence in the region led to the foundation of the Durrani dynasty. The Durrani were succeeded in the mid-13th century AH by the Barzaks. In Central Asia, most of the eastern lands of the Timurid empire came under the control of the Shaybanids and later

the Janids. After the fall of the Janids most of the region was divided between the three major Khanates of Bukhara, Khiva, and Khoqand.



Mughal, Babur, 3rd reign (910-937h), AR Shahrukhi (no. 4183)

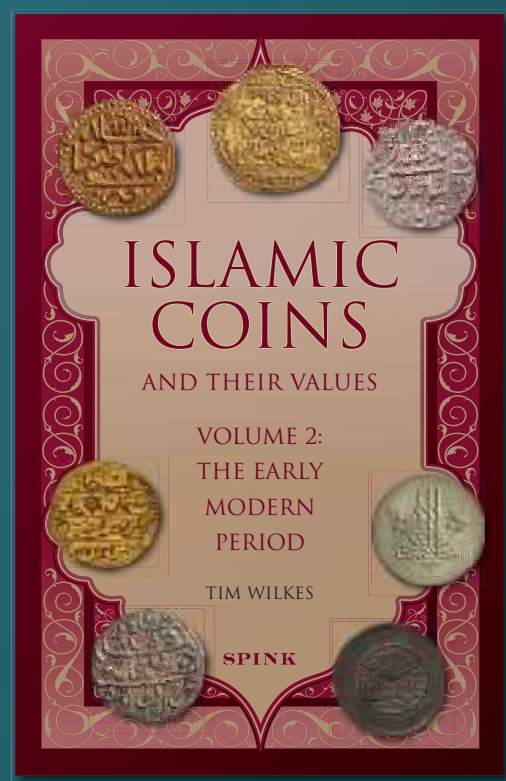
Chapter Six covers India and the Maldives. Mughal rule in India was established by Babur and Humayun, but it was during the reign of Akbar that the empire increased dramatically in size, due to the conquest of the major Sultanates. A few smaller Sultanates held out into the 11th century AH, but all were subsumed into the empire by the end of the century. In the 12th century AH, Mughal influence began to wane and power gradually passed to the various princely states. The area directly controlled by the Mughal rulers grew smaller and smaller, although they continued to be cited on the great majority of princely state coins.

Chapter Seven covers China and Southeast Asia. Although the Xinjiang region of China had long been predominantly Mus-

lim, very little of its coinage was Islamic in style; only coins with solely Arabic legends are included in this book. The 10th century AH saw the establishment of several Islamic kingdoms in present-day Malaysia and Indonesia, the most important of which was the Sultanate of Aceh. By the 13th century AH Western and Chinese influences begin to be seen in the coinage of the region; again, only coins with solely Arabic legends are included.

Islamic Coins & Their Values, Volume 2: The Early Modern Period by Tim Wilkes, published by Spink, £40, available in October 2017

Also *Islamic Coins & Their Values, Volume 1: The Mediaeval Period* by Tim Wilkes, published by Spink, £40. Visit www.spinkbooks.com to order your copy.



Forthcoming Events

BONDS & SHARE CERTIFICATES OF THE WORLD

London, 29 November 2017

Featuring a fine collection of early British Canals, Bridges & Shipping companies, this is a good collection of Chinese Foreign bonds, the first part of an excellent collection of Western United States Railroads, and the final part of the Duppa-Miller collection of United States Gold mining companies.

Below: Solent sea Steam Packet Company, £25 share dated 1841, printed by a local printer in Lymington.



Left: Derby Canal, one share, no. 390, dated 1793. Printed on vellum. The earliest known certificate to mention the building of Railways in the text. Estimate £1,200-1,400.



Below: Stowmarket Navigation, share certificate dated 1792, one of only three known. Estimate £400-500.



Below, Right: Colorado: Fair Play-Mount Sheridan and Leadville Railway Company, a large \$1000 bond, dated 1881. Only 200 issued and only a few reported to exist today. Estimate \$300-400.



Left: Colorado: Silverton Railroad Co., a rare SPECIMEN bond for \$1000 from the American Bank Note Company archive, dated 1888. A narrow-gauge line connecting Silverton with local mining districts. Estimate £200-250.



Bonds and Shares

Left: Vauxhall Bridge Company, share certificate dated 1825 printed on thick paper. Bears an embossed copper seal at the left which is so far unique to this company. Built between 1809 and 1816 to replace a ferry to facilitate the development of the area. Replaced by the current bridge in 1906. Estimate £300-400.

Right: A very rare unissued bond of the Shanghai Nanking Railway. The loan was fully repaid and no issued ones have been seen. Ten unissued bonds were found in a branch of HSBC back in 2007 which were kept to replace lost or damaged bonds. Estimate £1,500-1,800.



Left: California: Monterey and Fresno Railroad Company, a rare issued and uncanceled \$1000 bond from 1893. One of only a handful known. Estimate £150-200.

Forthcoming Event

PHILATELIC COLLECTOR'S SERIES TIFLIS

London, 25–26 October 2017

By Dominic Savastano

It is every philatelist's dream to find an undiscovered rarity in a collection. In over 50 years collecting and 40 years working in stamp auction houses I have made a few discoveries in my time but nothing even gets near to my most recent find.

The scene is Summer Stampex of 2015, and I am on Spink's stand for the Saturday shift. As always it is a pleasure to catch up with old clients, meet new collectors, talk about stamps and the forthcoming auctions.

Along comes a friendly face, a well-known and much respected client from New Zealand who pulls out a stock card with two items on it and asks, "Any idea what these are?"

One of the items was a cut out from a Russian telegraph form of no interest or value, the other item is a rather unprepossessing white square with an embossed design. Could it be? am I right? surely not.... Oh yes it is an example of the legendary Tiflis, the first postage stamp issued in Russia in 1857.

Over the years I have been privileged to handle the Mauritius 1847 "Post Office" 1d. and 2d. stamps, a complete mint sheet of Great Britain £5 oranges, a couple of United States 1918 24c. Air Mail "inverted Jennies" and many other of the world's great rarities but I had never had the opportunity of handling a Tiflis local.

My knowledge of this stamp was sketchy to say the least and came almost entirely from the famous Agathon Fabergé collection of Russia which was sold at auction by H.R. Harmer in London in November 1939. Fabergé had three of them! (No doubt because of his connections with the Imperial Court, since the intended use of the Tiflis was on mail between Tiflis and the summer residence of the Tsar's representative at Kodzhory). In his copy of the auction catalogue Fabergé

had noted, "Four times as rare as the Post Office Mauritius!" above the descriptions of the Tiflis items.

I told the owner that this was something that needed further research but was potentially of considerable value.

History of Tiflis

Tiflis (today known as Tbilisi) is the capital and largest City of Georgia. In the Middle Ages Georgia was a Kingdom but became divided into a number of Princedoms in the 15th century. These were successively annexed by Russia, or conquered by her from Turkey in the years 1810-1878. After the Russian Revolution, Georgia declared her independence on May 1918, in February it was designated a Soviet Republic and in 1923 it was absorbed into USSR. In April 1991, it became an independent Republic.

Because of its location on the crossroads between Europe and Asia and its proximity to the lucrative east-west trade routes, throughout history Tiflis was a point of contention and rivalry between various global powers such as the Roman Empire, Parthia, Sassanid Persia, Arabs, the Byzantine Empire and the Seljuk Turks. The cultural development of the city was naturally somewhat dependent on who ruled the city at various times, although it was generally able to maintain a considerable degree of autonomy from its conquerors.

Various City Posts had existed in the territories of the Russian Empire since the 1830s. The first of these was set up in St. Petersburg in 1833, being followed by Moscow in 1845 with both of these Cities issuing their own postal stationery in 1845. The Russian States issued postal stationery in 1848.

The Tiflis local was the first stamp (as opposed to postal stationery) to be issued in Russia. Although the precise date of issue is not recorded, it was in mid-1857, and so certainly before the first Russian stamps were issued on 1 January 1858.



History of the stamp

The Tiflis local comes from an old, partly stuck down collection in an "Oppens" album (20th Edition 1876) that had been bought in August 2014 in an auction in New Zealand. The owner bought the collection because it was the earliest such album he had ever seen sold locally and, as such, was interesting in terms of philately in New Zealand.

The stamp was eventually sent to the Royal Philatelic Society of London's Expert Committee for their opinion. The owner knew that other items that he had extracted from the old album had been sent to the Society in London and had been given good certificates.

Chris Harman and his team of the Royal Expert Committee studied the stamp in great depth and compared it in microscopic detail with the five known genuine examples and several known forgeries.

Embossed stamps are notoriously difficult to compare since they require a side-light to best see the contours of the design, however there are various parts of the design of the Tiflis local that are very detailed and distinctive and would be practically impossible to replicate.

The results of the comparison with the known genuine examples are indisputable, indeed in every respect the "Patient" was proved identical to the example from the Ex Szymanowski and Kaestlin collection which is held in the famous Smithsonian Collection in Washington D.C.

The paper, which was, of course, handmade – meaning that each sheet was likely to have variable qualities was practically identical when examined by the Brucker XRF-Tracer III Spectrometer.

The Royal Philatelic Society has issued a certificate of authenticity for the stamp and it is now officially the sixth recorded authentic example.

The other five recorded genuine examples are:

1. Ex Fabergé, Stibbe and Mikulski
2. Ex Fabergé, Goss, Mikulski
3. Ex Fabergé, Sir John Wilson, Mikulski
4. Ex Szymanowski, Kaestlin (Now in the Smithsonian Institute, Washington D.C.)
5. Ex Schmidt (Now in the Berlin Postal Museum)

Spink has been instructed by the owner to offer this great world rarity in our October 25-26 Philatelic Collectors Series sale. It is our understanding that the vendor wants to use most of the proceeds of the sale to support organised philately.

The estimate is £70,000-£100,000.

THE DAVID PITTS COLLECTION, BERMUDA PART 2

London, 24 October 2017



1849 'Perot' Postmaster's provisional stamp, S.G. 02.



The famous "Moncrieff" Cover, the only cover known bearing all three values of the 1875 One Penny Provisional issue.

Forthcoming Event

STAMPS AND COVERS OF SOUTH EAST ASIA

Singapore, 28 October 2017



Straits Settlements 1938
\$100 mint
block of four

Straits Settlements
1921-33 Script
\$100 mint



India 1854 4a. (4) on 1856 cover from Singapore to Hamburg



THE YEN BOON SWEE LARGE GOLD COLLECTION OF MALAYAN AIRMAILS

Singapore, 28 October 2017

1911 Ross Smith England to Australia Flight via Singapore.



1934 (September) from Kuching to Brazil and carried on Zeppelin's
9th South American flight.



Stamp Auctions

THE CAERYNN COLLECTION OF SILVER JUBILEE STAMPS AND COVERS OF GREAT BRITAIN AND THE BRITISH EMPIRE

London, 15 November 2017



Great Britain 1935 Prussian Blue, unmounted mint, an iconic rarity.

Mauritius De La Rue frame die proofs.



Papua Large format Hand Painted Essay for unissued Silver Jubilee design. Outstanding.

NEWFOUNDLAND, THE PROFESSOR ALBERT HAMILTON COLLECTION

London, 18 September 2017



1919 (12 April) The "Hawker" Attempt, 3c. brown with large part original gum, initialled "J.A.R." on reverse, exceptionally fine and rare.

2d. scarlet-vermilion, (3,000 printed) good to large margins, unused without gum. One of the major rarities of Newfoundland philately.



1919 (19 Apr.) envelope to London, marked "Per Aeroplane Raymor, by kindness of Major Morgan", bearing well-centred Caribou 3c. brown (deep rich colour) with manuscript "Aerial/Atlantic/Mail" and initialled "J.A.R.", tied by St. John's machine d.s. and showing London arrival c.d.s. (7.1.20) on reverse. A neat cover. Only 30 overwritten examples of the stamp were created and only 16 were believed to have been used as Martinsyde postage. Exceptionally fine and rare.



RECOMMENDED READING

Forthcoming titles from Spink Books



COINS OF ENGLAND 2018

This historic reference work for British coins is still the only catalogue to feature every major coin type from Celtic to the present day, arranged in chronological order and divided into metals under each reign, then into coinages, denominations and varieties. Under Elizabeth II the decimal issues are separated from the pre-decimal coinages, with all decimal coinage since 1968 listed in a separate volume.

The catalogue includes up-to-date values for every coin, a beginner's guide to coin collecting, numismatic terms explained and historical information about each British coin, from our earliest (Celtic) coins, Roman, Anglo-Saxon and Norman coins, the coins of the Plantagenet Kings, the Houses of Lancaster and York, the Tudors and Stuarts, to the more modern Milled coinage, minted for the first time in 1561 during the reign of Elizabeth I. It has been newly revised and edited, and includes many improved images throughout.

From the earliest of times, coins have been used by states or monarchs to communicate with people; Coins of England is therefore not only a reference book for collectors, but a fascinating snapshot of British history, illuminating its economics, technology, art, politics and religion.

Published: 10 December 2017; RRP: £30



CATALOGUE DE TIMBRES DE FRANCE SPINK MAURY 2018

The Spink Maury Catalogue has traditionally provided the highest level of detail for the stamps and covers of France and the French colonies, with thousands of top quality illustrations and prices updated every year. It was acquired by Spink in 2015, and the editors have since endeavoured to make this the premium reference work of its kind.

The catalogue includes stamps on cover, tete-beche issues, blocks, reprints, military mail, specimens, telegraphs, officials, parcel post, booklets, essays, proofs, airmails, precancels, postage dues, imperforate issues, balloon mail, occupation issues, telephone stamps, siege mail and war stamps, and is the authoritative work for any collector of French stamps, or anyone interested in this fascinating area of philately.

The 2018 edition has been newly remade, improved and updated, and will for the first time be presented in two volumes; it is an absolute must for all collectors of French stamps.

'Layout and coverage are sumptuous ... The trite phrase "mine of information" does not begin to do justice to this immense achievement. To any collector of France beyond the elementary stage, this would be a bargain at twice the official retail price ... Highly recommended.' Michael Round, Journal of the France & Colonies Philatelic Society

Published: 9 November 2017; RRP £27.50

For more information, or to order your copy please contact Spink's Book Department:

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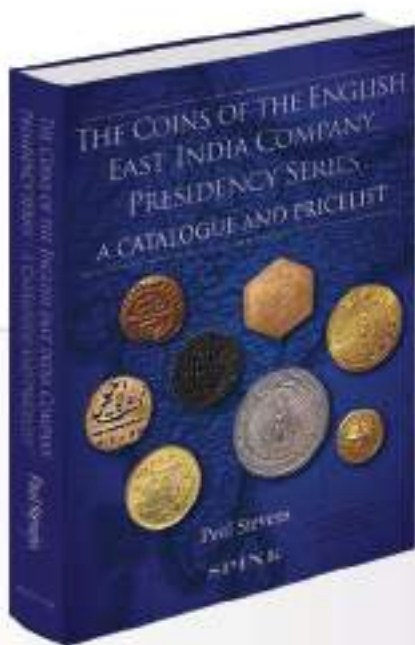
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RECOMMENDED READING



THE COINS OF THE ENGLISH EAST INDIA COMPANY: PRESIDENCY SERIES, A CATALOGUE AND PRICELIST BY PAUL STEVENS

Hardback and Paperback, 562 pages with colour illustrations throughout.

This catalogue presents a list of all coins known to have been issued by the East India Company for use in their Presidencies of Bengal, Bombay and Madras. Each of the main sections covers the coins of one Presidency with chapters on the coins issued from the main mint in the area – Calcutta, Bombay or Madras – as well as chapters on coins issued from local and transitional mints, most of which were not covered in Major Pridmore's seminal work on the subject.

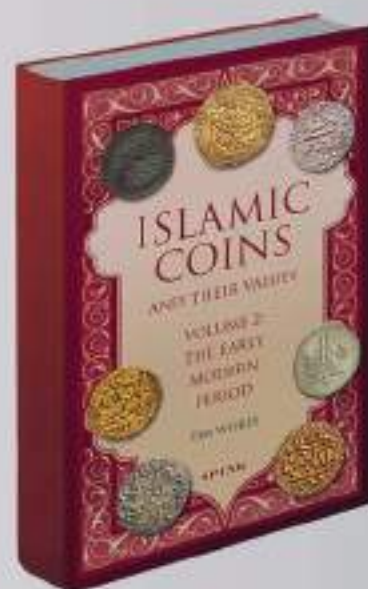
RRP: Hardback: £60 | Paperback: £40

ISLAMIC COINS AND THEIR VALUES, VOLUME 2: THE EARLY MODERN PERIOD BY TIM WILKES

This book is the second volume of an illustrated price guide to Islamic coins; the first volume was published in 2015. The Islamic market has long been hampered by two things: the lack of reliable information regarding values due to the historic volatility of auction prices for Islamic coins, and the lack of general reference works with illustrations. This book is an attempt to remedy both these problems. It is intended as an introductory guide, aimed at the general collector; suggestions for further reading are given throughout the book.

This second volume covers the coinage of the entire Islamic world from North Africa to Southeast Asia, from the 10th century AH (16th century AD) to the 13th century AH (19th century AD). Prices are given for each type in US dollars. There are appendices covering mints and rulers' names, both with Arabic transcriptions. The prices are intended to be retail values - i.e. what a collector would expect to pay to buy the coin from a dealer or at auction (including buyer's premium) - and are based on both auction prices and dealers' asking prices.

Published: 22 September 2017; RRP: £40



BRITISH HISTORICAL MEDALS OF THE 17TH CENTURY: MEDALLISTS, BOOKS, AUTHORS, COLLECTORS, BOOKSELLERS & ANTIQUARIES BY JEROME J. PLATT AND ARLEEN K. PLATT

Hardback, Jacketed, 432 pages with colour illustrations throughout

As attractive as historical or commemorative medals are in their own right and as telling as they are by their designs and inscriptions of the persons or events they honour, they tell us much more: by means of inscriptions, design and allegory, they tell us their age, of their makers, of the purpose for which they were made, the manner in which they were made, and the 'story' their maker wished to communicate.

RRP: £50



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SALE CALENDAR 2017

STAMPS

18 September	Newfoundland, the Professor Albert Hamilton Collection	London	17038
19 September	The Arthur Gray Collection of Australia King George VI Issues	London	17037
19 September	The Windward Islands, Cayman Islands, Jamaica and The Falkland Islands - The David Pitts Collection	London	17024
21 October	The Philatelic Collector's Series Sale	Hong Kong	CSS26
24 October	Revenue Stamps of the World	London	17045
24 October	Bermuda Part II. - The David Pitts Collection	London	17025
25/26 October	The Philatelic Collector's Series Sale	London	17026
28 October	The Yen Boon Swee Large Gold Collection of Malayan Airmails	Singapore	17044
28 October	Stamps and Covers of South East Asia	Singapore	17023
15 November	The Caerynn Collection of Silver Jubilee Stamps and Covers of Great Britain and the British Empire	London	17046
6/7 December	The Philatelic Collector's Series Sale	New York	163
7 December	Brazil: The "Inclinados" Issue on "Bull's Eye" Paper	New York	164
7 December	Rarities of Classic Russian Philately	New York	165

COINS

25/26 September	Ancient, British and Foreign Coins and Commemorative Medals	London	17006
30/31 October	The Numismatic Collector's Series Sale	New York	336
1 November	The Numismatic Collector's Series Sale	New York	336
26 November	Spink x Taisei - Tokyo International Numismatic Auction	Tokyo	
4 - 14 December	The Numismatic Timed Auction	New York	337
6/7 December	Ancient, British and Foreign Coins and Commemorative Medals	London	17007

BANKNOTES

27 September	The Shamshir and Lion Collection of Persian Banknotes	London	17040
27 September	The Medici Collection of Italian Banknotes	London	17034
27 September	The Bruce Smart Collection of British Commonwealth - Part Two	London	17035
27/28/29 September	World Banknotes	London	17009
6 October	The Professor Iain Stevenson Collection and other British Banknotes	London	17043
6 October	Charity Auction of Bank of England Notes	London	17039
10 October	Charity Auction of Scottish Polymer £10 Notes	London	17042
30/31 October	The Numismatic Collector's Series Sale	New York	336
1 November	The Numismatic Collector's Series Sale	New York	336
4 - 14 December	The Numismatic Timed Auction	New York	337

MEDALS

31 October	The Official Honours and Related Flm Awards Bestowed upon Sir Christopher Lee, C.B.E., C. St. J.	London	17047
30/31 October	The Numismatic Collector's Series Sale	New York	336
1 November	The Numismatic Collector's Series Sale	New York	336
4 - 14 December	The Numismatic Timed Auction	New York	337
5 December	Orders, Decorations and Medals	London	17003

BONDS & SHARES

29 November	Bonds and Share Certificates of the World	London	17017
4 - 14 December	The Numismatic Timed Auction	New York	337

AUTOGRAPHS

31 October	The Official Honours and Related Flm Awards Bestowed upon Sir Christopher Lee, C.B.E., C. St. J.	London	17047
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WINES

4 October	An Evening of Fine and Rare Whiskies	Hong Kong	SFW25
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