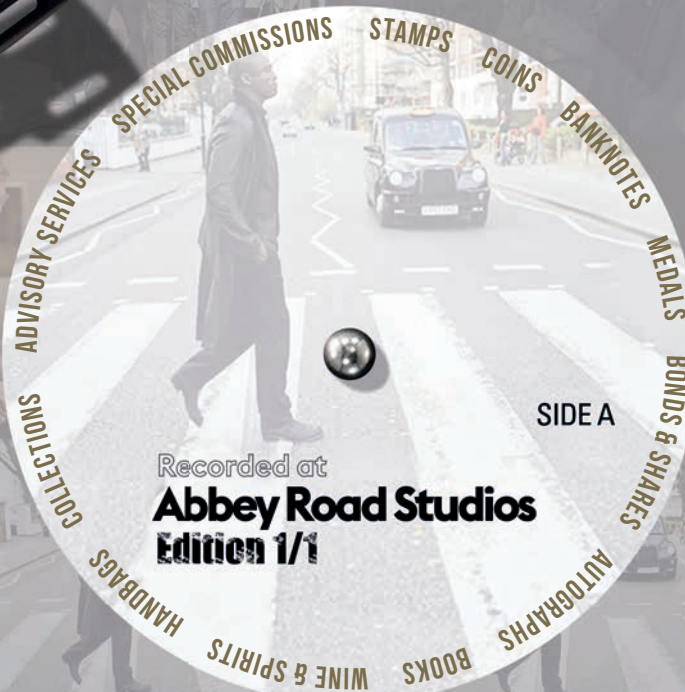


INSIDER

SPINK

ISSUE 33

SPRING 2019



THE MICHAEL GLEASON COLLECTION OF ORIGINAL RECORDINGS FILMED AND RECORDED AT ABBEY ROAD STUDIOS
EARLY BRITISH GALLANTRY AWARDS • IAN FLEMING AND SPINK • COLLECTING ERROR BANKNOTES
DESIGNING FOR THE ROYAL MINT • THE NICHOLAS BRIOT COLLECTION • THE FORTUNE WANG COLLECTION
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SPRING 2019

CONTENTS

- 2 A Word From Our Chairman
- 6 Asia News
- 14 New York News
- 20 London News
- 26 The Story Behind the Cover
- 30 Collector's Corner: The Nicholas Briot Collection
- 34 Collectables Expertise: An Interview with Anya Hindmarch
- 38 Robert Elderton: One of the UK's Longest Practising Modern Coin and Medal Sculptors/Designers
by Emma Howard
- 44 Early British Gallantry Awards
by Peter Duckers
- 52 Ian Fleming, 007: Socialites, Spies, Sex and Spink
by Edward Hilary Davis
- 58 Bank of England Error Banknotes
by Pam West
- 64 Collecting Butterflies: an Exciting Passion of Kings and Tsars
by Vladimir Kachan
- 68 Provenance - is it worth it?
by Gregory Edmund
- 70 Forthcoming Events
- 108 Insider Travel: Myanmar
- 114 Numismatic News

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A WORD FROM OUR CHAIRMAN

Dear Clients and Friends,

A cracking start to 2019 with 20 days of auctions in January ... demonstrating our auction teams do not crack under pressure!

The start of 2019 saw one of the busiest Januarys I can ever remember at Spink, with a total of no less than 15 auctions held over 20 days in our offices globally, shattering world records in every sale location from New York (world record for a Transylvanian 10 Ducats 1696 which hammered for US\$155,000) to London (which saw the climax of the outstanding Allan Williams collection of Saxo-Norman coins, grossing a phenomenal £1,434,310 (HP), and setting numerous records across this historically important series) and Hong Kong (world record for a Chinese dowager stamp at US\$950,000), despite the slightly more challenging context.

Our new year offerings ranged from the Banknotes, Bonds & Shares and Coins of China and Hong Kong, The Lam Man Yin Collection of Small Dragons, Dowagers and 1897 Surcharges and the Fortune Wang Collection of the Treaty Ports of the Shanghai Postal System, Part I (Part II to follow on 21st June – see Forthcoming Events) in Hong Kong to several days of intense numismatic auctions at NYINC, to Part IV of the Williams Collection, the ‘Pegasus’ Collection of Important Classic New Zealand and the ‘Lionheart’ Collection of Great Britain and British Empire in London – truly a global effort, involving many late nights and a huge amount of teamwork from everyone involved.

Collectables markets: fasten your seat belts

In the last issue of the Insider I was talking about stronger ‘headwinds’ in the world of collectables. When I fly from Hong Kong to London, depending on whether we have headwinds or tailwinds, the flight duration can vary by one hour. If you don’t want to lose an hour, the captain has to use more jet fuel on the journey to compensate for the adverse wind. In the world of auctions, it is not



totally dissimilar. If we get headwinds in some areas of collectables, as a consignor, your auction house will have to put in more jet fuel to get to the same result. This jet fuel, more than money, which is important for advertising and PR, is the intensity of the people you've hired, which has to be coupled with the efficiency of their processes. To continue the air travel analogy, we have started to see some air pockets in high profile sales from competitors where items fetch considerably less than what collectors paid for them in the mid eighties. This has been observed so far mainly in some specific areas of Stamps and Banknotes. In Spink's auctions we have also noticed some lighter turbulences in prices.

We have talked about our lack of interest in trying to predict the Brexit outcome (as it is impossible anyway), and I will stick to that as we are days before 29th March, and we still do not know what will happen on the deadline date, even though a postponement seems more and more likely. Brexit is undoubtedly a complication for the collectables world, as London is a pivotal place in that market. Spink has, as you know, probably the most global and diversified business in the collectables world and hence is only lightly exposed to a no-deal Brexit or a sharp slowdown of the UK market. For quite a few years already, our consignors have chosen the best place to monetise their beloved collections, be it in London, New York, Switzerland, Hong Kong, Singapore or Tokyo, even if they only visit our London showrooms.

Hence, Brexit is not that relevant any more. The macro issue which keeps me (only sometimes ...) awake at night, is the trade tensions between China and the USA. This is a major growth driver for the world economy and, even if at the time of writing the ongoing negotiations look promising, we might veer away from a rationale position. Both sides have their hands somehow tied as the US President talks to his electorate to prepare his new campaign in 2020 and the Chinese have an economy facing an unprecedented level of domestic economic challenges. And everything is at the gigantic scale of China. After the lowest GDP growth on record for almost three decades (still at an enviable 6.6% though), it is

estimated for example that China has now 50 million empty apartments, a fifth of its stock of apartments (source: Bloomberg). The good news in all that? The Chinese are very good at macro managing their economy and if a trade war can be avoided we shall be back soon with improving Chinese collectables markets. And don't forget, for the *broad*er global collectables market to do well, we need the Chinese collectables market to do well, and hence the Chinese economy to do reasonably well.

In this world, Spink intend to continue to do well! Our competitors keep copying us, while remaining a few steps behind us. Recently we saw a UK banknote competitor copying our style of covers for catalogues, or a UK stamp competitor virtually replicating our SpinkLive logo. If our competitors are trying to create the impression that customers are dealing with Spink rather than them, we must be doing a few things right! But we know that even in a leading position we must keep on running. We are only as good as our next auction!

More room given to Lifestyle collectables

You will have surely noticed the unusual cover. Yes, it is a vinyl! From June 2019 we are going to start offering the amazing collection of original "Live at Abbey Studios" recordings from Michael Gleason. Each Lot will consist of exclusive interviews, songs and pictures taken when the artists were performing over twelve years at Abbey Studios. Successful buyers will then own the only copy in existence. The 140 artists we will be offering are the Who's Who of music. They will range from The Killers, Ed Sheeran and Blondie to Seal and Green Day. I will certainly get a paddle myself for a trip down memory lane, and I hope my kids won't find a copy of this Insider! Please see the full article on page 92.

In addition, this issue features again a wealth of interesting articles, with something to appeal to all our collectors. In Collector's Corner we focus on the fabulous Nicholas Briot Collection, highlighting Herbert Schneider's work in putting the original collection together, and hearing some fascinating anecdotes about his days of collecting at Spink. For our handbag collectors there's a fascinating interview with cult designer

THIS QUARTER'S
NUMBER

36,908

Individual lots
sold in live
auctions last year
from US\$50 to
US\$950,000

(this number excludes
1000s of additional lots
sold by private treaty by our
teams around the globe)



Anya Hindmarch; a look at collecting error banknotes for paper money fanatics; a look at the little-known connection between Spink and a modern day cultural icon, James Bond!; and an overview of British Gallantry Awards by Peter Duckers to mark the forthcoming publication of his new Spink *Pocket Guide to British Gallantry Awards* (available this Spring from Spink Books, www.spinkbooks.com). May also sees the publication of Majed Halawi's long anticipated book on Sierra Leone philately, *Echoes of Empire*, which we will be publishing in association with the BPA and launching on our stand at Stockholmia, which takes place in Stockholm from 29th May – 2nd June. If you're visiting the show do please come and hear a fascinating presentation by Majed, and enjoy a glass of bubbly to toast the book's success.

We are always delighted to hear from our readers, and welcome any new suggestions for interesting stories and features, so do please keep in touch with your ideas.

Welcome to our newly launched e-auctions

It was quite a feat to hit the ground running after Christmas at such speed, particularly when it involved the launch of our enhanced Spink Live bidding platform – hats off to all those involved in setting it up in time for our Hong Kong sale on 3rd January.

The new Spink Live is a bespoke bidding service integrated into our current website, now enabling you to browse and bid seamlessly. You can access it on our website via any browser, by downloading the Spink Live App from Google Play (Android devices) and the Apple App Store (iPhone or iPad).

You can watch our sales live, mark lots you are interested in as 'Watched Lots,' place commission bids and bid in real time, all while being able to see and hear the auctioneer.

SpinkLive was the first of all modern (with video) internet bidding platforms. After 15 years of good service, it needed a revamp rather than 'add on' features. We were a precursor in this field, actually the first among any of our competitors in the collectables sphere, even before industry giants Christie's and Sotheby's.

The feedback on the new enhanced SpinkLive platform has been overwhelmingly positive.

The excitement has been building for our e-auctions, a capable new ability from Spink.

Don't worry, just as Spink is at the forefront of innovation, we remain a sensibly conservative company. We certainly shall not be as aggressive as Tesla, who has just announced the closing of all its showrooms to sell only online! We shall keep our essential live auctions, but just add another layer of e-auctions for the many customers (buyers and sellers alike) who have requested it.

Our model has been over the years to have all our physical auctions 'live' on the internet. We shall of course continue to do this, but in addition we have brought in our e-auctions this January. These auctions have already appeared in the USA, but for our European and Asian client base they are quite new. They are internet-only auctions which also provide a great bidder experience. You can leave your maximum bids, be informed when they are exceeded, and when a lot receives a last minute bid the closing time is extended by 30 seconds to leave all interested parties time to react (ie no sniping possible). A lot of items are better sold online: of course the lower range of estimates, but also some specific high value items, as these auctions enable a different marketing and promotional effort. They also allow the less 'battle hardened' live bidders to have more time to reflect on the maximum level of their bids.

We have planned quite a few of these e-auctions already. Most will be totally unreserved, and the rest will be reserved at very attractive levels, to ensure all items sell. Don't miss them!

Wishing you all some wonderful finds for your collections, in both our live and e-auctions.

Yours truly

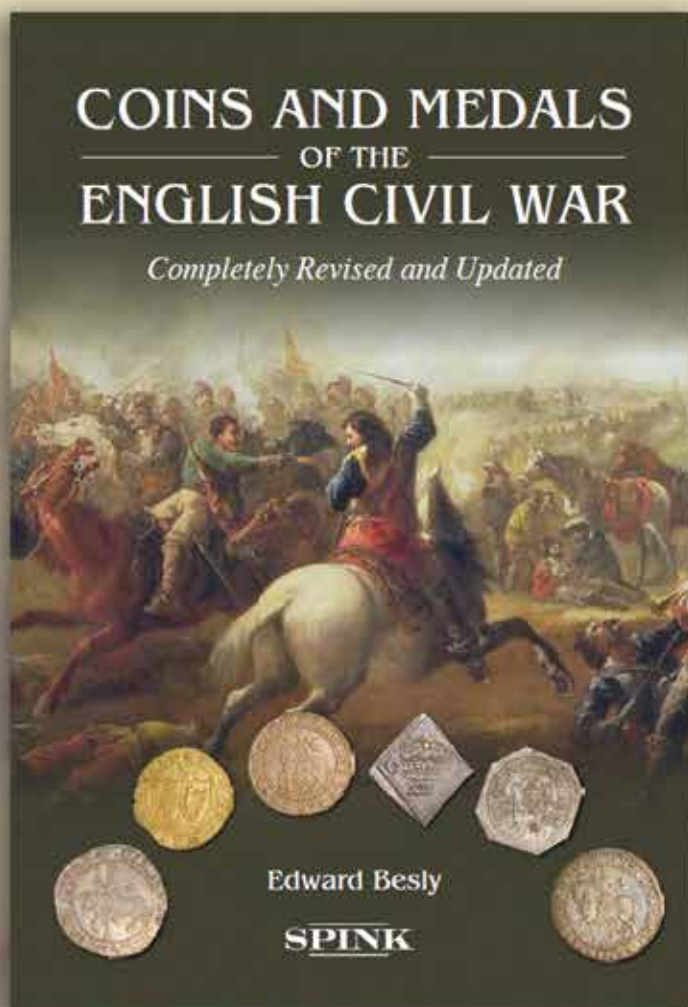
A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Olivier D. Stocker'.

Olivier D. Stocker
Chairman and CEO
chairmanoffice@spink.com

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The second edition of this book presents a new and expanded exploration of the unusually varied coinage and currency of the 'Great Rebellion' of 1642-1660, a pivotal period in British history. It builds on further research available since its original publication in 1990, notably a fresh appraisal of the West Country mints of Sir Richard Vyvyan and new insights into the numerous hoards of the time. Along the way, we meet more of the people who willingly or unwillingly did business with the wartime mints.

Following a description of the currency in circulation in 1642 and a survey of the organisation of royalist minting during the war, the royalist mint-franchises are considered in turn.

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ASIA NEWS

TOP 10 BANKNOTES SOLD BY SPINK CHINA IN 2018

2018 was a very successful year for Spink China's banknote department. As well as achieving superb prices for rare and choice material we now hold the world record achieved for a Hong Kong banknote sold at auction, a 1924 Mercantile Bank of India \$50 (nicknamed the 'Banana Boat') in original very fine condition which fetched a staggering price of HKD \$1,140,000 inclusive of Buyer's Premium. It was the first time this note has been offered in a public auction for over twenty years and its rarity and choice condition was well appreciated.

Of the top ten prices fetched for banknotes, eight were Hong Kong banknotes and two from the People's Bank of China. This is good news for local dealers and collectors alike as Hong Kong banknotes are finally and truly appreciating in value due to increased interest and a collecting base. The last hike in prices was the speculation of 1996 to 1997 when prices crashed heavily after the downturn in stock and property prices; admittedly we are in a period of economic uncertainty now, but prices for high quality collectables remain extremely strong.



The HongKong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, \$500, specimen, 1.1.1909, without serial numbers, (Pick 164s), sold for HKD\$312,000 (inc BP)



The Chartered Bank of India, Australia & China, \$500, 1st June 1934, serial number Z/N005599, (Pick 59a), sold for HKD\$384,000 (inc BP)



The Oriental Bank Corporation, \$5, 7.3.1879 (printed over the original 1866 date), serial number H64753, (Pick 267b), sold for HKD\$960,000 (inc BP)

People's Bank of China, 1st series renminbi, 1951, (Pick 858Aa), sold for HKD\$1,080,000 (inc BP)



The Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, \$50, 1.1.1921, serial number A085286, (Pick 168), sold for HKD\$888,000 (inc BP)

ASIA NEWS

The Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, \$50, 1.11.1929, serial number O/C 178899, (Pick 44), sold for HKD\$504,000 (inc BP)



The HongKong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, \$10, 1.7.1949, a CONSECUTIVE RUN OF 100 NOTES, serial number P/H 432101 to 432200, (Pick 179Aa), sold for HKD\$324,000 (inc BP)

The Mercantile Bank of India, \$50, 1.5.1924, serial number 16996, (Pick 238), sold for HKD\$1,140,000 (inc BP)





People's Republic of China, 1st series renminbi, 1951, (Pick 857a), sold for HKD\$1,080,000 (inc BP)



The Mercantile Bank of India, \$50, 1.7.1935, serial number 58029, (Pick 240a), sold for HKD\$552,00 (inc BP)



Mercantile Bank Limited, \$500, specimen, 26.5.1959, serial number 0000, (Pick 243s), sold for HKD\$312,000 (inc BP)

Our first sale of 2019 confirmed that the market for rare and high quality banknotes is still very strong. An issued 1921 'Apollo Head' \$50 graded very fine sold for \$888,000 and a 1930 'Big Roman' \$500 colour trial uniface pair sold for \$936,000!

We go to press before our next sale on 27th and 28th March, but this also looks to be very exciting with many rare banknotes consigned, an example of one such note below (please show 5547.22). Watch this space for further sale results throughout the year ...

Spink China will continue to be a strong player in banknotes in 2019 and we thank all our clients for their unwavering support in consigning, buying and advertising.

ASIA NEWS

JANUARY STAMP SALES

Hong Kong, 18th and 19th
January 2019

The Lam Man Yin collection of Small Dragons, Dowager and 1897 Surcharges sale took place in Hong Kong on 18th January 2019. After years of collecting, Mr Lam built one of the most important collections of Ching Dynasty stamps. This extraordinary and exciting part of his original collection attracted interest from all over the world. Spirited bidding saw a resulting sale of over HK\$30 million, easily exceeding presale expectations.

The Treaty Ports of the Shanghai Postal System, Part I: The Fortune Wang Collection sale took place the following day, on 19th January 2019. Fortune Wang compiled the greatest and most extensive collection of the Treaty Ports, from essays and proofs, stamps with sheets and varieties, postal stationery and covers, both internal and external. This initial sale offered the first portion of those cities which are on the Yangtze River, from Chungking some 1,500 miles upriver to Chinkiang, only 150 miles from the sea. Although this topic was out of favour for many years, its popularity is again on the increase.

Lot 1308

This charming cover registered from Wuhu to the Editor at Stanley Gibbons, used with Hong Kong stamps to pay the overseas postage, realised HK\$156,000.



Lot 1100

The sale saw some exceptional results, notably this Hankow cover used through the British Post Office with a Hong Kong 8c stamp cancelled by the "62B" postmark which had been supplied to Hankow. Estimated to sell for HK\$40,000, this was finally sold for HK\$300,000.





Lot 1265
A registered cover sent from New York to Kewkiang in 1896 which had a Shanghai stamp added for the internal postage, making a very rare combination, realised HK\$288,000 – over five times the pre-sale estimate.



Lot 731
The star item of this auction was, without doubt, the 1897 Small Figures 10c on 9ca with the variety surcharge inverted. The last two bidders did not want to be beaten and the final price of HK\$7,320,000 easily set a new world record for a Dowager stamp.



Lot 599
The significance of this Small Dragon cover was previously not realised. It features the unique example of the Hankow registration handstamp and was finally sold for HK\$540,000.



ASIA NEWS

THE NATURE OF WHISKY COLLECTING AND OUR MISSION

Spring is in the air and, as we gear up towards our next auction of fine whiskies and spirits, we've decided to shed some light on the whisky collecting world in 2019. Enthusiasts and collectors alike know that the fine and rare whisky market is always changing. Prices rise and fall in an instant, balancing on demand, supply, and trends surrounding each expression.

At times, as with many industries, breaking news can lead certain ranges to skyrocket in price. Take the Japanese whisky discontinuations which took place last year. Overnight, a headline singlehandedly led the prices of the Hibiki and Hakushu ranges to rise by over 70%, though prices have since stabilised. The sad passing of independent bottler Silvano Samaroli, saw the brand's bottlings rise greatly in value over 2018, and the smart marketing and branding by The Macallan and Suntory continuously leads most bottles in their portfolio to rise greatly in price on the secondary market.

Much can affect the industry, yet in the general whisky market growth is steady and continuous, across most categories. Sure, there are many outlets and retailers that set prices too high, making it hard to view whisky as an investment. Buying for a price already greatly marked up makes things hard for the whisky collector who, despite drinking and enjoying the spirit, also aims to hold it, and pass it on once the value rises. Pair this with the steady growth of fake whiskies entering the market, where bottles are refilled and fake boxes and bottles are produced, and the purchasing source becomes the most important part of the game. Without the ability to control the price and

authenticity all a buyer can do is carefully choose who is supplying said whiskies.

Trust, transparency, and honesty. As the whisky market continues to transform and become an exciting platform for investment, these values become all the more important. A new collector looks for honesty in what is trending, transparency in what is being sold, and must trust that the pricing is fair and thought-out, providing room for future growth.

Here at Spink we strive to provide a comfortable and safe platform into the whisky world for all our friends and supporters. A place where any collector, seasoned and new, can relax and engage, without worrying about authenticity, pricing, or whether the offerings are trending or not. Our upcoming auction at the beginning of summer will do just that, offering some of the most exciting whiskies from across the globe, prime for investment and drinking alike.



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NEW YORK NEWS

THE NUMISMATIC COLLECTOR'S SERIES SALE

New York, 13th-17th January 2019

Commencing at the Grand Hyatt's Empire State Ballroom amid the New York International Coin Convention and concluding at the offices of Spink NY five days later, the spirited sale enjoyed pleasing results. Notable was the continued Hapsburg ascendancy.

Not long ago, Hapsburg numismatics were caught in the doldrums, but in recent years both interest and prices have soared. Important Austro-Hungarian collections in Spink's New York January 2018 saw excited bidding, and this January 2019 was certainly déjà vu with selections from a 19th Century Belgian Nobleman's Collection.

The star of sale, a very rare Transylvanian 1696 Klausenburg (Cluj) mint 10 Ducats, Extremely Fine (lot 46) estimated at \$20,000 to 25,000, hammered for an impressive \$155,000. A lovely Maria Theresa Pressburg Coronation Gold Medal of 10 Ducat weight (lot 44) brought \$47,500, nearly four times its estimate, while a 1769 Austrian Netherlands Gold Medal for the 25th Anniversary of Charles of Lorraine's sovereignty, 15 Ducats weight (lot 35) realised \$23,000. Other Hapsburg highlights included a 1745 5 Ducats of Francis I (lot 32) which brought \$17,000, nearly three times its estimate.

Also offered with the 19th Century nobleman's selection was a trio of Hamburg Portugaloser. One of the finest examples known of the earliest 10 Ducats type, ca 1578-1582 (lot 40), realised \$57,000, while lot 42, a magnificent example of a 1689 Portugaloser of the ältester Bankbürger Hinrich Burmeister, saw a winning bid of \$40,000.

A resurgent Indian market also helped produce fine results. A Proof 66 Cameo East



Lot 42, an extraordinary Hamburg Freie Hansestadt 10 Ducats, 1689, realised \$40,000



Lot 8, an extremely rare Alexandrine Stater in the name of Antigonus II Gonatas, brought \$32,000



Lot 30, a Shahjahanabad Nazarana Mohur of the Durrani Ahmad Shah, dated AH 1173 year 14 hammered for a handsome \$60,000

India Company restrike 1835 Double Mohur (lot 290) brought \$57,500, an ex-Robert P Puddester Collection seven-piece 1904 Proof Set (lot 294) realised \$15,500 and a Proof 1910 Calcutta Rupee (lot 295) \$9,500, over double its estimate.

Among independent kingdoms and princely states, an extremely rare and unrecorded Gobindshahi Mohur from the First Sikh Occupation of Multan (lot 276) commanded \$16,500, and a Kashmiri Nazarana Quarter Mohur of the Dogra Raja Ranbir Singh (lot 282), graded MS 63 and ex-Norma J Puddester, realised \$16,000, also over double its estimate.



Greg Cole and Robert Wilde-Evans



An extremely rare and attractive 1741 Maria Theresa Pressburg Coronation Gold Medal of 10 Ducat weight, lot 44, saw a winning bid of \$47,500



An extremely rare Tsar Alexander II of Russia Award Medal for Bravery in Gold, lot 232, brought \$27,000



The star of the sale, lot 46, a very rare Transylvanian 1696 10 Ducats, Klausenburg mint realised a robust \$155,000



Lot 290, a superb East India Company 1835 Restrike Double Mohur, realised \$57,500



Lot 116, a 1729 EIC 5 Guineas, realised \$19,000



Lot 35, an Austrian Netherlands 1760 Gold Medal of 15 Ducat weight realised \$23,000



Possibly the finest known 1885 Proof Halfcrown, lot 192, brought \$16,000



Lot 40, one of the finest examples of the earliest Hamburg Portugaloser of 10-Ducats, commanded \$57,500

NEW YORK NEWS

Prominent among a small and mixed array of Ancient coins was an Alexandrine Stater (lot 8) in the name of Antigonos II Gonatas (277/6-239 BC), which brought \$32,000. One of only a few known, the coin was likely struck to mark a naval victory of Gonatas. Rare Islamic coins, meanwhile, remain bullish in the market as shown by lot 30, a rare and attractive Shahjahanabad Nazarana Mohur of the Ahmad Shah Durrani which achieved \$60,000, 50 per cent over its low estimate.

Russian coins as shown by various January auction results have certainly slipped from their once celestial heights. However, true rarities still hold their own as exemplified by lot 232, an Alexander II Award Medal for Bravery in Gold (Diakov 635.2 – R5) which saw fervid arm raising that finished at \$27,000.

British highlights included a 1729 EIC Five Guineas (lot 116) which realised \$19,000, nearly triple its low estimate, and a Proof 63 1887 Jubilee 5 Pounds (lot 169), estimated at \$4,000-5,000, which hammered a cool \$22,000.

The sale's offering of World Orders & Decorations, anchored by a number of lots from an old and sizeable collection, proved most successful. Not surprisingly, the Austrian pieces saw heated action. An Order of Leopold Knight Grand Cross Set with War Wreath and Swords by CF Rothe (lot 1281) brought \$22,000, over seven times its low estimate, and the next lot, an Order of the Iron Crown Knight Grand Cross Set, realised \$16,000, over five times its low estimate.

A large World and US paper money section also saw good results, as described by Robert Wilde-Evans in this behind-the-scenes report from Spink NY during his visit to NYINC:

Since early 2018 Spink's Banknote Department has been planning another chapter of the famous Ibrahim Salem Collection – and on this occasion it was of 'South America & Other Properties'. Banknote collectors and regular clients alike cannot fail to recognise



Lot 26, El Banco Anglo-Costa-Ricense, specimen 50 Pesos, \$10,500



Lot 282, The Bank of Ottawa, specimen colour trial \$5, \$2,900

Ibrahim's name: he probably has one of the (if not the) largest collections of banknotes from across the world and having sold many of his previous segments through Spink it was time for his small but select collection of South America to go under the hammer.

But what of the 'Other Properties'? Well, these too contained some real gems – not least a large number of specimen notes and Colour Trials that originated from two 'Waterlow & Sons' albums, one type of which (in large-format 'presentation' style) even our Head of



Lot 295, Banco Internacional de Costa Rica specimen 2 Colones, \$4,000.



Lot 324, Hyderabad Govt. Issue specimen colour trial 10 Rupees, \$19,000



Lot 330, The Govt. of Mauritius, specimen colour trial 10 Rupees, \$15,500



NEW YORK NEWS

Department Barnaby Faull had never seen before ... an occurrence which doesn't happen very often! Therefore we were nicely set up for a good sale of just over 350 Lots of varied, interesting and exciting material on 11th January.

For those who aren't familiar with Spink New York, the office is located on the 18th floor of a skyscraper on West 57th Street, so just off the south side of Central Park and with some stunning views from the Auction Room on a sunny day. The team (Greg Cole, Amit Ramprashad, Kaitlyn Argila and Samantha Lanevi) are led by Charles Blane who, coincidentally, is a fellow 'Brit' and who formerly worked for a number of years in the Coin Department at Spink London.

Viewings for the Ibrahim sale (and indeed most of NYINC) took place at the Grand Hyatt Hotel – this was also to be the location of the banknote auction and several days' worth of the general sale. A vast space right next to (and in fact connected to) Grand Central Station, it also has the dubious honour of being Donald Trump's first venture into Manhattan real estate in the 1970s. The location of the annual International Numismatic Convention, which took up another of the several Ballrooms and gives its name to the 'INC' in 'NYINC', the whole hotel seemed like the place to be for the serious collector of coins, banknotes, medals and associated ephemera.

It was a delight to meet a few clients on their home turf who I had previously only been able to communicate with via email or telephone from the safety of my desk in London.

With sale day for Ibrahim swiftly approaching, the nerves started to kick in as I was to be on the rostrum in a room fifty times the size of that in our London office; using the new 'SpinkLive' system for the first time; and calling out my increments in the American format rather than British!

Overall we were very pleased with the result – there was some spirited bidding both physically and online with several Lots doing extremely well: special mention must be made of **Lot 26**, an El



Lot 1923, a US Federal Reserve 1918 \$500 blue seal, realised \$17,000

A Sunny Day On Central Park





An Austrian Order of Leopold, lot 1281, Knight Grand Cross Set of Insignia by CF Rothe, hammered for \$22,000



Banco Anglo-Costa-Ricense Costa Rica specimen 50 Pesos, 1 January 1864, which sold for \$10,500; **Lot 282**, a stunningly beautiful Bank of Ottawa uniface obverse and reverse colour trial \$5, ND (1912), which realised \$2,900; and **Lot 295**, an El Banco Internacional de Costa Rica uniface obverse and reverse colour trial 2 Colones, San Jose, ND (ca 1931), which went for \$4,000 and is 'THE' note to have in a collection of South American banknotes, due to the famous portrait of Mona Lisa gracing the obverse. However, the stars of the banknote show were **Lots 324 and 330**, a Hyderabad Government Issue colour trial 10 rupees, FE 1333 (1922) and Government of Mauritius colour trial 10 Rupees, ND (1930) which sold for \$19,000 and \$15,500 respectively – a truly superb result and reflecting the rarity of these beautiful (and often unique) colour trials.

Having let out a sigh of relief that I'd not confused any of our American bidders by selling things in GBP rather than USD, it was time to get back to London. Mercifully the predicted heavy snowfall failed to materialise and my flight left JFK on time to get me back fresh and ready to start work on London's April banknote sales!

Should any clients or colleagues be in New York I would thoroughly recommend heading up to the 18th Floor at 145 West 57th Street to visit Spink NY: a warm welcome is guaranteed, together with the chance to discover yet another facet of our superbly international company.

LONDON NEWS

'PEGASUS' AND 'LIONHEART' STAMP AUCTIONS

London, 24th January 2019

24th January saw two successful stamp auctions, The 'Pegasus' collection of Important Classic New Zealand and The 'Lionheart' Collection of Great Britain and British Empire, Part VIII.

The 'Pegasus' sale was hugely successful with fierce bidding in the room, on Spink Live and over the telephone resulting in all lots selling, many well above estimate, proving that Classic New Zealand is still a very popular collecting area. Some particularly scarce and sought after items featured, including a fine unused London Printing 1/- pale yellow-green, an incredibly rare 1/- bisect on cover and fine desirable examples of the 1861 "Cancelled" obliterations by Perkins, Bacon and Co.

The 'Lionheart' auction was the ninth in the series, and proved as popular as ever. A huge range of Great Britain and British Empire material was offered, the highlight being a great Ceylon rarity, the 1912-25 1000r which went on to sell for an impressive £27,600. The single country collections again prompted a lot of bidding and many sold for well above high estimate; other highlights were a Bahamas 1918 War Tax 1d block of four with double overprint, one inverted, and fine examples of both the 1897 and 1903 mint Nyasaland £10.



Lot 151 Est £2-3k sold for £4,200



Lot 162 Est £3-4k sold for £5,400



Lot 95 Est £12-14k sold for £27,600



Lot 246 Est £3-4k sold for £5,760



Lot 247 Est £2-3k sold for £5,400



Josh Barber



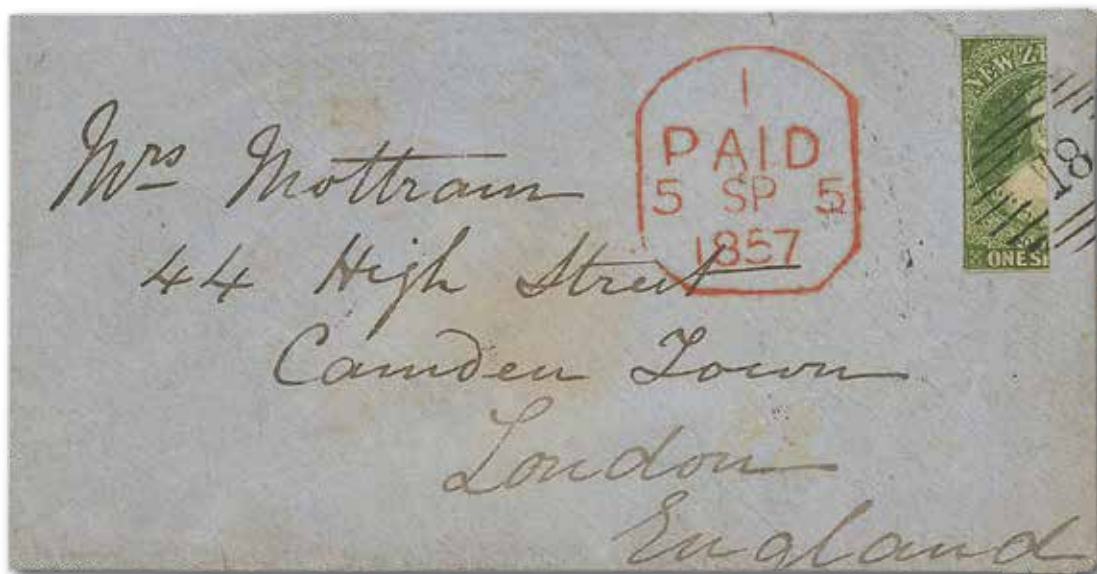
544 Est £20-25k sold for £24,000



543 Est £35-40k sold for £55,200



536 Est. £18-20k sold for £24,000



542 Est £15-18k sold for £25,200



133 Est £700-800 sold for £2,040



29 Est £1-2k sold for £2,160



789 Est £18-20k sold for £21,600

LONDON NEWS

BONDS AND SHARE CERTIFICATES OF THE WORLD TIMED AUCTION

London, 25th January 2019

The first Bond & Share auction of 2019 was a timed auction using the new Spink Live software; I have to say that it worked so well and is a huge improvement over the old system.

The largest section in the sale was the offering of railway share certificates from the Branston Railway Museum, which is being disbanded in 2019. Spink will be offering the railway stamps in an auction later in the year and the ephemera, documents and posters will be sold by Spink in specialist document sales. The Museum did not possess any of the great rarities of the market but there were many interesting pieces from the mid-19th century. Best price in the section was the £160 paid for an attractive certificate of the Monmouthshire Railway and Canal Company of 1852.

£400 was paid for a specimen £1,000 bond of the 1919 Victory Loan, issued after WWI. It sports a facsimile signature of John Bradbury who was secretary of the Treasury at the time, is the ONLY example known in any form and therefore considerably underrated.

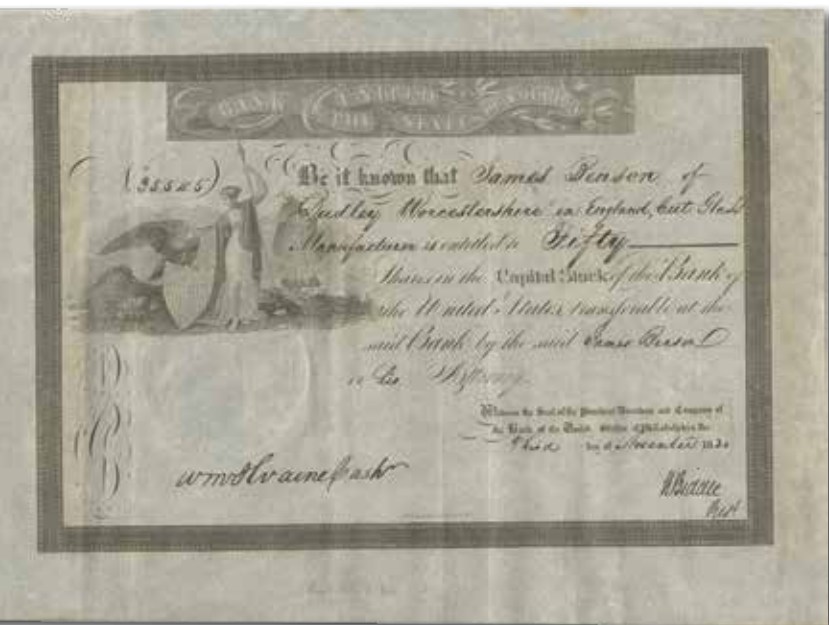
A previously unseen certificate of the Itchen Bridge and Roads of 1835 sold at £480. Printed on vellum with a red seal it represented a £50 share in the floating bridge across the River Itchen in Southampton – it was in fact a cable ferry which operated until 1977 when the new Itchen Bridge was built.

The American section was fairly small but did contain three examples of the Bank of the





Mike Veissid



United States of America, dated 1830, each selling at £230. They bear the hand signature of Philadelphia financier Nicholas Biddle. At the time money from England was still flowing into the United States and these shares were owned by James Benson, a glass manufacturer from Dudley in the West Midlands. Biddle served as United States minister to Great Britain, returning to the United States in 1807.

We also offered a small part of a Canadian collection, most of which sold well. A lovely Ottawa, Waddington and New York Railway and Bridge Company bond for \$500 dated 1884 sold at £160, above the top estimate, and a rather attractive Canadian North Pacific Fisheries Ltd Share of 1911 sold at £120.

LONDON NEWS

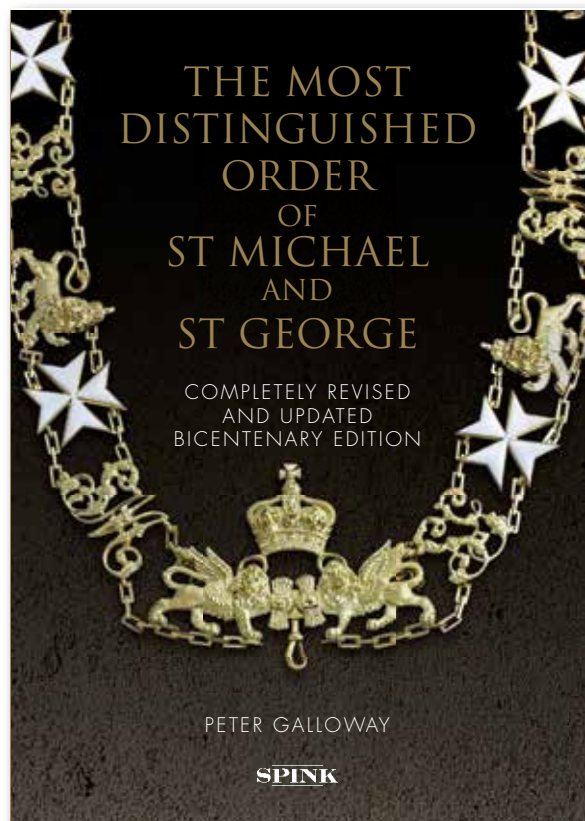
MICHAEL, GEORGE AND CANAPÉS

London, 11th December 2018

In the run up to Christmas Spink hosted a VIP book launch of Peter Galloway's Bicentenary Edition of *The Most Distinguished Order of St Michael and St George*, which naturally coincided with the 200th Anniversary of the founding of the Order. The book gives a complete and thorough history of the Order from its roots in the Mediterranean, to its role as a mark of distinction in the Civil and Secret Services, and accompanies many other Spink-published works by Peter Galloway on the different British Orders of Chivalry, all of which are on sale in the Spink showroom and from www.spinkbooks.com.

A drinks and canapés reception was accompanied by a special exhibition of items from the Order, which featured medals, collar chains and mantles to statute books, badges of office and invitation cards to the Order's annual service through the ages. In attendance were Members and Officers of the Order, as well as Spink clients, VIP guests and staff.

Our Special thanks to the Central Chancery of Orders of Knighthood, St James's Palace, for lending us the Spink-made items! Thanks also to Ede & Ravenscroft, Jonathan Smith and Robert Barltrop for loaning some of their collections.



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ROMAN COINS, MONEY, AND
SOCIETY
IN ELIZABETHAN ENGLAND
SIR THOMAS SMITH'S
ON THE WAGES OF THE ROMAN FOOT SOLDIER



ANDREW BURNETT
RICHARD SIMPSON
DEBORAH THORPE
NUMISMATIC STUDIES
No. 36

THE STORY BEHIND THE COVER





David Parsons

A MOMENTOUS AIRBORNE ADVENTURE: THE STORY OF THE FIRST SUCCESSFUL FLIGHT FROM ENGLAND TO SOUTH AFRICA

A declaration by the British Air Ministry that the Cape to Cairo route was open prompted five different air crews to set out to conquer the route to Africa. In the House of Commons Winston Churchill said he hoped someone would sponsor a monetary prize; the *Daily Mail* responded by offering a prize of £10,000. There were five entrants, and amongst them were South Africans Colonel Pierre von Ryneveld and Flight Lieutenant Quintin Brand.

These intrepid airmen took to the air from Brooklands at 7.30am on 4th February 1920 in a Vickers Vimy IV bomber named *Silver Queen* and were accompanied by Flight Sergeant EF Newman and WF Sharrat.

They crossed the English Channel en route to Turin and for four hours they probed through heavy cloud before landing on the race course at Millisant in central France. Having checked their whereabouts they took off again and, flying low over the Alps, they eventually reached Turin at after 5pm, nearly nine hours after leaving Brooklands

A leaky radiator was repaired before *Silver Queen* left for Rome, which was overflowed by the afternoon when it was decided that as the weather was favourable they would fly on non-stop to Foggia; however they were back in Rome by nightfall, headwinds having made progress impossible. The following day they headed for the Adriatic coast, climbing over the Apennines,

and after a flight in turbulent conditions they landed safely at Gioja del Colle, near Taranto.

That evening they took off on the first non-stop flight from Italy across the Mediterranean to Africa. The two pilots were extremely worried about falling asleep, and also about the effects of the wind and the rain that lashed the cockpit, but after an exhausting flight of over 11 hours the aircraft touched down at Darna in North Africa. Disregarding the need for sleep the two took off again an hour later for Sollum and, upon arrival, attended to repairs of the damaged tail skid. On 9th February they took off again for Cairo and, once again fighting their way through driving storms they landed by the light of flares some five hours later.

The pilots left Cairo at midnight the same night with the intention of flying non-stop to Khartoum. They initially made good progress until approaching Wadi Halfa, at which point it was discovered that the starboard radiator had run dry and they decided to make an emergency landing; however disaster struck when unseen rocks ripped into the fuselage as the plane raced along the ground. Miraculously uninjured, the two pilots assessed the extent of the damage and decided that *Silver Queen* was a write-off – although the engines were unscathed.

Salvage operations began immediately with the assistance of many of the locals. The engines were dismantled and carried by rail via Assuan back to Cairo where they were fitted into another Vickers Vimy obtained from the Royal Air Force, with the plane promptly christened *Silver Queen II*. It was mainly through the efforts of General Smuts, who arranged for the aircraft

“Disaster struck when unseen rocks ripped into the fuselage as the plane raced along the ground. Miraculously uninjured, the two pilots assessed the extent of the damage and decided that *Silver Queen* was a write-off – although the engines were unscathed.”



Both airmen after their arrival in Cape Town

to be placed at the disposal of the airmen, that they were in the air again after 12 days.

Silver Queen II reached Khartoum on the night of 23rd February. Soon after leaving Khartoum a day later they were beset with air pockets and dust devils, and after leaving Kisumu the aircraft developed engine trouble so a forced landing was made at Shirati.

After repairs to *Silver Queen II* the aircraft departed for Abercorn, which lies 3,500 feet above sea level. Due to the high altitude take-off from Abercorn all pieces of unnecessary equipment were discarded, which proved a wise decision as three of the cylinders of the starboard engine failed. Losing height, they managed to land safely at N'Dola. After heavy rains and a waterlogged airfield they again took off on 2nd March and headed to Livingstone. Again, with the plane bogged down, they were not able to depart for Bulawayo until 5th March after assistance from the natives, who 'danced' up and down to flatten the soil in order for a safe take-off.

In Bulawayo they received a warm welcome and after two days of rest they were off again, but immediately the aircraft lost height, struck a tree and plunged into the bush. Amazingly the crew emerged from the aircraft with nothing more than a few scratches and bruises, although once again their aircraft was a complete write-off.

At this point the South African Government decided that it would be tragic to abandon the project, and they flew a DH9 two-seater aircraft from Pretoria to Bulawayo so that van Ryneveld and Brand could complete their flight.

Leaving Bulawayo on 17th March they flew via Serowe and Palapye, landing at Pretoria the same day and flying on to Johannesburg the day

after. They left Johannesburg on 19th March, flying via Bloemfontein and Beaufort West before finally arriving at Youngsfield, Wynberg, where after all their trials and tribulations they were welcomed by the Governor-General and his wife, and General Smuts.

It had taken the intrepid airmen 45 days to complete their journey. They received a prize of £5,000, as the original regulations stipulated that the flight had to be made in one aircraft, and were both later knighted by King George V.

Von Ryneveld and Brand carried a very small amount of mail with them on their historic flight, including letters addressed from Winston Churchill to General Smuts, Major-General Sykes (Controller General of Civil Aviation) and LS Amery (Parliamentary Under Secretary for the Colonies).

At Abercorn a letter from a young man, Brian Cook, addressed to his mother in Johannesburg, was given to van Ryneveld for a per favour transmission by air – Cook was attached to the RAF Survey Party stationed at Abercorn. Cook wrote his letter on 16th February and re-dated it for 17th February, unaware of the crash on 11th February and the consequent 11 day delay. The cover was cancelled on 29th February, possibly per favour of the local postmaster as this was a Sunday, and is signed by both van Ryneveld and Brand.

This remarkable envelope, together with the letter from Churchill, form part of the award-winning collection of South Africa and South West Africa airmail covers formed by Neville Polakow, and will be offered for sale in the Philatelic Collectors' Series Sale in London on 25th and 26th April 2019.

“after two days of rest they were off again, but immediately the aircraft lost height, struck a tree and plunged into the bush”

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COLLECTOR'S CORNER



Anne, Five-Guineas, 1703, struck from gold bullion captured off the Spanish at Vigo Bay

THE NICHOLAS BRIOT COLLECTION FORMED BY HERBERT SCHNEIDER

“The Schneider collection is without doubt the largest and most complete collection of English gold coins in private hands,” said Peter Woodhead in his preface to *The Herbert Schneider Collection, Volume One, English Gold Coins 1257-1603*, published by Spink & Son in 1996 as part of the *Sylloge of Coins of the British Isles*.

The collection was originally formed by Herbert Schneider (1914-1989) who was born in Brunswick, Germany, of an English father and a Belgian mother. As a teenager he was already very interested in history and started collecting coins, at that stage of the Duchy of Brunswick. In the early 1930s, the family moved to Zurich because of their concern with political developments in Germany. After completing secondary studies, Herbert joined the petro-chemical company of his uncle in Antwerp and soon after that was sent to London to work for a firm of stockbrokers to develop his understanding of financial markets. It was during his stay in London that he visited some of the leading coin dealers and decided to sell his collection of German coins and start collecting English coins. His mother unfortunately passed away at that time, with the result that Herbert came into money which gave him the means to develop his collection of English coins. Initially he concentrated on hammered coins, but in

1937 expanded the collection to milled coins, and by the outbreak of the War the collection was already significant.

Herbert Schneider had volunteered already before the outbreak of the War his services to MI6 and later joined SOE. He left military intelligence in 1943 and joined the British Army, from which he was demobilised in 1947 with the rank of captain. While the war inevitably interrupted his coin collecting activities, numismatics were not completely forgotten. On VE day, he told his colleagues that they should all go to celebrate with their families and that he would ‘hold the fort’ as he had no family to go to in England. His commanding officer went to celebrate with one of his opposite numbers and during their dinner they entered a wager that there would be nobody at the base and if by some miracle there were, he would be drunk. They therefore called the base and Herbert answered the telephone, to be greeted with a surprised “Oh,” followed by “Are you drunk?” to which Herbert answered “No.” “What are you doing?” was the next question. “Studying the coinage of Richard II” was Herbert’s answer. He then heard a short “Damn you!” and the telephone was slammed down: the commanding officer had obviously lost his wager ...

After his demobilisation, Herbert returned to

Antwerp and his uncle's petro-chemical firm, in which he was also a shareholder. He married Ines Fuhrmann to whom he had been almost engaged before the War broke out and enforced a seven year separation on them. He also resumed coin collecting and the post-war period gave him many opportunities to expand his collection as a number of important collections came to the market: most notably Lockett, but also Raynes, Ryan, Lingford and Carter, and for milled coins Hewitt and Le Mare. His main focus were the mints of London and Calais with Oxford added later on. He also continued to build his collection of coins from the Low Countries which he had already started before the War, because of the close trading and political links between the Low Countries and England, but also because both his mother and his wife came from Belgium. Herbert had a keen eye and was very selective in respect of the quality of the coins he purchased. Whenever he had the opportunity, he would replace coins with better specimens and if a public collection such as the British Museum, the Fitzwilliam or the Ashmolean did not have the double, he would gift it to them. The scope of the collection grew to include gold coinage from England after the Norman Conquest up to the present day, as well as Anglo-Gallic coins minted by English kings in France during the 100 Years War and coins from the Low Countries up to the end of the 18th century. Herbert was essentially interested in currency and therefore the collection does not include patterns or proof coins.

Most of Herbert's coin purchases were made through Spink & Son or Baldwins and he developed close friendships with Douglas Liddell, Albert Baldwin and Peter Mitchell. He referred to the two firms as 'Spaldwinks' and engaged in voluminous correspondence with them that was both witty and academic. He also conducted copious exchanges of correspondence with many other numismatists, including Ian Stewart (later Lord Stewartby), Herbert Challis, Christopher Blunt, Elmore Jones, Marion Archibald, etc. He had a fertile imagination and created the mythical 'Anti HSF (Herbert Schneider Fuhrmann) League that was headed by Professor Moriarty

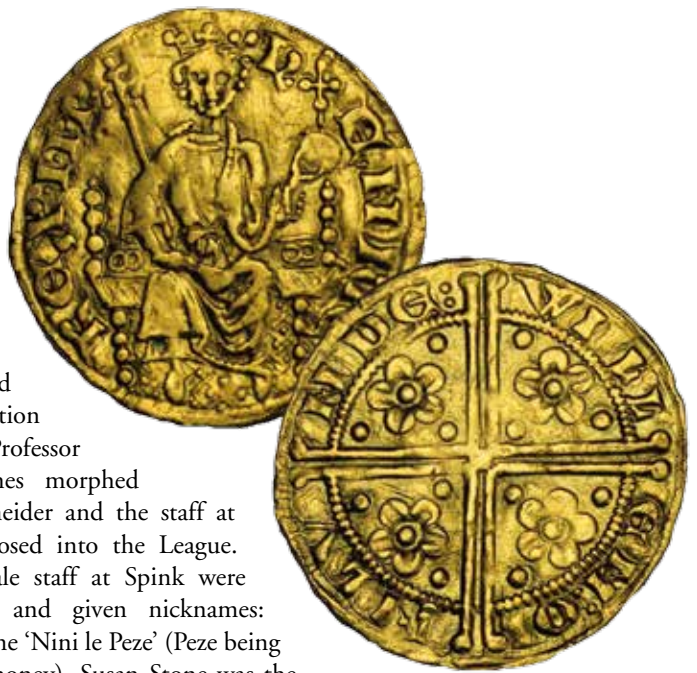
and that was usually the dark force that thwarted his coin acquisition activity, although Professor Moriarty sometimes morphed into Herbert Schneider and the staff at Spink metamorphosed into the League. Most of the female staff at Spink were constantly teased and given nicknames: Virginia Kell became 'Nini le Peze' (Peze being French slang for money), Susan Stone was the 'German Navy' (her initials were SMS – the pre World War I German equivalent to HMS), Judith Speir became 'Billie' – because her name reminded him of William Shakespeare. She even signed her letters Billie, and was regarded as Herbert's 'Numismatic Godchild'.

An amusing extract from a letter to Virginia Kell, dated 18th September 1968, stated:

"... Meanwhile the League is requested not to sell item nr 6234, listed in the September Circular. However, Mr Liddell is a careful man and knows the League well: he has probably locked the coin up in his own safe!"

Another, to Douglas Liddell wryly commented: "I will sever all connections with Spinks if you continue to send me coins in these absolutely vicious, sucky-pink envelopes of cheap Italian ice-cream colour ... Pink envelopes are out and unworthy of the ancient and royal firm of Spink."

Herbert wrote quite a number of numismatic research papers which were mostly published in the British Numismatic Journal, most notably his study on the Tower Gold of Charles I, which is still today the commanding work on that coinage, the hammered gold coinage of Charles II and his work on the Angers Hoard. He also involved his wife Ines who drew the illustrations of coin details for his research papers. His publications led to him being awarded the Sanford



Henry III, c.1257, gold Penny of Twenty Pence (Schneider I (1257-1603), no. 1)



Edward III (1327-77), Leopard d'Or (Schneider III (1330-1794), no. 10)





Charles I (1625-49), Triple-
Unite, struck at Oxford, 1643
(Schneider II (1603-20th
Century), no. 290)

Saltus Gold Medal – which he referred to as ‘the Victoria Cross of Numismatics’ – in 1965. Herbert also frequently commented and exchanged extensively on draft papers of fellow numismatists, William Potter among others. His correspondence often included plaster casts of coins. This was before the area of photography and if one wanted to show a reproduction of a coin, the coin was put in sealing wax and once that had dried, plaster was poured into the sealing wax print of the coin to reproduce it. A very messy and cumbersome process, but the kitchen in Herbert’s home was sometimes converted into a mini coin casting factory! Most of Herbert’s numismatic research work and correspondence was conducted in the evenings, after dinner, and often led him to burning the midnight oil. Holidays were also frequently dedicated to numismatic research and he always visited the coin rooms at the British Museum, the Ashmolean and the Fitzwilliam as well as meeting fellow numismatists and spending time at ‘Spaldwinks’ when he came over to London on business, usually twice or three times a year.

He was a Fellow of the Royal Numismatic Society and a member of the British Numismatic Society, of which he became Vice-President. He endowed the British Numismatic Society with a research fund in 1967. Referring to the coinage of Charles I, Herbert jokingly said that he would like to meet a medium who could put him in contact with Nicholas Briot, Charles I mint master, because he had some questions to ask of Mr Briot. It is that comment that has led to naming the collection after Nicholas Briot.

In the second half of the 1980s, Douglas Liddell suggested that the Anglo Gallic collection of coins of Beresford-Jones, which in turn incorporated the well known Elias collection of Anglo Gallic coins, should be purchased and this was the quantum leap that brought the Anglo Gallic part of the collection to a level comparable with the rest of the collection. As the Flemish provinces (today essentially Belgium) sided with England against the French kings during the 100 Years War, there are interesting links between the Anglo Gallic coins and the coins of the Low Countries, which make their joint study particularly interesting.

A number of important collections also came to the market in the late 80s / early 90s which made it possible to acquire coins that had eluded Herbert previously, or that had just not been available. The scope of the collection was also expanded to include coins from some of the provincial mints.

It was also Douglas Liddell who suggested publication of the collection in the *Sylloge of Coins of the British Isles* series. Originally it was thought that Douglas would write these books, but the magnitude of the task was not compatible with his professional responsibilities at Spink, so Peter Woodhead took on the task of writing all three volumes. Volume I (1996) covered the English gold hammered coinage from 1257-1603, Volume II (2002) mostly the English milled gold coins from 1603 to the 20th Century and Volume III (2011) the Anglo Gallic, Flemish and Brabantine gold coins from 1330 to 1794. All three volumes were published by Spink. These works often serve as reference works, particularly in auction sales catalogues where the breadth of the collection is sometimes recognised by the mention ‘not in Schneider’. A project to put the entire collection on a web site, which would allow regular updating with new acquisitions and easy access for numismatic scholars, is under consideration.

The collection continues to be completed in line with Herbert Schneider’s collecting policies and is accessible to numismatic students through Spink.



Chubby Hearts Over London, February 2018, London fashion Week activation and public design project

COLLECTABLES EXPERTISE: AN INTERVIEW WITH ANYA HINDMARCH

Following the success of our second handbag auction in Hong Kong, we spoke with cult handbag designer Anya Hindmarch to ask her some questions about collectable handbags and their desirability: for the purposes of this feature she is referred to throughout as AH.

In your opinion what constitutes a “classic” handbag design?

AH: I think it is something that you want to go back to time and again, because there’s something so special about it – it stands the test of time, it’s really wearable, or very simply because it’s so mad!

What is important in terms of design for handbag users and how does this influence you in terms of the overall look you want to achieve?

AH: Well let’s face it, no-one really needs another handbag! People buy handbags because it gives them pleasure – I suppose it’s a combination of craftsmanship and something which physically works. A really beautiful handbag is something which appeals because of its quality, rather like a well-crafted steering wheel in an expensive car.

I am therefore trying to create something which not only gives joy to the person who buys it for themselves, but perhaps to the person who receives it as a present, so that looking at it triggers a flood of happy memories.

How important is brand in designing a “classic” handbag?

AH: Brand is extremely important, but why? Something stands the test of time because it deserves it – because it’s well made, or because of how it makes the user feel. Buying a particular brand has an element of joining a tribe – there is an aura around a brand, almost like a club of people. Why would that appeal to a collector? The reason a handbag is collectable is its brand appeal – be it unusual, classic, relevant, or that Princess Grace always wore it – something which gives it an aura of glamour.

What do you consider to be the ultimate designer / “classic” handbag?

AH: Something which will always be special – a one-off or a handbag with a provenance in terms of who’s owned it, a sense of history which makes it truly collectable as you can’t get it again.

*Above: The Weave Project,
February 2019, London
Fashion Week activation*





*Chubby Cloud, September 2018,
London Fashion Week activation*



The Vere satchel



The Crisp Packet clutch





Portrait of Anya by Tom Jamieson



The Maud clutch – as worn by Princess Diana



Group shot of the Maud clutch



If you could only own one bag (excluding your own!) what would it be and why?

AH: That is a literally impossible question for me to answer! In my own life I play many different roles, and often my choice of handbag represents the person I am that day – whether I am attending a board meeting, going to a fashion show, on a plane to Tokyo, doing the school run or having dinner with friends. Hence, I think, each person has multiple favourite handbags.

How does the potential resale value of a handbag influence you when you are designing a new collection?

AH: Not at all! I want to design something in any case which is beautiful and lasts; I don't like waste, so I'm constantly questioning 'Why am I making this?' Bizarrely, if you ever actually tried to make something which would specifically

last a long time I don't think it would work! It's all about design, design, design, with a tiny bit of need or place.

Are any of your own bag designs considered "vintage", "classic" or indeed collectable?

AH: I would say the Vere Satchel is probably our hallmark bag, but the Crisp Packet is also iconic – it has come to be something of a good luck bag at the Oscars on the red carpet; in fact it's the one that Beyonce's sister Solange Knowles famously threw at Jay Z in a lift! We used to make the Maud for Princess Diana endlessly, to match her outfits – she called it her cleavage bag, as she used it to cover her cleavage whenever she got out of a car! Certainly, some of our bags are sold at auctions and vintage markets, and I can only commend the recycling of beautiful, classic handbags in this way.



The obverse and reverse of the Silver Jubilee Medal



Emma Howard

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TALKS TO THE INSIDER ABOUT HIS WORK –
INCLUDING ONE SET OF MEDALS HE'S NEVER SEEN HIMSELF!

Robert (Bob) Elderton is one of the UK's top coin designers, responsible for many of the iconic images found on coins in Great Britain throughout the 1980s and 1990s. He was born in Plaistow, London, in 1948, taking art classes at Lister Technical School in Plaistow and in 1964 accepted into an apprenticeship at the Royal Mint, in those days based at Tower Hill. During his apprenticeship, he studied art and silversmithing, first at the Central School of Art and Design, then at the Sir John Cass College of Art. He was pointed towards the apprenticeship at the Royal Mint by a youth employment officer at school and says: "I didn't really have a clue what an engraver was or did, but I knew that any apprenticeship was a really good thing. I took the form. I returned to the classroom thinking what a nice bloke he was, and that he had offered the job only to me, but half our

class had been given the same application form! It was also open to anyone nationwide with artistic tendencies. Even though the chances were pretty slim I did apply and was asked to attend for interview. After many interviews, the numbers were whittled down to half a dozen or so. I was still in there. Not being confident about the Royal Mint I decided to look for something else and secured a job as a commercial artist. I was due to start a few days after leaving school – leave Friday, start Monday. On the Saturday I received a hand delivered letter saying I had been successful at the Royal Mint. Dilemma! Trainee Commercial Artist – salary good. Or Apprentice Engraver £4. 1s. 3d a week – less than a third. I chose the apprenticeship and it was a decision that would shape the direction of my life in art."

After his apprenticeship (the only apprentice engraver – the previous apprentice, Barry Stanton, had just finished his time "and was very pleased to see me as it became my job now to fetch the tea and coffee from the canteen"! he worked in the Royal Mint's engraving department, assisting top numismatic sculptors and artists such as Arnold Machin, Richard Guyatt and Leslie Durbin. In the mid-1970s, he himself started producing and modelling designs for the Royal Mint. Over the next 25+ years he designed a huge variety of coins, including coins marking the wedding of Prince Andrew and Sarah Ferguson, and one marking the 40th anniversary of the Queen's coronation in 1993. He worked with David Wynn on the medal to commemorate Queen Elizabeth II's Silver Jubilee in 1977, finishing the obverse portrait and producing the model for the reverse from David Wynn's sketch.

Postcard of the Royal Mint at Tower Hill; the closure of production in 1975 brought to an end over 1,000 years of uninterrupted minting in London. Bob stayed behind at Tower Hill when it relocated to Llantrisant



HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH THE QUEEN MOTHER'S 80th BIRTHDAY COMMEMORATIVE COIN COLLECTION

On the 4th August 1980, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother celebrates her 80th Birthday and to commemorate this occasion the Royal Mint is issuing an original collection which will comprise a silver proof crown of the United Kingdom and proof crowns of six Commonwealth countries. The crowns will also be available to collectors individually.

Each coin will be legal tender in its own country and will be struck in sterling silver to proof standard.

Proof coins represent the highest standards of the minter's art. The specially selected silver blanks are struck with considerable force between carefully prepared and ultra sharp dies. This blow presses the design on each side of the blank. The dies used to produce the coins are polished with great care and skill to achieve a mirror-like finish. The proof coin is then struck with extra firm pressure using these special dies to ensure the clarity of detail that is unique to proof coins. The coins in this collection are a reflection of the care, skill, craftsmanship and experience essential for proof coin minting.

This collection of crowns will be of particular interest to collectors because each of the coins feature a different portrait of Her Majesty The Queen Mother on the reverse, whilst depicting the fine Arnold Machin portrait of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on the obverse.

UNITED KINGDOM: The reverse of the crown has been designed by Professor Richard Guyatt and modelled by Robert Elderton. It features The Queen Mother surrounded by a radiating pattern of symbolic bows and lions which is an allusion to her family name of Bowes-Lyon.

The issue limit will be only 250,000 world-wide.

GUERNSEY: The reverse of the crown has been designed and modelled by Franka Selkey, a Governor of St Martin's School of Art. The design depicts a profile of The Queen Mother above a garland of flowers which includes the Guernsey lily and the Elizabeth of Glenside rose.

The issue limit will be only 25,000 world-wide.

GIBRALTAR: The reverse has been designed and modelled by Philip Nathan and depicts a portrait of The Queen Mother with the famous "Rock of Gibraltar" in the background. This rocky promontory covers an area of 2½ square miles and has enjoyed a long and important association with Great Britain.

The issue limit will be only 25,000 world-wide.

FALKLAND ISLANDS: The reverse features a profile of Her Majesty designed and modelled by Philip Nathan. The islands are situated in the South Atlantic about 500 miles from Cape Horn. The population is almost totally British and is principally engaged in sheep farming.

The issue limit will be only 25,000 world-wide.

TRISTAN DA CUNHA: The reverse designed and modelled by Barry Stanton, features a profile of Her Majesty with a garland of small wild roses which are grown on the island. Tristan Da Cunha is situated in the Atlantic half way between South Africa and South America and is remembered because of the volcanic which occurred on 10 October 1961. The population was evacuated to the United Kingdom but returned to the island in 1963.

The issue limit will be only 25,000 world-wide.

ST HELENA: The reverse depicts HMS Vanguard anchored off St Helena on 29th April 1947 when the Queen Mother visited the island as Queen Elizabeth with King George VI. A portrait of the Queen Mother is shown in cameo. The crown has been designed and modelled by Robert Elderton. These

volcanic islands, situated in the Atlantic 1,200 miles off the west coast of Africa are probably the best known of all solitary islands in the world. During the period 1815 to 1821, the island was a place of exile for the Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte who died there on the 5 May 1821.

The issue limit will be only 25,000 world-wide.

TUVALU: The reverse depicts a portrait of Her Majesty, designed and modelled by Philip Nathan. The coin is the largest of the series weighing 26 grammes and measuring 42mm. This group of islands, formerly the Ellice Islands, are situated in the Pacific close to the International Dateline. The islands are noted for their hospitality and navigational skills.

The issue limit will be only 25,000 world-wide.



The leaflet produced by the Royal Mint showing the collection of UK and six Commonwealth commemorative crowns, produced to mark Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother's 80th birthday in 1980

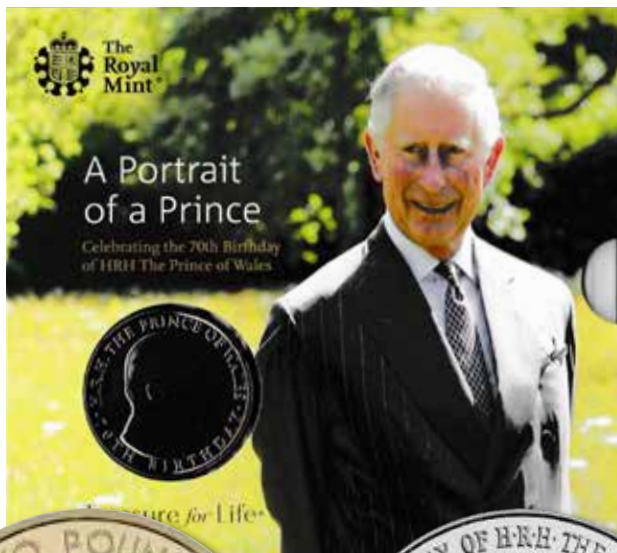
His model of Richard Guyatt's design was used on the reverse of the UK commemorative coin produced to mark Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother's 80th birthday in 1980, depicting the Queen Mother surrounded by a radiating pattern of symbolic bows and lions (an allusion to her family name of Bowes-Lyon), and he designed and modelled the St Helena coin featuring HMS Vanguard anchored off St Helena on 29th April 1947, when the Queen Mother visited the island as Queen Elizabeth with King George VI.

In 1991, as a Senior Mint Engraver, Bob won the first prize for modelling, the Best Senior Award and, for special merit, the prestigious Jacques Cartier Memorial Award at the Craftsmanship and Design Awards ceremony held at Goldsmiths Hall.

Bob left the Royal Mint in 2002, but has produced multiple designs since then, including the two pound coin issued to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the end of the Second World War (2005), featuring images of St Paul's lit up

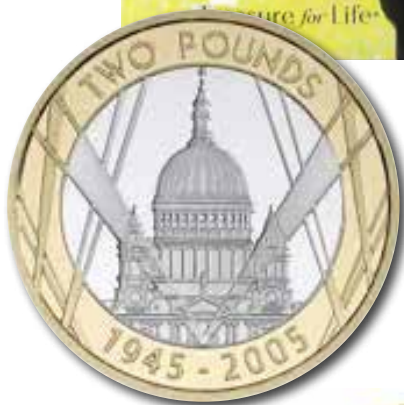


HRH Princess Michael of Kent presents Bob with his awards at Goldsmiths Hall in March 1991



with search beams in the shape of a V for Victory. In 1998 he worked on a coin to mark the 50th birthday of the Prince of Wales, based on a drawing of the Prince by Michael Noakes - Bob helped translate the design into relief form. More recently he sculpted a portrait of Prince Charles, based on his own sketches, on the only official UK coin to commemorate Prince Charles' 70th Birthday, released in November 2018. He is justifiably proud of the many portraits of overseas rulers he created during his time with the Royal Mint.

When asked what he thinks constitutes a 'classic' coin design he says: "It's very difficult ... This, I am sure, would vary from person to person, being very subjective. For me personally, Pistrucci's St George and the Dragon never fails to delight - still out there now and still looking great. I do like a good portrait and we are blessed by many, from George III right up through the years to the fabulous portrait of the Queen by Ian Rank Broadley. All the Britannias are great - such an iconic image, especially those by Philip Nathan. From the recent past, I like anything by Leslie Durbin or John Mills, who was very inventive indeed."



"For me personally, Pistrucci's St George and the Dragon never fails to delight - still out there now and still looking great."

Bob is a Member of the Royal Society of British Sculptors, a Fellow of the Institute of Professional Goldsmiths and a regular contributor to FIDEM exhibitions; his 'Grace Darling' was among the earliest medals issued by the British Art Medal Society (BAMS) in 1983. The cast bronze was inspired by the Strawbs song *Grace Darling*: "You have been my lighthouse/ In every storm/You have given me shelter/You have kept me safe and warm" and refers to the young Grace Darling's heroic rescue of men from drowning off the north east coast of England in 1838. Nearly thirty years later, his second BAMS medal, the bronze *The Saint of St Pancras*, honoured the poet and architectural campaigner John Betjeman, about which he says:

"At the age of sixteen, in the summer of 1964, I started work as an apprentice engraver at the Royal Mint, Tower Hill, London. The engraving work practised was die-sinking, which I found quite difficult and challenging. As my five-year training progressed, part of it full-time at the Sir John Cass and part in the Engraving Department of the Royal Mint, an ever-increasing amount of work on the production of coin dies was done by sculpting, with the end product being reduced by machine to form a die. So in fact I did not continue with much die-sinking professionally for the Royal Mint, as I was required to do more via the sculpting method. Since then, I have only picked up my engraving tools about five times. I like to work on a project once in a while to enter into the Goldsmiths' Craft and Design Council annual competition, to see if my die-sinking skills are still good enough. This is how the Sir John Betjeman observe came into being and I was lucky enough to win a prize. The Goldsmiths' Company suggested that if I were to design a reverse and make a complete medal they would love to have a copy for their collection, so I set to work.

The refurbishment of St Pancras station was very much in the news when I started the project and, of course, so was Sir John. I was a fan of his since his television programmes on the 1960s: *Metroland* and so on. Also he was a member of the Royal Mint Advisory Committee during my apprenticeship, so his name always

"I like to work on a project once in a while to enter into the Goldsmiths' Craft and Design Council annual competition, to see if my die-sinking skills are still good enough. This is how the Sir John Betjeman observe came into being and I was lucky enough to win a prize."





Bob at work in his Royal Mint days, and enjoying a well-earned retirement more recently



had significance for me. I love his collaboration with Jim Parker, who set some of his poems to music with Sir John voicing them. I play them often while working. The wonderful art nouveau pub, the Black Friar, close to London's Blackfriars Bridge would no longer be there if not for his help. This alone would be enough reason to celebrate the man. Early sketches for the reverse were of an old steam train and a modern train emerging from St Pancras. Not happy with this, I added Sir John looking into the scene. I looked for an image of him that might suit. A photograph of him was found looking over a wall and it immediately took me back to my early years when the occasional steam train from Fenchurch Street to Southend would run parallel with the District Line tube at Plaistow, where I lived. If we were in the vicinity of one of the road bridges that spanned the tracks, we would jump up and cling to the bridge wall and try to drop anything we could find – empty cigarette packets, ice lolly sticks – into the funnel. I don't think we ever managed it, but for a small child it was great fun. From seeing that photograph the design changed, and it finished up as you see it now in its modelled form, becoming *The Saint of St Pancras*. So each side of the medal was produced in a different way – the portrait by die-engraving and the other side modelled.”

When asked to pick a favourite design of his own – a difficult task with so many to choose from – he comments: “I do like the set of birds I designed and modelled for the RSPB some years back. I have never seen the finished medals so I am hoping that someone will feel sorry for me and send me a set!”

Part of this article was reproduced from an interview with Robert Elderton by the British Art Medal Society.

Spink will be hosting an exhibition of some of Bob's work in our showroom during the second half of 2019.



The obverse of the Guelphic Medal for Bravery. As originally issued (shown here) it had the 'clip and ring' suspension used on British and Hanoverian Waterloo medals.



A regimental award for the Peninsular War - 23rd Light Dragoons.



Sir Harry Smith's Medal for Gallantry: obverse.



Peter Duckers

EARLY BRITISH GALLANTRY AWARDS

When it came to granting medals to reward the gallantry of her soldiers and sailors, the British authorities were very slow off the mark. The first known medallic awards for gallantry in action were given to Robert Welch and John Smith who received gold medals from King Charles I for their actions in saving the royal standard at the battle of Edge Hill in October 1642. But from then on and right through the 18th Century, gallantry awards were conferred in a very *ad hoc* manner. Medals were given to individuals in ones and twos, as the action seemed to require, and were given not only on behalf of the King but also by societies and even individuals anxious to reward outstanding bravery. The medals were not standardised in design, shape or metal and there was no set of national criteria dictating how, why or to whom such awards should be made.

During the French Revolutionary and Napoleonic Wars (1793-1815) this absence of available rewards obviously caused issues, since many British regiments produced medals to give to their own soldiers. However, not all regiments or corps ever produced such things and those that did only gave them out in small numbers, so that nowadays examples are scarce.

During the French Wars, attractive gold medals were awarded to officers in the navy (Navy Gold Medals) and to the Army (Army Gold Medals and Gold Crosses) but they were not simply awards for bravery in action but rather for distinguished leadership and were awarded in very small numbers.

This lack of official British awards is all the more surprising when one considers that one of

George III's domains, the Electorate of Hanover, actually did produce an official gallantry medal for the Napoleonic Wars. When Hanover was overrun and occupied by French forces in 1803, many members of its disbanded army and many of its male citizens made their way to England (one way or another!) and enlisted in the new King's German Legion, based at Bexhill-on-Sea and Weymouth. This regiment rendered outstanding service all over Europe (Germany, Denmark, Sicily, Holland) and especially through the Peninsular War in Portugal, Spain and Southern France and in the Waterloo campaign. To reward the gallantry of men of the KGL, a new medal was created in 1815, known as the Guelphic Medal for Bravery (after the Guelphs, one of the founding royal houses of Hanover and elsewhere).

The circular silver medal bore the laurelled profile of the Prince of Wales (later George IV) as Prince Regent, exactly as on the Hanoverian Waterloo medal. The reverse bore the legend *Verdienst ums Vaterland* (Meritorious Service for the Fatherland) in a laurel wreath. Like the British and Hanoverian Waterloo medals it is named around the rim to its recipients – so it is amongst the first medals to be officially awarded in this way. Although there are some general and perhaps bland citations, the majority reflect great bravery and often on more than one occasion; they are recorded in *The History of the King's German Legion* by N. B. Ludlow (1834-37 and reprinted).

Given that Britain ruled Hanover, it is rather surprising that the same sort of distinction – a special medal awarded for gallantry – was not



The three classes of the Indian Order of Merit. The 1st Class is solid gold.

produced at this time for British forces. But it remained the case that until the middle of the century, *ad hoc* awards continued to be the norm. A good example of one of these is Sir Harry Smith's Medal for Gallantry. Sir Harry – a famous soldier of the Peninsular War and later administrator in South Africa – gave his name to the town of Harrismith and his wife's to the town of Ladysmith. His 'unofficial' medal was produced when he was Commander in Chief and Governor at the Cape and was awarded to local forces engaged in the Cape frontier war of 1850-51; it was largely given to soldiers of the Cape Mounted Riflemen. As far as is known, about 30 were produced, of which more than 20 survive, the majority privately named to their recipient in a variety of styles. The medal bore on its obverse a lion beneath a crown of laurel leaves, with the year '1851' in the exergue, while the reverse bore PRESENTED BY / HIS EXCELLENCY / SIR H. G. SMITH BART C.G.B. / TO --- with a space for naming, and FOR GALLANTRY IN THE FIELD around

the bottom perimeter. The ribbon is standard size with in dark blue with dark red edges.

The first 'real' gallantry awards in the British imperial system were produced not by the 'home' authorities but in India. The Honourable East India Company, which had already led the way in the general award of campaign medals since the 1770s, produced the first official system of gallantry awards with the Order of Merit. Instituted in 1837, the Order was conferred only on the Indian Other Ranks of the HEICs forces and only for gallantry in action. In three classes, recipients had to be in possession of the lowest (3rd Class) before being promoted within the Order, though examples are known of direct promotion to the 2nd or even 1st Class for repeated acts of gallantry over a short period. Admission to the Order (known as the Indian Order of Merit after 1902 when the British Order of Merit was instituted) also conferred enhanced pay and pensions and, in the case of posthumous awards, allowed payments to the recipient's widow.



Close fighting in the Crimea - the sort of action which inspired the creation of new gallantry awards.



A satirical Crimean War cartoon by 'Punch': "Well Jack, here's good news from home. We're to have a medal!" "That's very kind. Maybe one of these days we'll have a coat to stick it on!"

Even by this stage – the late 1830s – there were no official British medals for gallantry. Soldiers serving, for example, in the 1st Afghan War or Sikh Wars of the 1840s were still reliant on ‘unofficial’ regimentally produced rewards, of which only a few are recorded, or none at all. The situation only changed as a direct result of the Russian War of 1854-56 and in particular of the Crimean War element of the fighting. The campaign in the Crimea saw the first employment of what we would call ‘war correspondents’ – civilians who were specially sent out to the theatre of war to send back reports to the national and local press of Great Britain to give the reading public a detailed view of the ‘seat of war’, the conditions that were being endured, the fighting and the bravery of the forces engaged. The most famous of these – though there were quite a few – was William Howard Russell (later Lord Russell) working for *The Times*. His detailed reports provided in

many cases such shocking accounts of the supply failures, poor medical facilities, inadequate living conditions and the state of the army 'before Sebastopol', that they contributed to the public outcry which led fall of the Aberdeen government; they were even read by the Russian leaders in Sebastopol itself (who subscribed to the newspaper and duly received their copies a few weeks later!) and provided useful accounts of the state and location of allied forces.

Another result of the reports coming back from the Crimea was a growing realisation of the almost daily acts of gallantry being performed by British forces and a corresponding demand for the creation of a gallantry medal to reward soldiers, sailors and marines who were obviously labouring under often appalling difficulties. There is evidence that initially, to try to answer the need, the existing Meritorious Service Medal (1845) was given for acts of gallantry in the Crimea and not simply for the long and meritorious service it was intended to reward. But it is by no means certain that this was done to any large extent and in any case it did not answer the need. The eventual result of parliamentary, press and public demand was the institution in 1854 of the Distinguished Conduct Medal (DCM) – the first official British medal for gallantry.

The DCM was instituted by Royal Warrant of 4th December 1854 to 'mark Our sense of the distinguished, gallant and good conduct of the Army serving in the East' and was to be conferred on the Other Ranks (not officers) of the British Army, 'for distinguished and gallant conduct in the field [not considering] length of service, the general good conduct of the individual (and especially in the late operations) being alone the qualification to entitle him to the reward'. Variable monetary gratuities might or might not be awarded with the DCM.

Approx. 770 DCMs were awarded for the Crimea. The evidence makes it clear that the award was very highly regarded and there are cases where the medal, often presented 'in the field' by commanding officers, was known to have been worn in action by its recipients. Many later awards were personally presented by the monarch.

The obverse and reverse of the CGM (revived post 1874 type)



The Pistrucci obverse of the DCM, as used 1854-1902.



A Crimean DCM group to a soldier of the 33rd who was presented with the medal 'in the field' and recorded that he wore it during the attack on the Redan in September 1855. He also received the French Medaille Militaire (far right).

The circular silver medal of standard size (32mm diameter) featured on its obverse the 'trophy of arms' design by Benedetto Pistrucci of the Royal Mint and already in use on the Army Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. It was altered in 1902 to show the standard profile and titles of the reigning monarch. The reverse was very simple, just with 'FOR DISTINGUISHED CONDUCT IN THE FIELD'; the medal was always awarded named around the rim to its recipient, generally in machine impressed capitals. Its ribbon was crimson with a central blue stripe.

Since the DCM was intended as a reward to the Army only, another new medal was created for the Royal Navy and Royal Marines – again just for Other Ranks – in the form of the Conspicuous Gallantry Medal (CGM), created by Order in Council of 13th August 1855. Despite the extensive deployment of warships on active service and of naval brigades and royal marines ashore, only 11 were actually conferred during the Russian War, with one recipient (Seaman David Barry) awarded two! Because such a small number of medals was required, the Admiralty took the extraordinarily parsimonious step of simply taking that

number of Meritorious Service Medals, erasing 'MERITORIOUS SERVICE' on the reverse and engraving 'CONSPICUOUS GALLANTRY' in its place! The medal then lapsed, with none conferred for naval operations after 1856 until the Ashantee War of 1873-74, when it was revived, this time as a properly-minted medal.

Both the DCM and CGM became obsolete following the honours reforms of 1993, when Other Ranks' medals for gallantry (as opposed to officers' Crosses) were generally abolished and the former officers' awards were opened to all ranks. The loss of the DCM was greatly regretted.

With two gallantry medals to reward the service of Other Ranks, there was still no decoration which could be conferred on officers – other than by admission to one of the high-ranking Orders of Chivalry, like the Order of the Bath. Continued parliamentary, press and public demand while the Crimean War was still being fought finally led to the creation of the Victoria Cross (VC), instituted by Royal Warrant of 29th December 1856 and made retrospective to the beginning of the war early in 1854. This was, for its time, a remarkably

egalitarian award, to be available in the same form to all recipients regardless of rank or social standing and in only one class, the insignia, a plain bronze 'cross pattée' having no elaborate bullion or enamel elements. The first VCs were awarded for service in the Baltic in 1854, in the Crimea 1854-55 and in the Sea of Azoff, 1855. 111 were awarded for the Russian War, 62 of them personally presented by Queen Victoria in a grand review in Hyde Park on 26th June 1857, where they aroused a huge degree of public and press interest, though design of the very plain 'tuppence worth of bronze' did not generally attract favourable comment.

Space does not allow here for a detailed consideration of this, the most famous and highly-regarded of British decorations, but it remains at the top of the British system of rewards for gallantry and to date 1358 have been conferred.

The Spink Pocket Guide to British Gallantry Awards by Peter Duckers will be published by Spink Books this Spring at an RRP of £35. For further information please visit our website, www.spinkbooks.com, or email us on books@spink.com.



The obverse of the Victoria Cross.



The VC as originally awarded to naval and royal marine recipients - worn from a blue ribbon until 1918.



The first presentation of the VC - the Hyde Park ceremony in June 1857.



FAVOURABLE EXCHANGE RATES ENCOURAGE OVERSEAS COLLECTORS TOWARDS THE UK

Scott Nicol



Overseas collectors and auction goers have always been attracted to the heritage and quality of British collectables, from coins, stamps and medals to fine wines, spirits and handbags. Now, due to the global economic slowdown and the sterling's slump following the Brexit vote, favourable exchange rates are offering the perfect opportunity for collectors to add a different kind of collectable to their portfolios – luxury London property.

This trend has already been adopted by foreign investors whose interest in collectables has broadened into property, with many experts putting it down to rapidly softening prices. The quest for a trophy home is a global movement, and international buyers know that the time to attain such a property in the UK is now. Collectors are increasingly interested in prime, heritage and unique addresses previously priced beyond their grasp, and real estate experts have recently started seeing an overlap between clients snapping up luxury property deals and those who attend auctions and art shows.

Activity levels at the top end of London's property market have remained buoyant throughout the Brexit process, with sales of houses worth over £10m tripling and not expected to slow down. Foreign investors who couldn't afford to buy property because of high costs are now able to do so because of the current value of the pound compared to other currencies: the significant value decline of sterling now more than compensates for the 3% second home stamp duty

surcharge which previously put them off, and by default means that they are able to purchase items at auction which would formerly have been beyond their reach. Over the last 12 months, the decline of sterling has effectively shaved over 34% off prices for those purchasing in dollar-based currencies.

According to Knight Frank it is London's rich history, combined with modern amenities, which makes purchasing property in the city so desirable. Take Pinks Mews for example, a development which launched recently around the corner from Spink in Holborn. A gated development comprised of 35 luxurious apartments and duplexes with traditional Victorian façades, it takes its name from the red jackets known as 'hunting pinks' that huntsmen traditionally wore when foxhunting, the bright red colour produced from the Madder plant which was used by the textile workers in the Dyers Building in which the development is housed. This combination of history and luxury makes it an ideal investment for buyers wanting a 'collectable' property, and highly convenient for visitors to Spink as well! (For more information about the development please visit www.pinkmews.co.uk.)

As we head towards 'D-day' and a possible Brexit let's hope that this trend continues to attract foreign investors to both the property and collectables markets.



Sean Connery – You Only Live Twice (1967)



1. Commander Order of St Michael and St George 2. Distinguished Service Order 3. 1939-45 Star
4. Atlantic Star 5. Pacific Star (the rosette refers to Burma)
6. Defence Medal 7. War Medal

Roger Moore – The Spy Who Loved Me (1977)



1. Naval General Service Medal 2. General Service Medal

Pierce Brosnan – Tomorrow Never Dies (1997)



1. CBE/OBE/MBE (military) 2. Distinguished Service Cross 3. General Service Medal
4. UN –Yugoslav Wars 5. NATO – former Yugoslavia 6. Rhodesia Medal



Edward Hilary Davis

IAN FLEMING, 007: SOCIALITES, SPIES AND SPINK WHOEVER SAID COINS AND MEDALS WERE BORING?

As some readers may know, Spink has a surprising connection to 007. In Ian Fleming's book *Live and Let Die*, Bond consults Spink to verify some gold Caribbean treasure coins. Fleming (1908-1964) took a great deal of care in researching the James Bond character and books, visiting exotic locations, consulting with gun makers, sampling cocktails, and, more surprisingly, corresponding with and visiting Spink at its offices in King Street over several days to get a better understanding of rare and valuable gold coins.

In the *Live and Let Die* book, Bond must use knowledge of the coin/bullion trade in order to outwit his opponents. He becomes involved with the villain 'Mr Big', who is smuggling 17th century gold coins from British Caribbean Territories and releasing them quietly onto the market, funding illegal drug trade, voodoo, and the Russian secret service agency SMERSH. It is often remarked that Spink specialists would have an excellent cover for being secret agents – frequently travelling all over the world to meet collectors, corporations and governments – but sadly the Spink specialist plot line was not included in the 1973 film adaptation, which featured the late Sir Roger Moore KBE on his first outing as 007. If anyone from the Broccoli family or EON Productions is reading this, one hopes they might consider resurrecting such a plot line!

Coincidentally, being a Spink Specialist is not the first job I've held which has featured in a Bond novel/film! 007 fans will remember that in *On Her Majesty's Secret Service* (1969) James Bond visited the College of Arms and posed as Officer of Arms – Sir Hilary Bray – in order to obtain entry to the villain Blofeld's lair, who wished to have his title of Comte de Bleauchamp 'confirmed'. The College's appearance as a central part of the plot line comes from Fleming's correspondence and friendship with Robin Grinnell-Milne (1925-2012), later known as Count Robin de la Lane-Mirrlees, Baron of Inchdrewer. It is said that some of Bond's background and character traits were inspired by Grinnell-Milne, and certainly he drew upon his experience as a research assistant to one of the Officers of Arms to help Fleming with the book – I, too, held the same position for several years before coming to Spink! Robin became an Officer at the College, with the title of Rouge Dragon Pursuivant – perhaps this explains 007's cover as 'Sable Basilisk' – and, key to the plot, is Blofeld having no earlobes, a feature suggested by Robin who was himself sans lobes! (In the 1969 film adaptation starring George Lazenby, there was in fact a fight scene and chase filmed on the roof of the College of Arms which was edited out of the final version, although stills of this scene are on YouTube). Fleming and Robin connected fictional Bond with a real ancestor – Sir Thomas Bond Bt (1620-1685), after whom Bond Street in Westminster is named. The



On Her Majesty's Secret Service Book



Mirrlees and Le Fleming medals



Canadian Volunteer Service medal with volunteer maple leaf clasp and the Dieppe clasp

Bond motto, *ORBIS NON SUFFICIT*, was the inspiration for the title of the 1999 Bond film: *The World is Not Enough*.

The Fleming-Robin connection contributed to give the Bond character background and depth, particularly the Scottish ancestry and minor aristocracy. Robin was a lover of the high life and considered a great socialite, with the background, position at court and the looks to carry it off. Born in Cairo the son of a WW1 Flying Ace, Duncan Grinnell-Milne MC DFC & Bar, and Countess Frances de la Lanne, and with the Duke of Argyle as godfather, he was a linguist, genealogist, castle owner and restorer and served as an Artillery man. He loved his titles. He was recognised as a Count by San Marion, a Feudal Baron in Scotland, a Knight of Malta, and claimed to have been made a Prince by Peter II, the last King of Yugoslavia. He also had a relationship with a Württemberg Princess, with whom he had a son.

One can imagine my interest then, when a client brought to me the medals of Robin's family for restoration, mounting and casing. Robin's parents divorced in 1927 and his mother married Maj-Gen William Mirrlees CB

DSO MC, Royal Artillery. His new stepfather provided yet another surname and likely his entry into the Royal Artillery. The medals of Maj-Gen Mirrlees were accompanied by those of his father, Major Arthur Mirrlees OBE TD (Sherwood Rangers), and those of his cousin-in-law, Maj-Gen Roger Le Fleming CB OBE MC, who had a long and distinguished career serving in France, Mesopotamia and Somaliland and held commands in the Indian Army right up until independence. Sadly the Le Fleming surname and its connection to both Robin and Ian Fleming seem to be just a coincidence, however.

It is likely that Ian Fleming had his own military medals mounted by Spink in King Street, which was very close to the bar at Duke's Hotel – a favourite watering hole, and supposed site of the Vesper martini inspiration. Certainly both he and the film producers took special interest in Bond's own medals. Fleming gives 007 a CMG (commander of the Order of St Michael and St George), which is apt as it is an order awarded to civil servants on secret and official work undertaken in the service of the state. In several of the film adaptations one can see the



HM's College of Arms in the City of London



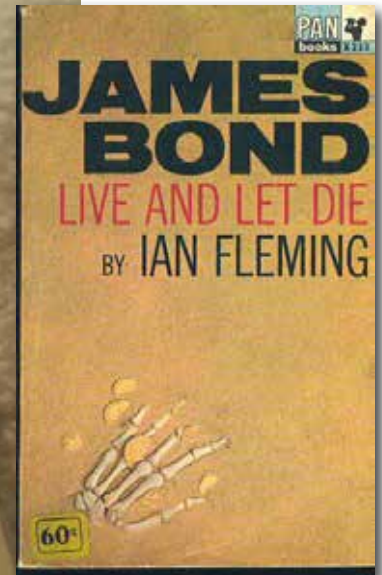
An 'Enigma I' Machine



Ian Fleming

Bond character in his Royal Navy Commander uniform with ribbon bars, but adjusted for the times – the modern-day Bond couldn't have WW2 medals as by now he'd likely be too old to jump out of planes, fight henchmen and sleep with beautiful young ladies – though some of you may disagree!

The CMG appears in M's obituary of Bond in the film *Skyfall* (2012), however earlier Bond films seem to have muddled the waters. In *You Only Live Twice* (1967, with Sir Sean Connery) 007 seems to have also been given the DSO (Distinguished Service Order) as well as a brace of WW2 medals. The next time we see Bond in uniform and medals is during the height of the Cold War, in *The Spy Who Loved Me* (1977), when there were far fewer medals on show: Roger Moore wears the ribbons of the Naval General Service Medal and a General Service Medal, but the producers seem to have stripped him of his CMG. The most recent uniformed Bond is Pierce Brosnan OBE in *Tomorrow Never Dies* 1997, whose cluster of ribbons perhaps carefully hint at a Special Forces career prior to his joining MI6 – judging by the NATO UN medals. Again there is no CMG, though it has



Live and Let Die book

Mexico 1598-1621 Phillip III reales

been replaced with a military CBE/OBE/MBE – a much more typical award to officers in recent times – as well as a DSC (Distinguished Service Cross). It goes without saying that the attention to detail in both the books and films has always been extremely careful.

On a more recent note, readers may remember another Spink connection to the famous fictional spy: Fleming's great friend, step-cousin and fellow intelligence officer, Sir Christopher Lee CBE, who went on to become an award-winning actor and was at one time Fleming's preferred choice to play Bond. He never filled the role but did play the unforgettable villain Scaramanga in *The Man with the Golden Gun* (1974), and in 2017 Spink hosted a special auction of his medals, film trophies and his father's medals; the Lees also had their medals mounted by Spink on many occasions.

In 2018, I discovered a more personal connection to Fleming. In recent years, thanks to

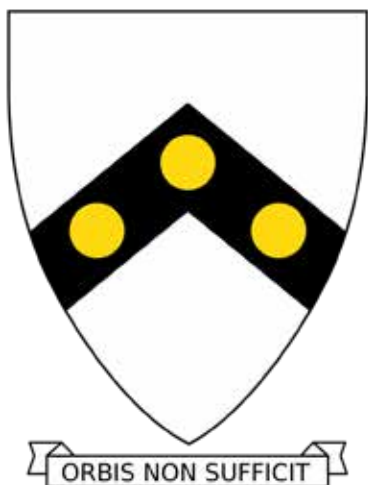
thousands of formerly secret documents being brought to light, it seems that the infamous Dieppe Raid of 1942, a disaster for the allies, most especially the Canadians, was in fact an 'Enigma pinch' job that was possibly the brainchild of one Naval Intelligence Officer – Ian Fleming. The plan was to have allied troops landing on the heavily guarded beaches in and around German-held Dieppe, which would act as a bold and bloody distraction while a special task group would snatch an enigma machine and its code books from a hotel housing the German Communications HQ. This operation was the initial reason for the founding of the famous 30AU (Assault Unit), a special commando force which Fleming was instrumental in establishing, originally based in Littlehampton, West Sussex. On the day of the operation, Fleming waited on a ship just offshore hoping to take receipt of the captured device and deliver it to Bletchley Park, but the raid was unsuccessful – information which

Sir Christopher Lee CBE as Scaramanga

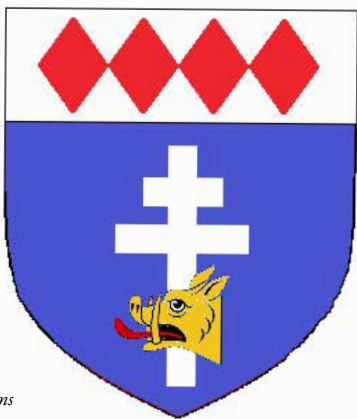


Portrait of Robin De La Lanne-Mirrlees as Richmond Herald of Arms

*The Bond
Coat of Arms
and motto*



*The imagined
Blofeld coat of arms*



came as a shock and perhaps a relief to some servicemen and their families, who have puzzled over the purpose of the raid for years. A 'rehearsal' for D-Day, or a deliberately failed attempt to prove to the Russians that a Western Front was not yet possible? The Enigma story is more understandable, but meant that many lives were risked and lost in the failed capture of just one machine – of the 5,000 Canadian troops who took part, 68% were killed, captured or wounded. Indeed my own great grandfather, who was in the Toronto Scottish Regiment, was struck in the head during the raid and never fully recovered. Naturally, his medals have been mounted and cased by Spink – including the special Dieppe Raid clasp.

Who know if we may uncover more connections between Commander J Bond CMG RN, his creator and Spink in the future – we watch and wait!



B212, Mahon same serial pair



B256, concertina error



B324, offset printing (mirror image)

BANK OF ENGLAND ERROR BANKNOTES

I was first introduced to the joys of collecting error banknotes during my honeymoon. My husband, Peter, knew of Stanley Gibbons, though at the time I had not heard of them. He took me to this grand and austere company in the Strand, where I had the opportunity to buy a pair of Bank of England £1 errors with differing serials for £6 each. I then purchased another different serial £1 error at Spink & Son, King Street also for £6, but realised upon reaching home that I should have purchased the consecutively numbered error banknote as well, so I spoke with Barnaby Faull on the phone and reserved the second £1. Since those exciting moments in 1977 the collection has grown somewhat. I have been fortunate to obtain banknotes not only from auctions, private individuals and other collectors, but also some obscure sources: one £10 banknote with extra paper in the collection was found by a Liverpool Docker in his wage packet. The banknotes preceding and following, consecutively numbered, were perfect; as a young collector at the time I worked out that I could only afford the three if I spent the two normal banknotes and kept the error.

I joined the International Bank Note Society in 1977 and subsequently bid in a London branch auction for a 10s Concertina error. At £8.50 I had to scrabble around to find the money in all my pockets of my leather jacket – fortunately, as a motorcyclist requiring oil for my two stroke BSA 175cc, I found I had enough to pay for my lot! Since those heady early days prices have increased slowly, encouraging more error banknote collectors.

Although there are innumerable types of errors to collect – missing colour(s), missing print, mirror images (offset printing), differing serials etc – I find collecting same serial pairs

and extra paper the most fascinating. As a prefix collector, errors on a true first or true last prefix are interesting in that a true last can be more difficult to find – the error pointing out the reason why this was the case.

Much information usually lost on the sheet margins can be gleaned from extra paper errors, such as cutting lines, colour control markings and depth of impression guides, and can give an insight in to how printers produce banknotes.

I don't believe in only collecting uncirculated errors. I have a 10s Treasury error that had a handwritten note pinned to it by the vendor: the Marquis of Bute had sent his butler to purchase it for his collection.

Taking over the reigns as author of *English Paper Money*, I have added new sections including Treasury Trials and Errors.

Extra paper can occur in the following ways:

1a. The corner of the sheet is folded when going through the stacking, guillotine process; a banknote will enter into circulation with extra paper on one of the four corners.

1b. The sheet was folded between or before the printing processes; it will have extra paper when opened out showing missing or part-missing print.

2. 1a and 1b extra paper banknotes occur full size with an extra piece of paper, but on occasion banknotes are folded in such a manner that not only do you get a portion of extra paper but a large piece of the banknote is trimmed off too.

3. Extra paper can occur through a crease or creases in a sheet before printing, causing one or more streaks of white on the banknote when opened out. The complete design exists but is separated by the white streak(s), the banknote being elongated. A rarer occurrence is when the paper creases between printing passes, and when opened up shows an under print.

B327, replacement
with paper crease
showing the
underprint



B332, offset printing
Queen and text from
front on reverse



B334, extra paper
missing print showing
design from reverse





*B334, print shift
over Queen's face*



B341, overinking



*B341, paper join
with a Portals
hand stamp*



*B355, paper creases
producing extra paper*

B358, extra paper pair



B369, extra paper pair



B385, true last prefix extra paper



T30, first prefix extra paper



This is the 10/- note I spoke to you about - which Mr Hussy received as change.

The bad trimming was evidently done at the paper mill as there is no watermark in the piece at the corner.

NO
11/4/23.

4. There is also the possibility of the sheet tearing and a piece of paper folding under or over.

5. Concertina errors occur when the edge of the sheet is bunched up, causing the final banknote to have extra paper that opens out more than once like a pleated skirt.

6. Paper join errors (not technically extra paper) occur when the paper makers create a join in the jumbo roll; the pressure on the rollers in the printing press momentarily lifts in order to let the join through. The banknotes printed on this 'double paper' should be discarded as printers' waste. These joins are marked in various ways, including the use of brightly coloured paper and handstamps.

It is possible for two or more of the above categories to occur on the same banknote. Nicknames are given to some of the 'extra paper' banknotes: 'Sharks Fin' when a top corner has extra paper when unfolded, 'Fish Tail' or 'Boat Rudder' when a the bottom corner is unfolded, for obvious reasons!

Almost every type of error can be found in all series and denominations. As an error collector I would like a polymer error, but so far the only genuine one I have come across is a serial error. It is not possible with today's modern machinery and up to date technology to issue a polymer banknote missing ink - ink can easily be removed with acetone (nail varnish), and all those that I have seen have been faked.

As an avid collector of anything 'Bank of England' my motto is: There is always another banknote. Always something else to look out for and yes, I check every single banknote I receive.

Pam West Life member: IBNS 79 - ANA 6051 - SPMC 424. Pam is currently Chairperson of the London branch IBNS, which meets in the Spink auction room on the last Thursday of the month (except September & December) at 6.30pm - all are welcome - you do not have to be a member of the IBNS. Just turn up.



Fig. 1 – stamp of Great Britain 2010 with King William III



Fig. 2 – stamp of USA 1987 with Monarch butterfly



Fig. 3 – stamp of Great Britain 2011 with King George III



Fig. 4 – stamp of Australia 1983 with Clearwing Swallowtail



Fig. 5 – post card of Sweden with King Gustav IV Adolf



Fig. 6 – stamp of Sweden 1977 with Uppsala University



Fig. 7 – stamp of Bulgaria 1907 with Prince Ferdinand



Fig. 8 – imperforated stamp of Bulgaria 1915 with Tsar Ferdinand I



Fig. 9 – stamp of Bulgaria 1962 with butterfly Allancastris cerisy



Vladimir Kachan

COLLECTING BUTTERFLIES: AN EXCITING PASSION OF KINGS AND TSARS

Naturalists have collected butterflies for over 300 years with the earliest surviving specimens dating from the late 17th century, the beginning of the Scientific Revolution. Butterfly collections were a result of an ever-growing interest in natural history and many were displayed in curio cabinets throughout the town houses and country mansions of the wealthy society of Europe. Even Kings and Tsars were enchanted by the graceful movements and vibrant colours of butterflies.

William III (1650–1702), widely known as William of Orange, was sovereign Prince of Orange from birth, Stadtholder of Holland, Zeeland, Utrecht, Gelderland and Overijssel in the Dutch Republic from 1672 and King of England, Ireland and Scotland from 1689 until his death in 1702 (**Fig. 1**). King William III had a passion for gardening; however his interest was largely motivated by politics, as the elaborate, grandiose gardens of the royal palaces enhanced his political status. He also liked to collect butterflies, enriching his collection with new specimens brought from scientific expeditions and voyages to distant lands. During his two visits to the East Indies (1696–1697 and 1698–1699), British trader and naturalist James Cunningham collected extensive quantities of butterflies and botanical material that found its way into the herbaria of King William III's botanist. The vases filled with rare flowers and collection of beautiful butterflies were not just intended for pleasure and amusement, but were part of the pomp and circumstance befitting a palace. By collecting these treasures, the court aimed to stand out as a model of splendour on

the international stage and probably assert itself against the French power represented by Louis XIV.

The American butterfly Monarch (**Fig. 2**) has a direct relationship to William III. Apparently, the sight of the Monarch butterfly and its orange colour impressed the early settlers, who came to North America from Holland and England, so they named it “Monarch,” after him.

George III also liked butterflies, and participated in the pursuit of entomology (**Fig. 3**), being the first king to study science as part of his education. Kew Palace, his summer home, was purchased in 1781 and the gardens enriched so that he could enjoy the sight of butterflies among flowers in an exotic garden. He was fascinated by magnificent specimens brought from distant lands, and admired the unusual Clearwing Swallowtail, or ‘Big Greasy’ (**Fig. 4**), which was presented to him by friend Sir Joseph Banks after the first voyage of discovery on Endeavor in 1771, caught by Banks in New Holland (Australia). George's interest was so great that in 1810 he acquired one of the first editions of *Metamorphosis Insectorum Surinamensium* of Maria Sibylla Merian (hand-painted on vellum) for the Royal Collection. This edition was hand coloured by Merian making it both rare and very special.

Gustav IV Adolf (1778–1837) was King of Sweden (**Fig. 5**) from 1792 until his abdication in 1809, and also the last Swedish ruler of Finland. He had a great interest in natural objects and assembled an extensive natural history collection that included seashells, fossils and insects, many of which were colourful butterflies and moths.



Fig. 10 - proof of Bulgaria stamp 1921 with King Boris III



Fig. 11 - souvenir sheet of Bulgaria 1984 with butterfly



Fig. 12 - souvenir sheet of Bulgaria 2009 with National Natural History Museum



Fig. 13 - imperforated Stamp of Egypt 1950 with King Farouk



Fig. 14 - stamp of Papua New Guinea 1975 with rare butterfly *Ornithoptera allotei*



Fig. 15 - stamp of Belgium 1934 with King Leopold III

This collection was donated to the University of Uppsala (**Fig. 6**) in 1803.

Ferdinand I (1861–1948) of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha was the second monarch of the Third Bulgarian State, firstly as knyaz (ruling prince) from 1887 to 1908, and later as Tsar from 1908 until his abdication in 1918. He was an avid amateur naturalist, with an interest in ornithology, entomology and botany from a young age, but collecting butterflies was his passion.

In 1889 Ferdinand (**Fig. 7**) placed at the palace chambers his personal collection of Bulgarian and tropical birds, mammals and butterflies – thus laying the foundations of the first Bulgarian museum, known today as the National Natural Science Museum. In 1914 and 1915, Ferdinand (**Fig. 8**) personally organised and led the first two major scientific expeditions to explore the Pirin mountain range, where he made the first of a number of discoveries in botany and

entomology, capturing several species of butterfly specifically sought by him and unknown until then in certain territories: *Archon apollinus* and *Euchloe penia*, new to Bulgaria; *Thaumatopoea solitaria*, new for the eastern half of the Balkan peninsula; *Charaxes jasius*, new for Northern Bulgaria; and *Allancastris cerisy*, later described as new to science subspecies *ferdinaudi*.

Ferdinand Coburg was an inconsistent sovereign, a good diplomat, a great traveller, and an expert in the field of natural sciences, actively controlling 17 languages and lecturing at major European nature congresses (London, Amsterdam, Berlin). He travelled the world, but never went beyond Sofia without a net of butterflies. The Bulgarian Ferdinand butterfly (**Fig. 9**), *Allancastris cerisy ferdinaudi*, was named as a remarkable ruler of nature, and is found only on the Balkan Peninsula.

Boris III (1894–1943), the eldest son



Fig. 16 - stamp of Brazil 1971 with Blue Morpho butterfly



Fig. 17 – miniature sheet of Congo 2012 with butterflies



Fig. 18 – booklet of Belgium 1996 with the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences

of Ferdinand I, was Tsar of Bulgaria from 1918 until his death, but would have been a lepidopterist and botanist (Fig. 10) had he had his wish. His interest in the science of nature began under the influence of his father; he started collecting rare insects and plants and making collections of butterflies as a child. His rich collection of several thousand butterflies from all over Bulgaria and Europe (Fig. 11) still exists in the National Natural History Museum (Fig. 12). Boris discovered rare and completely unknown plants and insects, and had five species of plants, 11 species of animal and one class of bird named 'Boris' in his honour.

King Farouk of Egypt was the penultimate King of Egypt (succeeding his father, Fuad I), from 1936–1952 (Fig. 13), known for his extravagance and lavish lifestyle. Among other objects he collected coins, weapons, watches, cigarettes, cars and postage stamps, and was fascinated by butterflies. His unique collection consisted of 7,000 butterflies from all parts of the world, including very rare species (Fig. 14). At present, this beautiful collection of butterflies is on display in the Hunting Museum of the Manial Palace in Cairo.

Leopold III (1901–1983) reigned as fourth King of the Belgians from 1934 until 1951 (Fig.

15), following the death of his father King Albert I. He was also a keen amateur entomologist who liked to collect butterflies.

At the age of 18 Leopold went on his first big trip to Brazil, where he first caught the exotic Blue Morpho with iridescent blue wings (Fig. 16). In 1925 he made a long trip to the Congo, where he took extensive notes on and collected several specimens of the flora and fauna he encountered, especially unusual African butterflies (Fig. 17); from December 1928 until May 1929 made a voyage through the Dutch Indies (now Indonesia) collecting many more butterfly species.

Leopold remained fascinated with butterflies throughout his life; after his abdication in 1951, he devoted himself entirely to scientific work in the field of entomology, making several scientific expeditions to tropical countries, publishing a number of studies of great importance and creating the "King Leopold III Fund for Nature Exploration and Conservation". His collection of butterflies was donated to the Van Straelen Museum (now Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences) (Fig. 18).

For help with creating philatelic exhibits on butterflies and moths please contact vladimirkachan@mail.ru.





Gregory Edmund

PROVENANCE – IS IT WORTH IT?

To many in the art world, the concept of provenance is not only familiar, but an essential component to the establishment of value on the open market, even if that means ‘pedigreeing’ all the way back to the artist’s brush or sculptor’s hand. This has not always been true in the numismatic world, but with new regulations coming into force in Europe, once again coin collectors must contemplate following suit.

Over the two centuries of specialist coin auctions, the issue of provenance has ebbed and flowed, with one generation to the next being as equally defined by their treasuring its importance, as for their noteworthy disregard for it. With the addition of third-party authentication and grading a new phenomenon in this traditional cycle, only time will tell how far these two poles will blur. However the recent dispersal of the Dr Erik Miller collection through our London saleroom has once again brought this traditional element back to the fore. The assemblage was an exemplary combination of ‘fresh’ material, unseen at a public saleroom for over half-a-century, twinned with spectacularly high grade coinage that ensured market sensation from the outset. However there was more to these coins, the highlights of which came on our opening night of sale. Although a selection of only 37 silver Crowns, each was accompanied at consignment by an original invoice of purchase from the household London dealerships (Spink and Baldwin), and most in turn having originated from the now fabled names of 20th Century numismatic icons such as Herbert Muschamp Lingford, Dr Ernest Christison Carter, and Samuel Whetmore to name but a few. However nestled within the individual stories of these exalted coins, one stood out.

Being one of the first coins to be struck after the historic Act of Union, the 1707 Edinburgh Crown was always destined to be a noteworthy date in a collector’s cabinet. The example that arrived into Miller’s hands via a Spink private sale in July 1964 was no exception, but unfortunately arrived with Erik unprovenanced. However with additional

research, this author was able to trace its first auction appearance back to the Marquess of Bute sales of 1951. As was the fate of many estates post-war, rising death duties prompted swift auction dispersal and the ignominy of once proud country collections being scattered into the wider market place, their illustrious heritage forgotten. However, by sheer fortune, Jonathan Rashleigh, a scion of the famous Cornish numismatic family, ventured to see the Bute collection in its entirety following the death of the 2nd Marquess in 1848. His visit, recorded for posterity in the annals of the Numismatic Chronicle not only reveal the origins of the Bute collection, but also the whereabouts of our 1707 Crown a century prior to sale. His account documents the assemblage as the project of John Stuart, 3rd Earl of Bute (1713-1792), but he soon lamented that the general condition of his 4,700 coins and medals were largely not worthy of remark. However his identification of “*a Crown and Half-crown of Queen Ann, with E below the bust; and a shilling and sixpence of the same queen with E* below the bust*” would suggest that John Stuart was once possessor of a 1707 Edinburgh coinage “set” – especially as Rashleigh adds: “*[they] are as fine as (if indeed they are not) patterns and are as beautiful as if just from the mint.*” As the largest constituent element, evidently, Miller’s Crown is of broader numismatic significance, particularly in the context of John Stuart, who as confidant and private tutor to King George III, would later become the first Scotsman to hold the post of Prime Minister of Great Britain. Whilst sadly no record survives at the Bute seat of Mount Stuart, quite conceivably this “set” came as a presentation to the 3rd Earl in recognition of his accomplishment.

Re-establishing such an enchanting story from one coin may be remarkable to readers today, but more workaday in years to come – it will be up to the next generation of collectors who decide how they choose to value it.

The Dr Erik Miller Collection Part I - Crowns sale took place at Spink London on 26th March 2019.

FORTHCOMING EVENT

ORDERS, DECORATIONS AND MEDALS

London, 10th – 11th April 2019

Spink's eagerly-awaited Spring Medal auction comprises 1,262 Lots, the largest offering since July 2007. There are no fewer than eight special sections, featuring items never before seen on the market.

It is hard to imagine two more different people than Sir Nicholas Pevsner and Field-Marshal Chetwode, but both men's honours and awards form part of the sale (Lots 512-523 and 509-510), with Chetwode's Baton as its centrepiece. We have the medals to the Duke of Wellington's Orderly at the Battle of Waterloo, Private Christopher Chapman, who became his valet at Walmer Castle until the Duke's death in 1852 (Lot 592). There is a fascinating Great War trio to Chief Petty Officer WW Collins (Lot 714), a Royal Academician who observed the Gallipoli landings from a balloon above HMS *Manica* and painted scenes of the action.

Lots 367-384 are a stunning and rarely-seen collection of awards to officers of the Crimean War, many of whom were photographed by the celebrated Roger Fenton. Two men in this section were prominent at the Charge of the Heavy Brigade at Balaklava (Lots 371-372), while Lot 375 is sold with over forty handwritten letters, with the signatures of General De Lacy Evans and Sir John Pennefather. The auction concludes with a choice selection of Foreign Orders & Decorations, including an impressive run of Spanish campaign medals (Lots 1237-1251) and a 1st Class set of Insignia of China's Order of the Brilliant Star (Lot 1174).

*Our star Lot, Lot 509, the
Field-Marshal's Baton awarded
to Field-Marshal Chetwode
(£30-40,000)*



We will be accepting consignments for our next Orders, Decorations and Medals sale, to be held in London on 24th and 25th July 2019, until late May. For further information on all our sales please contact Marcus Budgen, mbudgen@spink.com.

SPINK

LONDON
1666

UPCOMING BANKNOTE AUCTIONS

Over 17th and 18th April Spink will be holding the first series of their prestigious Banknote auctions of 2019. Commencing with the renowned 'Ibrahim Salem Collection of British Commonwealth – Part I'; Part II is to be offered later this year and both will contain a plethora of rarities from around the globe.

The Salem sale is swiftly followed by the 'World Banknote' sale – this includes several single-vendor collections, not least the outstanding 'Drs. Joanne & Edward Dauer Collection of India' which features one of the best India collections extant today. Also included are the 'Michel Muszynski Collection of Sub-Saharan Africa' and the 'Alan Cole Collection of Poland'.



Lot 148: Bermuda Gov., £5, 1941. Possibly the most elusive of all Commonwealth banknotes and additionally a very desirable 'Number 1'.



Lot 359: Banque Centrale, Etats de l'Afrique Equatoriale, 1000 Francs, ca. 1962. Superbly rare in such good condition.



Lot 539: Reserve Bank of India (Burma), 100 Rupees, ca. 1937. Extremely rare and a superb example of type.



Lot 1272: Zanzibar Govt., Colour Trial 20 Rupees, 1928. Excessively rare and possibly the only example extant today.

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FORTHCOMING EVENT

SPRING BANKNOTE SALES

London, 17th – 18th April 2019

Our traditional April auctions are set to feature some really superb material from a number of significant collections. Firstly, we kick-off with another aspect of The Ibrahim Salem Collection; Ibrahim's name will be well-known to most of our banknote collectors and regular clients as he has possibly the world's largest collection of paper money! Over the past few years he has been selling various aspects of his collection through Spink and Part One of his Commonwealth Collection is set to go under the hammer on 17th April, with Part Two following in October.

As to be expected from the quality of Ibrahim's material, Part One features some remarkable rarities and notes that one simply does not see outside of private institutions or major collections – for reasons of space it is obviously only possible to include a few highlights here but they include a Commonwealth of Australia £10 of 1925 in PMG holder 55 About Uncirculated (astonishingly rare in such good condition) with an estimate of £12,000 - £16,000 (**Fig.1**); the low-numbered Bahamas Government \$100 of 1965 (an important note for any collection of the Bahamas or Caribbean) estimated at £15,000 - £20,000 (**Fig.2**); a Government of Gibraltar specimen £50 of August 1914 which combines extreme rarity with superb condition (in addition to being the only example known in private hands!) is to be offered at £30,000 - £40,000 (**Fig.3**); and leaving best until last a Bermuda £5 of August 1941 which not only has serial number A000001 but has been graded 58 Choice About Uncirculated by PMG: surely the cornerstone of any Commonwealth collection, this elusive and historically important note in such astonishingly good condition carries an estimate of £35,000 - £45,000. (**Fig.4**)



Fig. 1



Fig. 2



Fig. 3



Fig. 4



The following day, 18th April, we have our World Banknote sale and in addition to the usual diverse and eclectic offering we are again fortunate to have some outstanding collections from private individuals – for example, this sale catalogue will feature chapters including: ‘The Drs. Joanne and Edward Dauer Collection of India’; ‘The Michel Muszynski Collection of Sub-Saharan Africa’; and ‘The Alan Cole Collection of Poland’.

From the Dauer Collection, particular highlights include a Bombay 'Rupees Two Annas Eight' of 1917 in remarkably fine condition (PMG grade 53 About Uncirculated) with an estimate of £6,000 - £8,000 **D1**; a Ceylon 50 Rupees dated Colombo 1st June 1926 with PMG grade 25 Very Fine (£8,000 - £9,000) **D2**; a superlative Reserve Bank of India (Rangoon, Burma) 100 Rupees of 1937 with PMG grade 25 Very Fine and an estimate of £20,000 - £25,000 **D3**; and last but by no means least a 1928 1000 Rupees in PMG holder 35 Choice Very Fine estimated at £12,000 - £16,000. **D4** The Dauer Collection was put together by a husband-and-wife team who only bought the very best of everything – a fact clearly evident in only these few examples above.

Michel Muszynski's collection features an extremely colourful selection of notes from the former French Sub-Saharan colonies, many of which are extremely difficult to find in good condition due to both the type of paper used in producing these notes and also the local climate not being conducive to the preservation of paper! Notable pieces include a *Banque de l'Afrique Occidentale* specimen 5000 Francs of 1950 (estimated at £600 - £800) **M1**; another specimen 5000 Francs, this time from the mid-1950's and from the *Institut d'Emission de l'Afrique Occidentale Française et du Togo*, in PMG holder 63 EPQ Choice Uncirculated and estimated at £1,500 - £2,000 **M2**; a 1962 *Cameroun Banque Centrale* 1000 Francs (estimate £1,000 - £1,500) with PMG designation 65 EPQ Gem Unc., (**M3**) and another PMG 65 EPQ in the shape of a *Republique Centrafricaine* 5000 Francs of 1980, carrying a similar estimate of £1,000 - £1,200. (**M4**)

M1



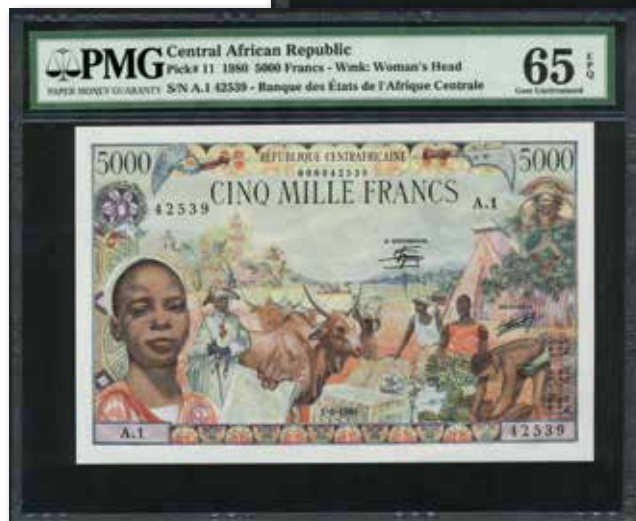
M2



M3



M4





LM1



LM2



LM4

To round-off the Spring series we will be offering the British Banknote sale on 9th May – which as with our World auction features major contributions from notable private collections, specifically the ‘Lou Manzi Collection’ and ‘A.J. Simms Collection’ of British notes. Of the former, Head of the Banknote Department Barnaby Faull says:

“The Lou Manzi Collection is simply the best English collection, note-for-note, extant today. There may be larger collections out there, but the quality of this particular one is outstanding and unmatched. I am confident that the catalogue alone will be a valuable reference work for generations of future collectors.”

and of the latter:

“...the Simms Collection bears ample witness to the passion of a collector of Bank of England currency whose collection features notes now impossible to find: these two superb offerings epitomise the pinnacle of English banknote collecting.”

Without a doubt, the major highlight will be the Bank of England £1 (Abraham Newland, 2nd March 1797) serial Number 2: a note of historical importance, note Number 1 is still ‘at large’ and Numbers 3 & 4 are in private collections – this example therefore presents possibly a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to acquire a banknote of immense rarity and carries an estimate to reflect this at £50,000 - £60,000. **(LM1)**

Another superlative note is a Bank of England £100 (Thos. Rippon, 23rd July 1832) – found many years ago in the back of an old piece of furniture (don’t you just wish that sort of thing happened more often!) the combination of date, value (in 1832, £100 could have bought you a country estate) this is believed to be the only example extant today and is estimated at £30,000 - £40,000 **(LM2)**. Moving on into slightly more recent times but yet another important example of banknote history is a 10/- Treasury note (J. Bradbury, 1914) with serial number A/1 000001. Not only an amazingly rare piece but in close to ‘Uncirculated’ condition it has an estimate

of £15,000 - £20,000. (LM3)
 With so many exceptional notes to choose from it was difficult to find a 'final' example to highlight here...however, mention must be made of a historically fascinating pair of low-numbered first-issue notes (10/- & £1, C.P. Mahon, A01 000087) accompanied by several pieces of ephemera – not least a personal letter signed by Winston Churchill during his tenure as Chancellor of the Exchequer. The letter is addressed to a parliamentary colleague, Mr. A.M. Samuel M.P, who was responsible for the 'Currency Note Bill' (amalgamating the Treasury Currency notes with the Bank of England white note) and complimented with another letter

from the Secretary of the Bank of England, writing both to gift Mr. Samuel the accompanying notes but to refuse his request for 'No.1' of each as they were already set aside for HM King George V! In addition to this, for the PMG enthusiast there is a further bonus that the £1 carries a grade of 67 EPQ* - very rarely seen even on modern banknotes! This group, as one Lot, is estimated at £8,000 - £10,000. (LM4)

So to conclude, an extremely strong selection of banknote auctions to start 2019: rare material from across the globe with specific highlights focusing on Great Britain, India, the Commonwealth, Sub-Saharan Africa and Poland – there really will be something in these sales for every notaphilic collector.

“This example therefore presents possibly a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to acquire a banknote of immense rarity and carries an estimate to reflect this at £50,000 - £60,000.”



LM3



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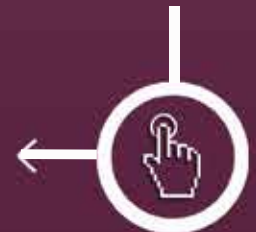
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If you are outbid you will receive an email notification giving you the option to increase your bid before the closing time.



The first lot will close on the date and time stated in the auction calendar. Each subsequent lot will close at 30 second intervals. The closing time of each lot will be displayed in the description. If a bid is placed within 30 seconds of the closing time it will be extended by a further 30 seconds, and so on. These lot/s will be automatically placed in order of the new closing time



The highest bid at the closing time will be the successful bid and the price will be the hammer price. All lots sold in the e-Auction are subject to charges per section 5 and all clauses of the T & C for Buyers (e-Auctions).



Invoices will be emailed after the last lot has closed. Invoice total will consist of hammer price, buyer's premium of 20% on hammer price, VAT (where applicable) and postage. Payment will be due within seven (7) days for all clients.

For more information about how to bid in e-Auctions, please contact the Auction Team:
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FORTHCOMING EVENT

THE ARTHUR GRAY COLLECTION OF AUSTRALIA QUEEN ELIZABETH II DECIMAL ISSUES

London, 24th April 2019

This magnificent, award-winning collection is without doubt the finest ever put together. Included are artist's hand-drawn sketches, including those by Eileen Mayo and Betty Temple-Watts. Engraved die proofs are to be found throughout, none of which have been on the open market. The most outstanding are the 1966 Navigators \$1 and unissued 70c. Errors form the backbone of the collection, with many spectacular missing colours, missing perforations, paper folds etc.

The Arthur Gray Collection of Australia Queen Elizabeth II Decimal Issues will be offered for sale in London on 24th April 2019. For further information please contact Nick Startup, nstartup@spink.com.



1970 Cook 5c. se-tenant strip with black omitted



1973 Mary Gilmore 7c. engraved die proof



1967 5c. block imperforate on three sides



1967 Christmas 5c. pair imperforate on three sides



1978 National Week imperforate miniature sheet



1966 Galah 15c. strip, one with rose-carmine omitted



1966 Navigator \$1 die proof. The only example recorded in private hands



1966 Scarlet Robin 25c. with red omitted

1974 \$1 strip, one with black completely omitted



FORTHCOMING EVENT

THE 'BACCHUS' COLLECTION OF GREAT BRITAIN 1840-1963

London, 26th April 2019

The 'Bacchus' Collection of Great Britain, formed by an overseas collector, contains mint and used examples of most of the stamps issued with many rarities.

Some of the highlights include a lovely used example of the 1840 One Penny Black from Plate XI and two unused 1840 Two-Penny blues. The pick of the perforated line engraved issues is surely the 1854-57 Watermark Small Crown, perforation 16 2d blue with marginal inscription.

The 1847-54 embossed section includes unused examples of all three values.

The Surface printed issues represent the largest section of the sale and includes some of the rare 'Abnormals', the scarcest being the 1862-64 Small Corner letters 9d Plate 3 unused.

The 1867-83 High values have always been very popular with collectors and we are pleased to offer a wonderful example of the watermark Maltese Cross £1 brown-lilac with large part original gum.

The Edward VII to Queen Elizabeth II issues are well represented but the large section of the Official stamps, many offered with certificates of authenticity, includes the Inland Revenue 1884-88 10/- and £1 green, both with large part original gum.

Office of Works 1896-1902 10d unmounted mint, etc, etc.

All in all a lovely little sale which will provide opportunities for many collectors to fill gaps in their collections.

The 'Bacchus' Collection of Great Britain 1840-1963 will be offered for sale by Spink London on 26th April 2019. For further information please contact Dominic Savastano, dsavastano@spink.com.



Lot 519 – 1854-57, Watermark Small Crown, Perf. 16, 2d Plate 5: GA from left of the sheet, original gum. A quite exceptional example. Est. £2,500 - £3,000



Lot 558 – 1862-64 Small Corner Letters, 9d bistre, Plate 3, hair lines. Only 11 or 12 unused examples recorded. Ceremuga Certificate (2015). Est. £4,000 – 6,000



Lot 589 – 1867-83 Watermark Maltese Cross, £1 brown-lilac. A fine example of this extremely rare stamp Est. £30,000 – 40,000



Lot 679 – Officials, Inland Revenue – 1862-91 on Issues of 1884-88, White Paper 10/- ultramarine, large part original gum. Karl-Louis (2002) and BPA (2006) Certificates. Est. £3,000 – 4,000

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by Majed Halawi PhD

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Sierra Leone Philatelic Legacy,
1786-1980

MAJED HALAWI PhD



This volume is an essential addition to the libraries of all who have an interest in social philately. Building on earlier works on Sierra Leone's postal history, *Echoes of Empire* offers detailed information, new interpretations, and illustrations spanning the entire period under study, which are indispensable to those interested in this fascinating period.

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FORTHCOMING EVENT

THE PHILATELIC COLLECTORS' SERIES SALE

London, 24th, 25th and
26th April 2019

The 'Coventry' collection of British Guiana has been formed over many years by a collector with an eye for quality.

It commences with a couple of Great Britain used in British Guiana covers, one used on the first day that the post office was open and then three cut-square 12c blue 'Cottonreels'. The remainder of the collection is a wonderful array of the 'Ship' type issues to 1882 with proofs, issued stamps with multiples, Specimens, Officials and covers, the perforated issues most noted for the number of stamps that have been selected for centring, very often difficult to find on these stamps. A most attractive assembly which we feel sure will prove appealing for this ever popular colony.

The 'St Mewan' collection of Channel Islands majors on the Occupation issues of both Guernsey and Jersey with essays, proofs, issued stamps with a range of valuable varieties, bisects, Feldpost and French Mail. The other important section is the postal



Lot 1796, 1895 Puzey Correspondence cover

Lot 2757, 1858 letter
from Sark to Gibraltar



Lot 1163, British Guiana 1850-51
Cotton Reel 12c



Lot 2704, Jersey 1941-44 1d imperforate between pair



Lot 1196, British Guiana 1858 4c pair

history of Sark with early letters, rare postmarks and Occupation covers during which time the indomitable Dame Sybil Hathaway refused to evacuate the island.

The first portion of the 'Rothman' and William Hallatt collections of Rhodesia offer collectors a wide scope of interesting and unusual items. The 'Rothman' collection concentrates on stamps with studies of the Double Head and Admiral issues with ranges of printings and varieties, and also includes a fine assembly of the 1894 Telegraph Stamps prepared by the Reuters Agent, Capt. CL

Norris-Newman, in Bulawayo, with unused strips and used examples of all three values. The William Hallatt collection comprises a fine range of covers including those written by Arthur and Andrew Puzey, members of the Pioneer Column. Boer War and Missionary covers are also represented.

The Philatelic Collectors' Series Sale will take place at Spink London on 24th, 25th and 26th April 2019. For further information please contact Dominic Savastano, dsavastano@spink.com.

FORTHCOMING EVENT

PRC, Panda Gold 1,000 Yuans, 1984.

ANOTHER GOLDEN JAPANESE WEEK AT TICC TOKYO: TAISEI AUCTION SHAPING UP

Tokyo, 27th-29th April 2019

Spink is gearing up to participate this year again at the Tokyo International Coin Convention (TICC), organised by the Japanese Numismatic Dealer's Association in Tokyo.

The TICC show is the first meeting point for coin and banknote lovers in Japan and a key international gathering, with many Asian, European and Americans flying in to indulge their numismatic passions while enjoying the fun and excitement of Tokyo.

The Taisei official TICC Auction on April 28th is the highlight of the event.

Last year Spink renewed a long tradition, established back in 1988, of participating in the official TICC auction together with Taisei.

We ran two joint TAISEI x SPINK auctions in November 2017 and in April 2018, which were very successful and saw a world record for an iconic 1839 Una and the Lion Five Pounds, Small LE 6 scrolls variety (R4) graded PCGS PR 62DCAM, which sold for 38,400,000 JPY (US\$351,850 or £255,330).

This year the TAISEI x SPINK collaboration continues, with SPINK selecting rare British, European and Asian coins, some with prestigious provenance, to appeal to both TAISEI and our own collectors. Both companies hope that these lots will attract interest and will keep working together to bring the TICC Taisei Auction greater lots from old British and European collections for many years to come.



Asian rarities are represented by Chinese and Japanese star lots, to list a few; an extremely rare Panda Gold Proof 1,000 Yuans, 1984 at a **starting price of 2,000,000 JPY**, and a Japanese M10 (1877) Gold 10 Yens, graded NGC PF64* CAMEO, **starting price 9,000,000 JPY**.

This year's British highlights pay tribute first to Queen Victoria with:

An amazingly rare complete 1839 Proof Set, graded by NGC, will be without doubt the star lot of this sale, as it includes 15 gold, silver and copper coins, all in very high condition and among these an NGC PF 63+ ULTRA

*Japan, M10 (1877) 10 Yens,
NGC PF64* CAMEO*





Una and the Lion Proof 5 Pounds, 1839, W&R 278, NGC PF63+UC



Proof 5 Pounds, 1893, S-3872, PCGS PR63 CAMEO



India Pattern Rupee, 1861 ex. David Fore Collection, NGC PF63 CAMEO



William III and Mary (1688 - 1694) 5 Guinea 1692 ("Quarto"). Fr 299; S 3422. PCGS AU58

CAMEO Una and the Lion Gold Five Pounds. **Starting price 32,000,000 JPY.**

One of the two finest graded by PCGS Victoria Proof 5 Pounds, 1893, S-3872, PCGS PR63 CAMEO. **Starting price 3,000,000 JPY**

And a Victoria Indian Pattern Rupee, 1861, Pridmore-51 P.E., medal alignment pattern from the famous David Fore collection, graded NGC PF63 CAMEO. **Starting price 1,350,000 JPY.**

Among other British rarities, this sale offers a selection of Five Guineas; featuring:

A 1692 Five Guineas, William III and Mary (1688 - 1694) 5 Guinea 1692 ('Quarto'). Fr 299; S 3422. Very rare. Gold. Weight 41, 77 g. PCGS AU58. **Starting price 2,700,000 JPY.**

And a George II, (1727-1760). 5 Guinea 1729, Fr. 333; S-3664. Gold. Weight 41, 60 g. Superb +. **Starting price 2,100,000 JPY.**

An exceptional George IV, Proof 5 Pounds, 1826, WR-213, lettered hedge, graded by PCGS PR63+ DEEP CAMEO. **Starting price 14,500,000 JPY.**

A rare highly graded George V, Coronation 12-piece Proof Set, 1911. Maundy Penny to Five Pounds. S.PS11, KM PS17. In original case of issue; **Starting price 1,900,000 JPY.**

An extremely rare British India William IV, Pattern Silver ½ Rupee, 1835, EIC, S&W-1.50, Ex. David Fore Collection, graded NGC PF63 CAMEO. **Starting price 2,500,000 JPY.**

What would a Tokyo auction be without celebrating the Japanese love for French and Swiss coinages? Hence this catalogue features an extremely rare impressive Napoleon I Gold medal of 18 Dukaten, 1811, struck for the birth of Napoleon's son Francois Joseph Charles, King of Rome, with Marie Louise von Österreich. Engraver B. Andrieu, diameter 40,67 mm; weight 63,00 g, extremely rare. Small knock on the baby face, aside GEM UNC/FDC. **Starting price 1,800,000 JPY;** and

A Swiss, Geneva Canton, Gold 3 Pistoles 1771, KM84, Fr-261, HMZ-2-336a. Graded NGC MS67. Extremely rare in such high GEM grade and the finest graded example of this type. A one of a kind example with a very strong provenance. Ex the Burford Collection. **Starting price 2,200,000 JPY.**

We haven't forgotten our Russian coin lovers, with a selection of medals of the greatest rarity and condition, among which we can offer:



George II, 5 Guineas 1729, Fr. 333; S-3664. Superb +



Proof 5 Pounds, 1826, WR-213, lettered hedge, PCGS PR63+DCAM



Proof 5 Pounds of the 1911 set, graded NGC PF64



Napoléon I, Gold medal of 18 Dukaten, 1811. For the birth of Napoleon's son King of Rome



Switzerland. Geneva. Canton gold 3 Pistoles 1771, KM84, NGC MS67



Catherine II Specimen Coronation Medal, 1762, AV, Diakov 115.1.



Alexander II, Double-headed Eagle Gold Coronation Medal, 1856, Diakov 653.1



USA, .1915-S Pan-Pacific 50 \$, Blue Moon, PCGS MS63

A **Catherine II** Specimen Coronation Medal, 1762, in silver, by Waechter, 163g, 65mm. (Diakov 115.1), light hairlines and rim marks otherwise lustrous and toned fields, extremely fine, an impressive medal. **Starting price 2,400,000 JPY;** and

A very rare **Alexander II**, Double-headed Eagle Coronation Medal, 1856, in gold, by Lyalin and Kuchkin, weight 96.66g, diameter 51mm. (Diakov 653.2), *light hairlines in otherwise gloriously brilliant proof like surfaces, good extremely fine.* **Starting price 1,500,000 JPY.**

Finally, to rally our US collectors, this sale presents an iconic American coin, a rare USA 1915-S Pan-Pacific 50 Dollars, Blue Moon, highly graded PCGS MS63. **Starting price 9,000,000 JPY.**

Our team looks forward to welcoming you at our table to update you on our latest news and consignment opportunities!

For more information on the TICC show or to schedule a house visit, please contact:

Muriel Eymery,
Global Head Coins & Medals
Email: meymery@spink.com
Tel: +336 8403 0543
+4420 7563 4120

FORTHCOMING EVENT

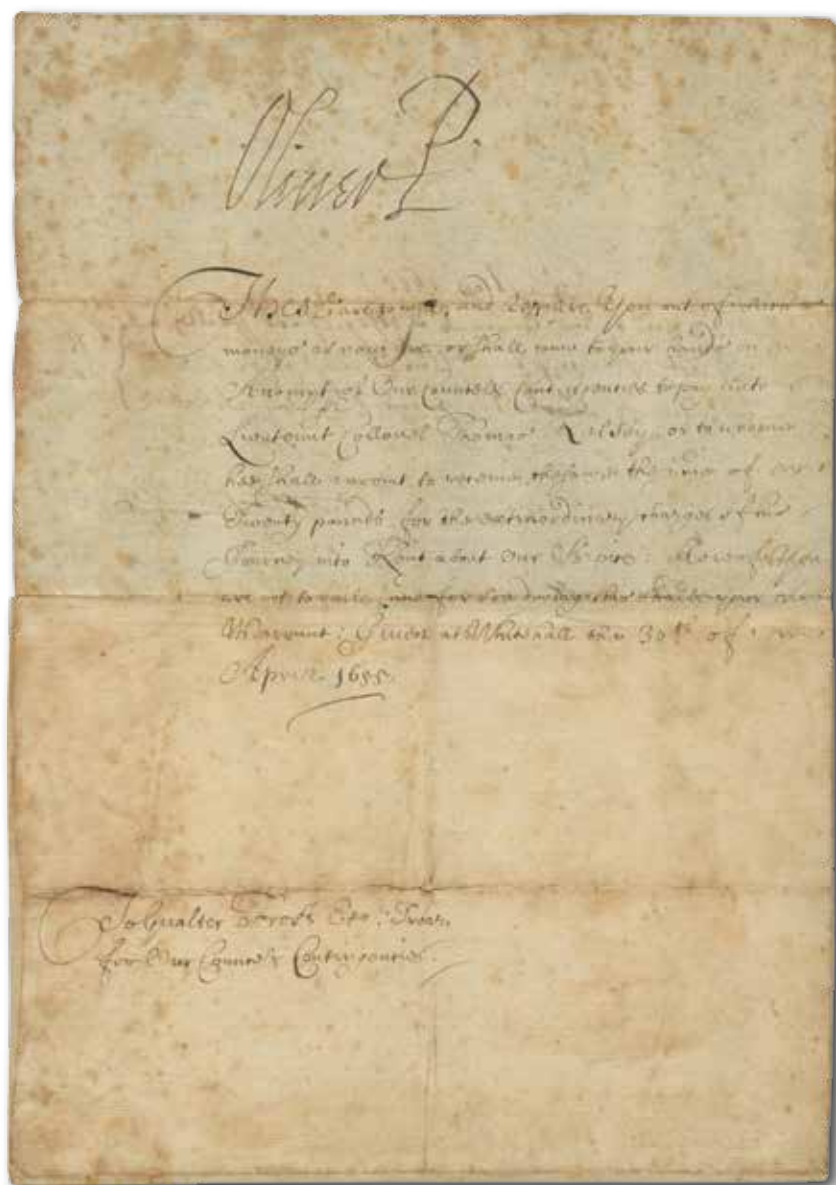
BONDS AND SHARES TIMED AUCTION

London, 30th April 2019

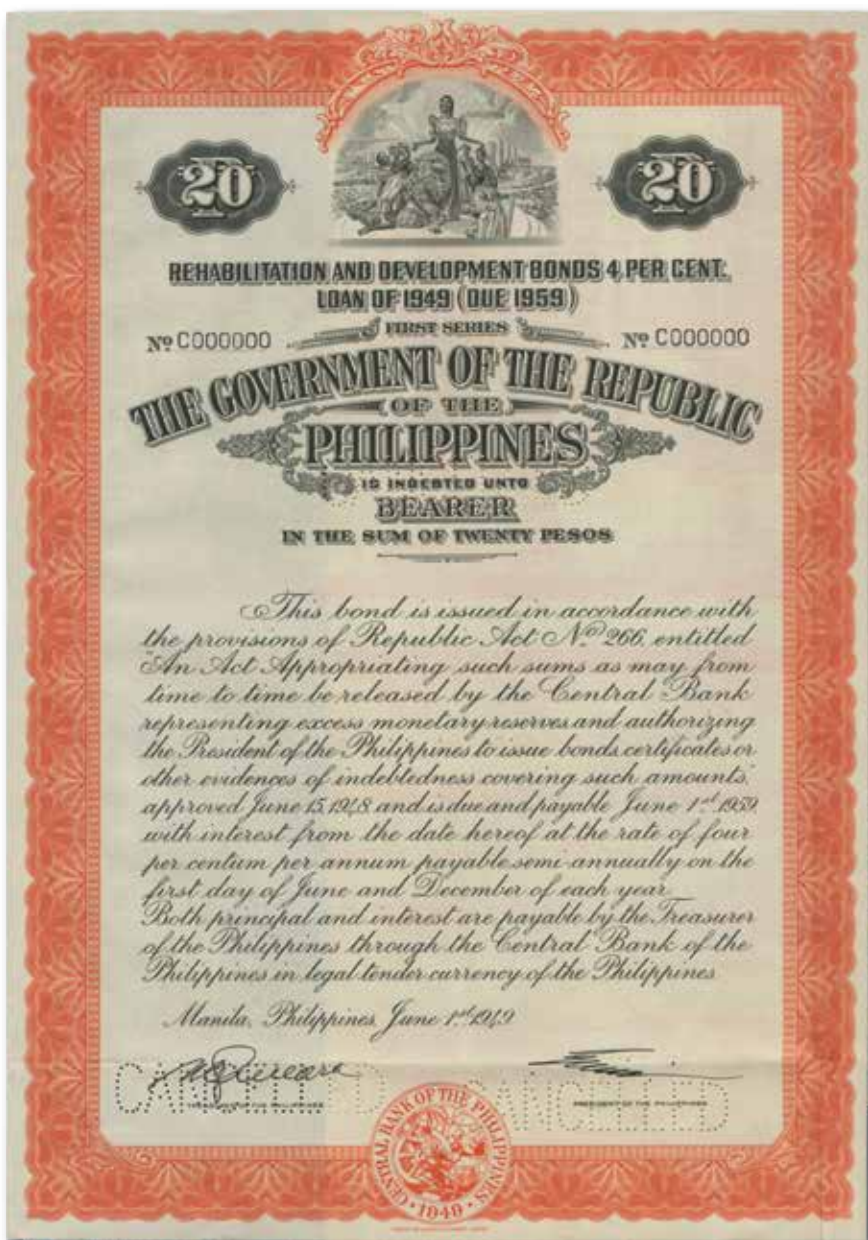
Our April sale includes some very interesting pieces. Unusually we are offering quite a few items that have never been on the market before, including numerous Cornish and Welsh mining companies and a small selection of specimen certificates. One example is the very attractive specimen of motor car manufacturers Rochet & Schneider Ltd, an English company that owned the French marque for a few years before WWI. This example is a little faded from prior framing, a practice that is not recommended! From a different source is a specimen Philippine Government bond of 1949 printed by de la Rue, never seen before and estimated at only £150.

The most important piece on offer is a handwritten payment warrant dated 30th April 1655, hand signed by Oliver Cromwell, 'Oliver P' as Protector of England, authorising a payment of £20 to Lt Colonel Thomas Kelsey for his expenses in taking up his post as Lord Warden and Constable of Dover Castle. Reads: *'these are to will and require you out of such moneys as now are, or shall come to your hands on accompt of our Councils Contingencies to pay unto Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Kelsey or to whome hee shall appoint to receive the same, the sume of twenty pounds for the extraordinary charges of his journey into Kent about our service'*. Estimate £5,000 - £6,000

Also on offer is a certificate from Moscow's most famous department store – GUM, officially called Society of Upper Trading Rows on Red Square in Moscow. The certificate is for 10 shares of 100 roubles, dated Moscow 1911, a beautiful certificate with a vignette of the stores







at top, Moscow churches at left and right, statue of Kuzma Minin and Dmitry Pozharsky at bottom. An example was sold by Spink at £2,600 a few years ago but this one, almost as nice, is on offer at £1,500-£2,000.

One of the most important banks in Switzerland, Eidgenössische Bank (Federal bank) was founded in Bern in 1863. It had

the right to issue banknotes in Switzerland until the state took over the issue in 1907. Its headquarters moved to Zurich in 1892. The bank had many investments and customers in Germany in the 1920s, which by the 1930s represented one third of the balance sheet; this created many problems for the bank, forcing it to borrow to ensure it was sufficiently liquid. It was finally taken over by the Swiss Bank Corporation in 1945 and we are offering a very handsome 500 franc share dated 1929 at an estimate of £3,000.

Another item not seen at Spink before is the Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Company Limited share of 1909. Despite the high serial number this bearer certificate is extremely elusive and it is being offered at a very reasonable £300-£350; it was originally formed by Marconi as the Wireless Telegraph & Signal Company in 1897 following Marconi's work for the British Government and later renamed. Marconi was the first to send wireless signals across the Atlantic in 1902 and the name is now synonymous with radio and telegraphy, often because of other famous events: the radio operators on the Titanic were Marconi employees, and communications between the ship and Carpathia were fundamental in saving many lives. Wireless telegraphy was also instrumental in the capture of murderer Dr Crippen, sailing under a disguise to the United States.

In total some 500 Lots will be offered in a Timed Auction which will close on April 30th. For further information please contact Mike Veissid, msveissid@spink.com.



FORTHCOMING EVENT

THE MICHAEL GLEASON COLLECTION OF ORIGINAL MASTER RECORDINGS OF MUSICAL PERFORMANCES, RECORDED AND FILMED AT ABBEY ROAD STUDIOS, PART 1

London, 20th June 2019

What if you could own a masterpiece of musical history?

Many of us dream of being rock stars, even for one gig. Many of us dream about hanging out backstage and interacting with famous bands and singers. Many of us dream about witnessing behind-the-scenes recordings of songs which will become worldwide hits. Many of us dream about owning an original recording of our favourite artist or band's performance.

When I met Michael Gleason, I knew this dream could come true for collectors around the world!

In 2005, Michael Gleason, a successful Texan entrepreneur and producer residing in London, decided to create and produce a new music television performance series. After several years on the Board of Directors of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios, he developed a real taste and interest in film and television, and coupled them with his passion for music.

The idea was to record sublime musical performances in the best studio in the world from some of the world's greatest musical artists.

A series, *Live from Abbey Road*, was born! A Star Masterpiece Collection was born!

On 20th June 2019, Spink will auction the first part of the Michael Gleason Collection, comprised of the original master recordings of musical performance of 18 world-renowned artists at Abbey Road Studios.

ME: Michael, how did you come up with the series?

MG: The Beatles had the original idea for a television broadcast from the Studios. On 25th June 1967, from Abbey Road Studio 2, they performed the first global satellite broadcast of their song *All You Need Is Love* to over 350 million people.

Live from Abbey Road was a simple concept based on The Beatles' idea: live recording of world-class musical artists from Abbey Road Studios, without an audience or a presenter, broadcast on televisions around the world. The series reached over 120 countries and half the world's population.

A vast amount of audio and video footage was produced and edited into the final versions of each song and musical set. These original master studio recordings make up the programmes of what many musicians consider the best musical performance television series ever produced.



Muriel Eymery



ME: Let's jump right in to your Collection. Why are these recordings so valuable?

MG: Buried deep in the secure storage vaults of every major record company are the assets that form the backbone of the companies' value. Those assets are the original master studio recordings of the individual performances of their musical artists. The master recordings hold the music which is heard on vinyl albums, audio tapes, compact discs and digital streaming by billions of people across the world.

The components are:

- A USB flash drive, in a dedicated leather case, loaded with the final master audio and video recordings, for ease of use while on the move. It is sleek, covered in white leather with gold letters reminding its content: "The Michael Gleason Collection of Original Recordings – Recorded at Abbey Road Studios" offered in a Spink box.
- A visually stunning, translucent, lathe cut vinyl dubplate, pressed with the final master versions of the songs recorded by the Artist (or the Band). The central vinyl artwork shows the name of the artist/band, the date and location of recording, and "Edition 1/1".
- A Glyph 1TB External Hard Drive of all of the digital recorded material, (or in a Lot where the video footage is on film tape, the original tapes are included).
- A poster sized, framed black and white still photograph, and two additional, desk size, unframed, photos of the Artist (or the Band) taken on the day of the performance.
- A signed certificate of authenticity from Michael Gleason.

(It is important to note that these come with no commercial rights attached. See disclaimer below.)

The ultimate store of value in music exists in these original master recordings. The most wonderful music compositions in the world lie silent unless they are performed live or recorded for people to listen to, share and enjoy.

From 2006-2012, more than 140 world-class musical artists came to Abbey Road Studios as a result of a very special invitation: to perform for the global series *Live from Abbey Road*.

My collection includes all the original high-quality recordings of their performances on that very special day. I kept no copies. These are the only takes ever made on their day at Abbey Road Studios for the series. The series continue to air on a few television channels, but what you will bid on is the only original recordings of these performances – included on a USB key, a GLYPH box and the master recording on a customised vinyl – amazing interviews videoed during the sessions, and we added as well three high-quality photographs per artist taken that day.


ME: Tell us more about these performances?

The artists spent a day at the studios, rehearsing and recording songs of their choice. The aim of the creators of the series was to design an environment where the artists would strive to produce their very top live performances in the greatest recording studio in the world.

No audience was present. No presenter or host filled up time or space. To create the best sound recordings possible, up to ninety microphones were used to record instrumental and vocal sound straight into the famous Abbey Road sound desks. To create the best video footage possible, up to eight high-definition film and digital cameras captured every performance, as well as on-camera interviews with the individual artist or musical group. At each session, several takes of a song were recorded in order to create the best possible mix of audio and video.

ME: How did you choose the artists for the auction?

MG: I never expected the series to run as long as it did or to be as successful as it was. But it was embraced by the wonderful musical artists that performed and the huge support from their record labels and managers allowed our talented



"This is really where our musical roots come from. These same walls"

Brandon Flowers.
The Killers

team to record over six hundred songs from almost one hundred and forty artists.

The performances we captured are incredible, and since we paid as much attention to the audio as we did to the video the recordings are exquisite.

In the upcoming auction, I selected with Muriel 18 of my favourite artists and bands. Just to list a few: Ed Sheeran, Seal, the Gipsy Kings, Jamiroquai and The Killers. They cover a wide range of music tastes and appeal to a diverse audience.

ME: Can you share a quote from one of the artists about how he or she felt playing at Abbey Road Studios?

MG: Brandon Flowers from The Killers came to me and said: "It's kinda like waking up in a dream or something. This is really where our musical roots come from, these same walls. You ask anyone who's into music. They don't have to be an aficionado on recording studios or even the Beatles."



MG: The collection is made up of all of the original master recordings of the performances in the programmes, including all of the components of the recording process, each in their original formats. It encompasses over sixty songs from eighteen artists.

Each lot consists of all of the audio and video segments of their performances and interviews, recorded on the day of a performance programme by the Artist or the Band, including:

- the final mastered audio and edited video for each song recorded;
- the audio stems from every take of each song recorded;
- the video footage from every film or digital camera used to record every take of each song recorded,
- the interview videos and audio which formed an integral part of the programme.

ME: Why are you selling this collection?

MG: I am not much of a collector, but I ended up with the most amazing music collection. I like to take risks and try to make something new, and meaningful.

Now is it the time to make it accessible to music lovers, collectors, museums, music schools, artists and their labels, everybody who

wants to own rare unique content!

If you are a music collector, or love to collect but have never collected music before, these beautiful, original single edition audio and video recordings and photographs will be a priceless addition to your collections for you and generations to come.

A collection of original master studio recordings owned by a private individual is extremely rare. A collection of this size and importance has never been available to collectors. This is the ultimate music collection, truly an important piece of modern music history.

When you hear and watch the recordings of one of these sublime artists in your favourite music room, you will realise that you own a truly rare and important masterpiece of music history.

The first part of the Michael Gleason Collection will come under the hammer at Spink London on 20th June 2019.

Make your dream come true, take home an extremely rare masterpiece of Music History!

For more information on the Michael Gleason Collection or to schedule a viewing, please contact Muriel Eymery, meymery@spink.com.

Disclaimer:

1. The Vendor urges buyers to satisfy themselves that they have the necessary rights, permissions and entitlements in the relevant jurisdiction to reproduce, communicate to the public, show or otherwise deal with the film and audio recordings.
2. The Vendor does not warrant that the film and audio recordings comprising the lots are appropriate for any particular purpose or audience.
3. The Vendor is not authorising that the buyers are entitled to reproduce, communicate to the public, show or otherwise deal with the film and audio recordings.
4. The Vendor warrants that it has full clear and unencumbered title to all physical items comprising each lot. The photographs are sold with full clear and unencumbered title to the subsisting copyrights.
5. The artists that are the subject of the photographs, film and audio recordings are not endorsing these items or their sale. Nor is there a commercial or economic connection between the photographs, film and audio recordings, with the particular artist, such as official merchandise or otherwise.
6. Representations or statements by the Vendor as to authorship, genuineness, origin, date, age, provenance, or condition of the photographs, film and audio recordings involve matters of opinion. The Vendor undertakes that any such opinion will be honestly and reasonably held and accept liability for opinions given negligently or fraudulently.

FORTHCOMING EVENT

THE TREATY PORTS OF THE SHANGHAI POSTAL SYSTEM, PART II: THE FORTUNE WANG COLLECTION, THE FIRST PORTION OF THE COASTAL PORTS

Hong Kong, 21st June 2019

Following the opening of Shanghai for foreign trade and the formation of the foreign settlements, an organisation was required to oversee the running of the many different essential services. One of the roles of this Municipal Council was to organise an effective postal service.

The Shanghai Municipal Post was opened in 1863 and quickly proved to be a great success. Soon the service was being expanded to other cities along the coast and up the Yangtze River. By necessity, these cities were the ones which were allowed to have foreign settlements. They are often referred to as the Treaty Ports after the treaties of Nanking (1842), Tientsin (1858) and Peking (1860). The postal service was for the carriage and delivery of mail within and between these ports, and to Shanghai for transmission overseas.



Foochow: 1894 cover carried from Foochow to Shanghai by the Local Post Office, then on to Canada by the US Post Office. Est HK\$30,000-40,000



Foochow: Photographic essays for the proposed designs. Nine of the twelve essays of which only the Dragon Boat design was selected. Est HK\$80,000-100,000



Amoy: Official Mail, a proof strike of the intaglio seal struck in blue on an unaddressed envelope. Est HK\$15,000-20,000



Hainan Island: 1894 (1st September) Hong Kong 1c postal stationery card to Berlin bearing fine strikes of the Hainan Island Samah Land postmarks, the card is cancelled by the scarce thimble Hoihow c.d.s. Est HK\$50,000-60,000



Swatow: 1894 (10th August) Shanghai 5c postal stationery envelope with pair of 1/2c stamps registered to Shanghai, cancelled by fine strikes of the rare 'SHANGHAI L.P.O./SWATOW AGENCY' with the date written in manuscript. Est HK\$45,000-50,000



Chefoo: 1894 (4th April) 1/2c postal stationery card to Peking. The 1/2c paid for transit to Shanghai but the local post did not cover Peking so two 1c Small Dragon stamps were added to pay the carriage to Tientsin and on to Peking. This is the only known Chefoo card used with the Small Dragon stamps. Note showing both sides of the card. Est HK\$80,000-100,000



Chefoo: 1896 cover to New York, the Chefoo 1c stamp was for carriage to Shanghai and the five US 1c stamps were required for transmission to USA via Japan



Wei Hai Wei: a pair of the essays for the 5c stamp. These essays only have one central handstamp whereas the issued stamps were given two. Rare as only five examples are known. Est HK150,000-180,000

The Shanghai Postal System handled more mail than the combined totals of the Imperial Customs Post, the Hong Kong agencies and all of the foreign post offices. It operated one of the most efficient, safe and low cost postal services anywhere in the world at that time.

All of the post offices that became part of the Shanghai Postal System served legitimate postal needs on a large scale and had valid reason to issue stamps.

The Southern Ports

The main ports were Foochow, Amoy and Swatow. Hainan Island is also included in this group although these were really a local issue and not related to the Shanghai Postal System, as it was more convenient for the mail from this island to be sent via Hong Kong.

The Northern Ports

Chefoo was the most significant northern outpost of the Shanghai Local Post. It was busy port and exported large quantities of Shantung Pongee silk. Its mild climate made it a favourite summer vacation area for the foreigners living in China. Newchwang and Ningpo offered a limited local post service. Wei Hai Wei, the island of important international military significance, introduced its local courier service for the transfer of mail between the island and Chefoo is also included in this sale

The Treaty Ports of the Shanghai Postal System, Part II: The Fortune Wang Collection, the First Portion of the Coastal Ports will be offered for sale in Hong Kong on 22nd June 2019. For further information please contact Neill Granger, ngranger@spink.com.

FORTHCOMING EVENT

A LATE COMER... BUT ONE THAT WOULD LEAVE A LASTING IMPRESSION

London, Summer 2019

As a relative late-comer to the idea of producing gold coin for the realm, it is somewhat surprising as to the subsequent variety but also the individual tenure of some of denominations conceived for circulation in Medieval and Tudor England.

While gold strikings of the staple silver Penny are known prior to the Norman Conquest, as seen during the reigns of Offa (his 'gold Dinar'), Coenwulf ('Mancus'), and Aethelred II 'the Unready' (Helmet type Penny), it is evident that the first concerted attempt at a regular gold coinage for the fledgling English nation did not occur until the reign of Henry III (1216-1272). His effort to introduce a Gold Penny, bearing a face value of 20 silver Pennies, therefore seemed a logical step in the facilitation of international trade and the necessity to accommodate larger units of account. However miscalculations were made in the manufacturing



MERCIA, Coenwulf (796-821), gold Mancus

process and the intrinsic value of the coin came to outweigh the overall face value, condemning the issue to export and melt for its higher value bullion content, ultimately precipitating its swift discontinuation. It is evident from the surviving examples, however, that a range of dies were employed, suggesting that in different circumstances the intended issue would have been fairly extensive.

It would be another century before the Royal Mint tried again. In 1344, with trade with Venice on the increase, English merchants became exposed to the Italian monetary system, prompting Edward III to produce an equivalent to further exploit this lucrative market. What resulted was the Double-Florin or 'Double Leopard' as its design led it to be colloquially known, which was struck with a value of two *Zecchino* (ie 7g of gold). Yet as before, miscalculations had been made, and were it not for serendipity – two Newcastle boys searching the banks of the Tyne in 1850s, or the chance discovery of a metal detectorist in 2006 – this coin would have been lost to history. However there was a dramatic improvement on previous coining attempts, for fractional denominations had also been conceived to represent a Half – 'the Leopard' and a Quarter – 'the Helm. This concept would ultimately lay the framework for



Edward III (1327-77), 'Double-Leopard' or 'Double-Florin'



Edward III (1327-77), Noble, struck at Calais



Edward III (1327-77), Quarter-Noble, struck at London



Edward IV (1461-70), Rose Noble or Ryal, struck at London



Edward IV (1471-1483), gold Angel

some of the most iconic and enduring gold issues recognisable not just in England, but across all of Medieval Europe.

What followed was the gold Noble, Half-Noble and Quarter Noble, valued at 6s8d {80d}, 3s4d {40d} and 1s8d {20d} reflects. International events in the Hundred Years War would ensure their immediate mass-production, not just at the Tower mint, but at the historic workshops of York and in the Plantagenet's ancestral lands in Calais. Subsequent issues would even come to address the temporary political accords between England and France. Conceived from the outset with a high intrinsic gold fineness, decades of production would strive to maintain this standard, quickly earning the issue the reputation and envy of nations, and naturally the hearts of any merchant who traded in them. Only a rise in the cost of bullion during the reign of Henry IV would compel the Mint to reduce the weight standard from its original issue weight of 120 grains to 108 grains in 1412. Similar fluctuations during the reign of Edward IV would force

similar revisions, firstly in iconography with the introduction of a rose on the cob, and the eventual discontinuation of the series in favour of a new smaller coin - the Angel again valued at the outset at 6s8d. The legacy of the former issue is however evident in the innumerable imitations and contemporary forgeries found across the Low Countries for decades after the cessation of production in England. With such an historic coin, it therefore gives Spink great pleasure to announce the forthcoming sale of a Gentleman's collection of English gold exploring this fascinating period from 1351 to the House of Tudor, scheduled to feature as a highlight of our Summer sale season.

English Hammered Gold Coins – The Property of a Gentleman will be offered for sale by Spink London in the summer of 2019. For further information please contact Gregory Edmund, gedmund@spink.com.

FORTHCOMING EVENT

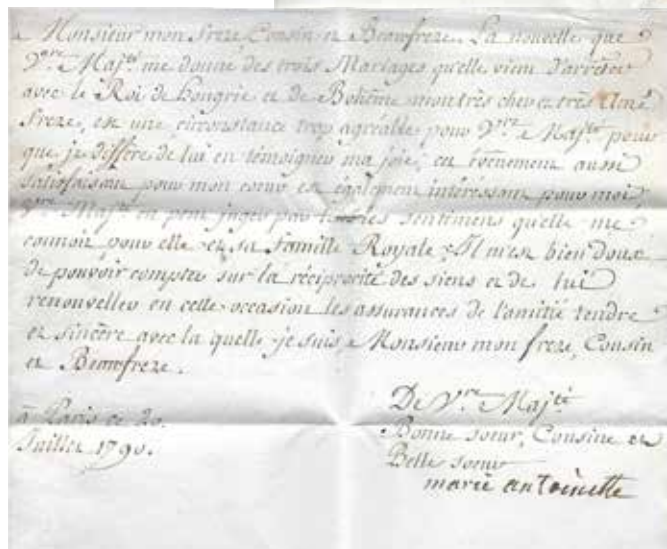
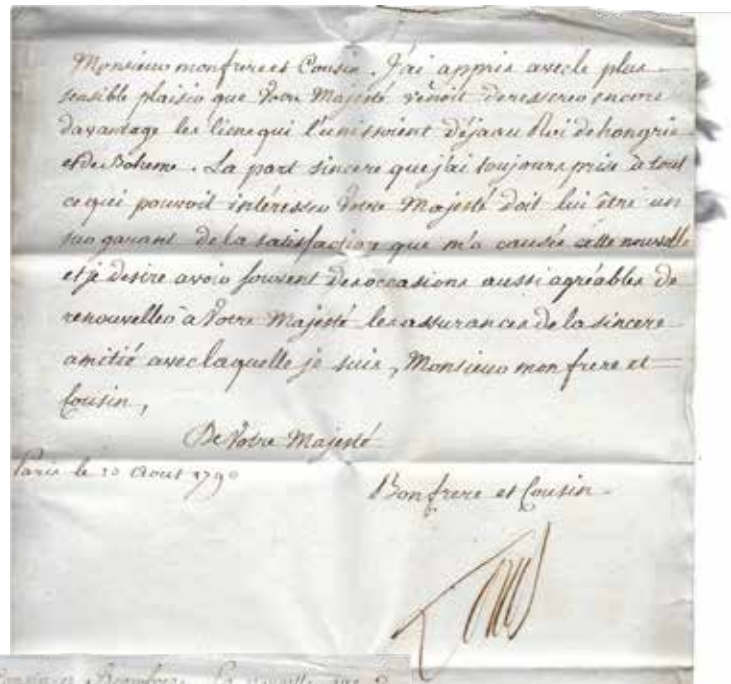
HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS, POSTAL HISTORY AND AUTOGRAPHS

London, July 2019

A most important collection of royal correspondence is to be sold at auction by Spink London in July. Among the remarkable items within this collection three are of particular note, providing true insight into the lives of their authors.

Writing in 1790, King Louis XVI of France and his wife Marie Antoinette sent these two letters to King Ferdinand I of the Two Sicilies, Louis talking of the great friendships between the courts of Naples and Paris that had been compounded by the recent marriages of Maria Carolina's son and two daughters. Marie Antoinette, being the sister of King Ferdinand's wife, Maria Carolina, would undoubtedly have been particularly proud of this allegiance. Among these marriages, Maria Theresa of Naples and Sicily in her marriage to Francis II, Holy Roman Emperor, became the last Holy Roman Empress and the first Empress of Austria.

Written during the heat of the French Revolution, around the time of their house arrest by the insurgents and just three years



Madam My Sister The sentiments of Friendship and Regard which I entertain for Your Majesty, do not permit me to defer announcing to Your Majesty the celebration of my marriage with His Royal Highness The Prince Albert Francis Augustus Charles Emmanuel, second son of His Serene Highness The reigning Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, which took place at London on the 10th of the present month. In the pleasing hope that Your Majesty will take in an event so important to me and to my Kingdom, the same interest which I invariably feel in everything that affects the happiness of Your Majesty, I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Majesty the assurances of the unalterable attachment and esteem with which I am,

Madam My Sister,
Your Majesty is
your Sister
Victoria R.

Windsor Castle
February 14. 1840.

To My Good Sister
The Queen of the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies

before Louis's execution, these letters reveal the efforts of the royal families across Europe in threatening times to consolidate their unified divine right to power. These written words, although remarking on happy occasions, mark a most vulnerable time in the lives of these royals.

Wonderfully preserved, complete with their address panels and wax seals, these two letters are a privilege to handle.

Just under a century later, Queen Victoria announced the momentous occasion of her marriage to Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha to Maria Theresa Isabella, second wife of King Ferdinand II of the Two Sicilies, in this letter written on St Valentine's Day 1840 from Windsor Castle. Again, wonderfully preserved with address panel and wax seal.

Other extraordinary items from this collection will appear illustrated in our catalogues and online in the months to come, and we anticipate a great deal of excitement over these precious fragments of history.

Historical Documents, Postal History and Autographs will be offered for sale by Spink London in July 2019. For further information please contact Tom Fell, tfell@spink.com or Ian Shapiro, ishapiro@spink.com.



FORTHCOMING EVENT

THE TAN AH EE COLLECTION OF INDIA USED IN THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, PART 1

Singapore, 2nd August 2019

The Tan Ah Ee Collection of India used in the Straits Settlements, Part 1 will be sold during the Singpex 2019 stamp exhibition, where Spink are a sponsor and the official auction house.

In October 1854 the Honourable East India Company brought out a general issue of postage stamps to prepay postage on letters etc. These stamps, of the values of ½ anna, 1 anna, 2 annas and 4 annas, were lithographed in Calcutta at the office of the Surveyor-General.

The stamps were distributed to the post offices in Singapore, Penang and Malacca, as all three Settlements were under the control of the Government of India. Stamps of India used in the Straits Settlements can only be identified by their postmarks and, in certain cases, even these are not sufficient as the earliest postmarks, circle of dots and a diamond of dots, were also used in India itself so that stamps with these postmarks have to be on original covers to be absolutely certain.



SINGPEX 2019

36TH ASIAN INTERNATIONAL
STAMP EXHIBITION



Fig 11 – 1855 cover from Singapore to an Officer serving in the Crimea, bearing 1854 4a 2nd printing pair cancelled by diamond of hollow dots. Ex Dr Wood, Charles Taylor and Pichai Buranasombati.



1858 cover from Singapore to Cadiz via Gibraltar, bearing 1855 8a on blued paper and 1856 1a, 2a pair and single cancelled by "B/172" obliterator. Ex Dr Chua Eu Tiong.

The unique 1854 2 annas bisect on cover from Singapore to Hong Kong. Ex David Springbett and Pichai Buranasombati.



1859 cover from Penang to Boston, USA, bearing 1855 8a on blued paper pair and 1856 1/2a pair and 2a, all cancelled by light "B/147" obliterator. Ex VT Nathan.

1855 cover from Penang to London, bearing 1854 4a. 1" printing cancelled by diamond of dots. The earliest recorded usage of the "PENANG/P.O." datestamp.



1860 cover from Penang to Singapore, bearing 1855 blued paper 8a bisect tied by "B/147" obliterator. One of only two 8a bisect covers and one of two covers recorded from Penang. Ex Yates, Dr Wood, Dyer, Lu and Buranasombati.

Early in 1856 a new type of cancellation, consisting of a four lined octagon enclosing a letter “B” over a number was introduced. Malacca was allocated “B/109”, Penang “B/147” and Singapore “B/172”.

In October 1855 the “EAST INDIA” issues, printed by De La Rue, were introduced. Initially two values, 4 annas and 8 annas both on blue glazed paper, were issued. Later came the 1856-64 issue on white unwatermarked paper comprising denominations of ½a, 1a, 2a, 4a and 8a, then the 1860-61 8p on both bluish and white paper, the 1865 issue on watermarked paper comprising denominations of ½a, 8p, 1a, 2a, 4a and 8a, and finally the 1866-67 4a and 6a, 8p denominations.

The use of these stamps continued until September 1867 when the Straits Settlements became a Crown Colony.

The Tan Ah Ee collection features examples of the 1854 values used in all three of the Settlements, plus the unique 2a bisect on cover from Singapore to Hong Kong. The De La Rue issues include a wide range of usages on cover including Malacca to Singapore, Penang to UK and Singapore to Australia, Ireland, Spain and USA. Also in the De La Rue issues is the magnificent range of bisected stamps which occurred during shortages of certain values between 1857 and 1866. Of particular note are the bisects of the 8p on cover from Singapore to USA and the 8a on cover from Penang to Singapore. The sale concludes with usages on mail from the Dutch East Indies, Philippines and Sarawak.

The Tan Ah Ee Collection of India used in the Straits Settlements, Part 1 will be offered for sale in Singapore on 2nd August 2019. For further information please contact Nick Startup, nstartup@spink.com.



1854 (18 October) cover from Singapore to Calcutta. The earliest recorded usage of Indian stamps in the Straits Settlements. Ex Charles Taylor.



1860 envelope from Sarawak to Ilminster via Singapore, bearing 1856 1a pair and 4a black tied by “B/172” obliterator and showing, on reverse, double-ring “POST OFFICE/SARAWAK” handstamp. Ex Pichai Buranasombati.

SPINK

LONDON
1666

THE LOU MANZI COLLECTION OF ENGLISH NOTES 9 MAY 2019 | LONDON

A historically fascinating pair of first series 10/- and £1 notes (22 November 1928) accompanied by several pieces of ephemera – not least a personal letter signed by Winston Churchill during his tenure as Chancellor of the Exchequer in Stanley Baldwin's Second Cabinet of 1924 – 1929.

The letter is addressed to a parliamentary colleague, Mr. A.M. Samuel M.P, who was responsible for the 'Currency Note Bill' (amalgamating the Treasury Currency notes with the Bank of England white notes) and is further enhanced with another letter from the Secretary of the Bank of England to Mr. Samuel, sending him the accompanying notes as a gift but also politely refusing his request for 'Serial No.1' of each as they were already set aside for H.M. King George V.



Banknotes with exceptional provenance and close connection to one of the most famous statesmen in modern history.

For more information please contact:

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INSIDER · SPRING 2019 | 107



INSIDER TRAVEL: MYANMAR



“This is Burma, and it is quite unlike any land you know about.”

Rudyard Kipling, 1898

‘Cocktails
as the sun
goes down
on distant
golden
stupas in the
hills; sunrise
over the
fishing boats
returning
from night
fishing
with early
morning
Myanmar
coffee.’

As true then as it is today – go now before it becomes a tourist hotspot like its neighbour Thailand.

Min – ga – la – ba

I travelled to Myanmar in December 2018 and January 2019, the coolest time of the year, for my first visit. Due to the Rohingya issue and the way in which this has been handled by the military, tourism is down by as much as 40%, which is significant and damaging. It is not ‘trending’, as is Sri Lanka for example, and if you don’t have views that prevent you from going, then my advice is to go this year, before the Chinese investment and/or some change in the Western approach to the country takes place and tourism starts to boom again. Never mind the somewhat changeable internal political situation.

My memories and experiences are all positive; from the wonderfully diverse peoples of Myanmar to the ancient monuments left by past rulers across the country. It is a country of regions and the States represent long extinct and generally unfamiliar Kingdoms who both fought each other as well as invaders from the north and east. The British influence is reflected in the remaining, often crumbling, colonial buildings; the imperial history of conquest by the East India Company (and then its administration in Delhi) is peppered with the plundering and stripping of religious sites, but it did play a role in shaping the country on the fringes of British India. Earlier influences from Thailand, Cambodia and China all blend into the peoples, the food, the architecture and the essence of the place. Many destinations have a smell that hovers and invades the senses; for Myanmar, it is from the ever-present food stalls – a rich mix of spices, fish sauce, limes and fresh green leaves.

There is an abundance of temples everywhere and the presence of Buddha is strong (90% of the population are Buddhists); from enormous statues, some in gold, to the smallest temple on the Bagan plain, on a hillside or riverside, to the majesty of the Shwedagon. Buddhist Monks dressed in orange and Nuns in pink are seen, collection bowls in hand, taking contributions in exchange for blessings in shops and in the

streets. They are part of the place, its soul.

For atmosphere walk down the streets around the Sule Pagoda in Yangon, drink in the chaotic buildings, the different styles and periods, shop at the large covered market. From here walk or take a trishaw to the riverfront and catch the ferry across the Yangon River – don’t get off, just absorb the fishing boats, the mass of people, the views. Have tea at the Strand Hotel and then spend the afternoon at the must see Shwedagon Pagoda in its huge complex. Gold stupas glitter in the sun, monks help you give blessings to the God that represents your birth day of the week, marvel at the sheer size and splendour of the place. It puts the Palace in Bangkok in the shade. Don’t go once: see it during the day and then go back and see it lit up at night.

If Yangon is a buzzing, colourful, ramshackle, busy, noisy, pulsating place then Bagan in the north couldn’t be more opposite. Bagan is a generic term for the archaeological and monument area surrounding the town on the eastern bank of the Irrawaddy River in central Myanmar. In the fifty square miles of the site are



A fine 'storming party leader's' India General Service 1854-95 Medal to Colonel AT Welsh, 109th Foot, late 80th (Staffordshire Volunteers) and 8th (The King's) Regiments; having been present at the capture of the Great Dagon Pagoda in Rangoon, he led a similar enterprise against a Pagoda at Prome in September 1852, his 'gallantry and dash' winning him a mention in despatches and the thanks of the Governor-General of India. Realised £1,900 at Spink in April 2017.



some 3,000-odd ancient monuments, without doubt the most extensive collection in the world. There is little modern development within the site, which was founded in the 9th century and lasted until the 13th century, being the capital of the first Myanmar Kingdom (its lands interestingly were not far off from the current Myanmar borders), reaching its zenith under King Anawratha (1044 – 1071AD).

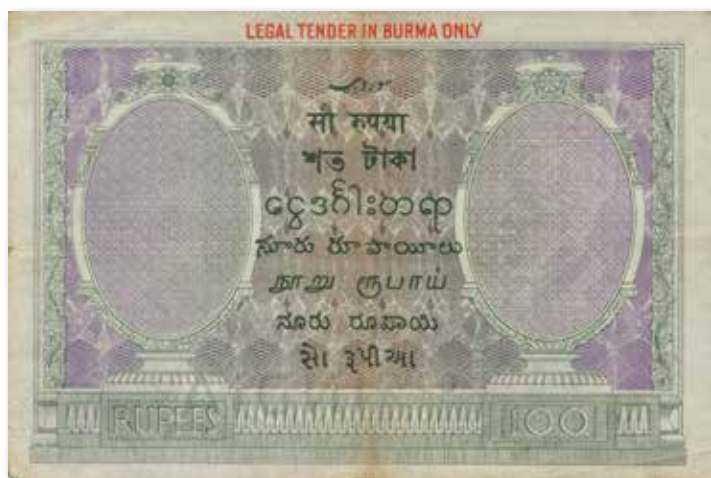
It is difficult to get across the scale and the vastness of this very special place. Yes there are certain Royal Palaces or monuments that you should visit, but there is something wonderful about being on your own strolling around both large and small temples of differing shapes and sizes. Each was built by the donor to improve his position in the next existence, so rich and poor built what they could afford and many have stone inscriptions still in place that detail their expenditure. But remember this is a living religious site not a dead place of history; it is a place of pilgrimage for many Buddhists.

If you have been to Borobudur on Java then imagine there are many places this size at Bagan, plus thousands of smaller buildings. It is like nothing else on earth and is a reason to go to Myanmar on its own.

How can you not try the 'Road to Mandalay'? It is believed that Kipling's immortal words meant the Irrawaddy River, as it joins the north to the south, but he never actually went there and was only in Yangon for three days. I took an atmospheric ride down the river from Bagan to Mandalay on a 1950s boat with friends for a relaxing three days and two nights; stopping at a pottery and a bamboo village, both interesting

and real manufactories not just for tourists. Cocktails as the sun goes down on distant golden stupas in the hills; sunrise over the fishing boats returning from night fishing with early morning Myanmar coffee.

The river approach to Mandalay is a little like arriving in Istanbul by boat on a smaller scale. It is busy, the tops of golden pagodas twinkling in the early morning sunshine are everywhere on both sides of the river like minarets, the basin full of boats both moored and plying their innumerable trades up and down this eternal river. The city is just as buzzing as Yangon, without the architecture, and in the centre is the Royal Palace – four thick walls, each 2km long, in a perfect square surrounded by a 65m wide full moat – it is, like many monuments here, impressive. Built in the 1850s by King Mindon as the capital of Mandalay Kingdom, it was plundered by the British in 1887 and then used as a base for the military, which it is largely used for today except for one part open to the public.



Reserve Bank of India, Burma,
100 Rupees, 1937, T/47 022041,

This issue was only withdrawn on 1st June 1950 and differs from the original India issue by the addition of the red overprint 'Legal Tender in Burma Only' and issuing origin 'Rangoon' rather than 'Bombay', 'Calcutta', 'Madras', etc.

Though Burma became a separate entity from the Indian Empire in 1935, the financial affairs of the former were still managed by the latter – the reason we find Indian banknotes issued as legal tender in Burma. Interestingly, this is the only instance where one country issued notes that were current in another during a civilian rule, and is unique in the history of paper money.

**To be offered for sale by Spink London on
18th April in our World Banknotes Auction.**

The joy of Mandalay lies outside in the surrounding countryside and in the nearby 'Hill Stations' built by the British to escape the heat of the Mandalay Plains. From ancient teak-built monasteries intact from the 16th century to the slightly different-looking pagodas here, many in glorious disrepair, to the longest wooden bridge in the world, all surrounded by the greenery of paddy fields. If you fancy a sniff at an English hill town go to Pyin U-Lwin, some 3,000 feet in the hills above Mandalay. Built by the British (a Colonel May, an officer in the Bengal Infantry) as an escape from the heat of the Plains below, his botanical gardens are still beautifully maintained.

I missed Inle Lake in the Shan hills but it should be on any itinerary, with its villages on stilts; a huge floating community. Not far away is Myanmar's only vineyard, Red Mountain Winery, which under its French patronage produces some acceptable reds and whites (they are however not cheap compared with the excellent beers). Otherwise wine is expensive and often not kept in the best of condition.



INSIDER TRAVEL: MYANMAR



Dos and Donts:

Don't take any photographs at or near military installations or at airports.

Respect is ingrained in Myanmar culture so when, for example, you are giving or receiving items, use your right hand to receive whilst holding your forearm with your left hand.

Don't point your feet at anything; it shows enormous disrespect. When seated don't stretch your legs out in front of you, tuck them back. Your feet should *never* face towards a family shrine or the Buddha.

The head is considered the most esteemed part of the body so touching any part is regarded as aggressive, even with children.

Public displays of anger, love or emotion, except laughter, are frowned upon.

Names:

Names are quite confusing in Myanmar. There is a non-Myanmar name chosen, which the individual might change from time to time, and there is their Myanmar name. Their system is unique and they choose their given Myanmar name with no reference to their parents or their partners; nothing is inherited or taken through relationship, it is entirely their preference.

Festivals:

The Burmese love festivals, and there are different ones held all over the country at set times of year. The biggest is held nationwide in mid-April for five days, the Thingyan Festival, or water festival, where basically everyone gets soaked and you can expect to be hit with water if you are out and about. In September at the picturesque Inle Lake, Shan State, is the largest Pagoda Festival.

Best time to go:

The coolest time is late November through December and the beginning of January – pleasant during the day without the high humidity in Yangon of c. 30c and in the 20s overnight. Bagan and to a lesser extent Mandalay are a little cooler, especially at night and in the early morning when you will need a light sweater or jacket. In the Hill Stations it gets chilly and you will need a coat at night.

What to wear:

Be aware you have to remove shoes and socks to enter any holy places or houses. It is best to wear trousers and polo-type shirts for men; for women long skirts, trousers and a top that covers your shoulders (knees also need to be covered).

I would recommend you buy the local longyis which are worn throughout Myanmar by both men and women. There are an infinite number of patterns and designs and they are sold everywhere. There is a different way of tying for men and women. Each State has a unique design or pattern.

If you wonder what the white markings are on people's faces it is Thanaka, made from tree bark, worn extensively to give a cooling sensation and some protection from sunburn. You can buy all sorts of different mixes in pots from the supermarkets or directly from the bark in the street stalls.

Currency:

You cannot take in any local currency, the Kyat, and therefore have to change money in Myanmar – do this at Banks or registered money changers, not in the street nor at the airport. The best currency to take is US dollars; no-one is very interested in GBP. If you take dollars make sure they are new notes, not folded or in any way damaged



or creased or written on, and they are dated after 2008 – otherwise they will refuse to take them. Bear in mind there is no coinage at all in Myanmar; it is all notes. You can pay in the major markets in US dollars and at hotels, but outside of this you will need Kyats. Eating out and buying the numerous locally made products is not expensive (unless you opt for some rubies!) so don't change too much. You will get a lot of notes as the highest denomination you will be given is 10,000 Kyats or around £5. The latter will often buy you dinner for one when you are out and about.

Flying:

At the moment there are no direct flights from London to Yangon so one stop, either in Asia or the UAE, is necessary. The quickest route currently is with Emirates through Dubai to Yangon, Thai Airways via Bangkok to Yangon, or Vietnam Airlines through Saigon.

Travelling in Myanmar:

In Yangon taxis are very cheap and the best way to get around; there is no metro system as such. There is a circular rail network that you can use, or you can try the buses if you feel braver. Yangon is a sprawling city, and combined with the heat it's not one to try walking for miles from one place to another.

If you decide to travel north to Bagan or



Mandalay there a few choices, and I wouldn't recommend driving yourself to either. The car journey is about 8-10 hours to each from Yangon along mainly paved toll road highways, except to Bagan where you have two hours of closed eyes on the smaller single carriageways. There is quite heavy traffic at night as many do the journey overnight with regular stops at service stations, which are often better than anything on the M1, but not always! I would recommend flying to Bagan, which takes about an hour and a half with three or more carriers to choose from, offering regular daily flights; Myanmar National, Mann Yadanarpon or Golden Myanmar.

From Bagan to Mandalay the best way is on the Irrawaddy River, either by express river taxi which takes best part of a day, or a more leisurely cruise which takes three days and two nights. If you fly to or from Mandalay Airport/Yangon be aware the airport is a good 30 miles plus from the City. The best option is to hire a car and driver during your stay, which is comparatively inexpensive.

You can get the train to Mandalay from the wonderfully colonial station in Yangon, but the stated journey time is often academic and the rail system is old and prone to regular breakdowns. An experience perhaps!

Where to stay:

Yangon:

There are numerous hotels and most of the luxury chains are represented. I stayed in the Sule Shangri-la, which is well positioned and central, near the Sule Pagoda and a short walk away from some of the oldest buildings in Yangon, the famous huge covered market at Bogyoke Aung San, as well as the station and Chinatown. It is also opposite Yangon Yangon, the well-known cocktail bar atop the Sakura Tower; from the outdoor seating area you get a 360 degree view of the entire city and the well-lit pagodas.

If you want an unusual venue go for the Vintage Luxury Yacht Hotel, moored downtown. Make sure you get a riverside cabin looking over the Yangon River, which is alive with commuters in small boats coming from the opposite bank to work and numerous other river traffic – it makes a pleasant change from a City Hotel. It is also easy to get from the hotel to other areas by trishaw (if you feel brave enough to join the horrendous traffic in Yangon), by taxi or a stroll down the Strand. Take sundowners on the deck or relax in the steam baths. The



Botahtaung Pagoda is a five minute walk along the river and worth a visit; I stayed here the first few nights in Yangon.

The two premier hotels in Yangon are the Strand and the Governor's Residence, both latter 1920s- era British colonial.

Bagan:

Again, a wide choice, from Spas and wellbeing resorts to traditional hotels. This is very much a tourist spot. I stayed at the Hotel Umbra which is well situated and has its own pagoda in the grounds. It is simple to hire the electric bikes from here to explore, too, or you can walk across the road to at least 20 temples with no-one else there. Up the road to the right is a line of temples and a sunset viewing platform on the last – a little dangerous to get to the top but worth the climb.

When In Bagan:

You will pay an entrance fee to the area only once and this includes entrance to the more important sites; the same is true for the area outside Mandalay. Wherever you stay get an electric powered bike for the day and a good map of the different main sites. If you are tempted to wander off on the dirt tracks as I was, be warned: you will get lost as after a while all your markers, mainly the temple shapes, begin to look the same in outline.

If you wish to see the sunrise and early morning from a different perspective book a horse safari for the morning. It is very relaxing to see the temples from horseback and watch the scores of balloons rising into the air.

When in Mandalay:

I didn't stay in Mandalay but spent a day there, then headed up to the old British Hill Station of Pyin Oo Lwin (formerly Maymyo) and spent another day on the way back.

The Royal Palace is worth a visit, though much of it was rebuilt following WWII



bombing. From the top of Mandalay Hill you get a panoramic view of the city at sunset.

Do go outside the city and visit the huge cluster of religious and historical sites of the former capitals of Amarapura and Inwa (Ava) as well as the wooden Shwe In Bin Kyaung. This is at least a full day's excursion.

The longest wooden bridge in the world, U Bein's Bridge, stretches 1.2km across Lake Taungthaman; constructed from teak in the 18th century, it takes 15 minutes to traverse.

What to buy – markets:

Every town has a market and they are great places to wander around and see the colourful displays of food, spices, teas, clothes etc. In Yangon the best market is without doubt Bogyoke Aung San (you can use US dollars here) on same named street. Here there are hundreds of stalls, all covered, selling textiles, crafts, dolls, lacquerware, musical instruments, longis, bags and wicker-ware. For silver jewellery, jade and gems of all sorts this is the place and the stalls are all registered giving you protection from fakes. Mandalay has an enormous market, Zegyo, and the best shop selling teas in Myanmar. You can bargain in Myanmar, it is expected, but treat vendors with respect.

Puppetry:

Puppetry was the traditional way of telling stories, with puppet shows held in every town to huge audiences, often lasting right through the night. Now, sadly, it is dying out except for the tourist trade. The most unusual way of experiencing a taste of this colourful skill is to visit the Htwe Oo Myanmar Traditional Puppet theatre in the owner's home. He uses both his son and daughter, as well as the last few remaining puppet masters, to provide a representative one hour show in a very intimate setting (www.htweoomyanmar.com).

The puppets (in a much restricted size) are easily bought in all the markets.

NUMISMATIC NEWS

LORD STEWARTBY – THE NUMISMATIC LEGACY

London, 28th June 2018

The British Numismatic Society and Royal Numismatic Society with the Sylloge of Coins of the British Isles Committee Joint Summer Meeting will take place at the British Academy, 10-11 Carlton House Terrace, London, on Friday 28th June.

This all day symposium will consider the academic legacy of Lord Stewartby (1935-2018), a distinguished member of the Society and among the leading figures in British numismatic scholarship in the second half of the twentieth century. He published over two hundred papers and was a major contributor both to the development of what became the Medieval European Coinage publication project at Cambridge and other widely regarded publications. His interests ranged across the Romano-British coinage of the London mint, Anglo-Saxon and Viking coinage, mediaeval English coinage as well as Scottish coinage, the latter being a field in which he was pre-eminent both as a collector and as a scholar.

Sponsored by the British and Royal Numismatic Societies and the British Academy's Sylloge of Coinage of the British Isles committee, the symposium will comprise a series of papers by leading figures who place the use of numismatic evidence at the forefront of historical and archaeological interpretation. Structured around topics with which Lord Stewartby was deeply engaged, it will explore recent work which builds on his contributions to Numismatic scholarship.

The four themed sessions will cover:

- Britain c300-400 AD, Coinage and Continental Connections
- Anglo-Saxon and Anglo-Viking England, c800-1100, Money, Mints and Monarchs
- The British Isles c100-1150, Coinage, Management and Circulation
- Scottish Coinage c1140-1707, Interpretation and Resources

The event runs from 09.30-17.15. Refreshments and a light lunch will be provided. Booking is required for anyone wishing to attend.

Cost: £25 per person. Students in full time education – FREE.

To find out more or to book online please visit www.britnumsoc.org and go to 'Meetings,' where details of the event can be found.

If you have an item of newsworthy interest you would like to share with other readers, please email your suggestion to insider@spink.com for possible inclusion in the next edition of the magazine.

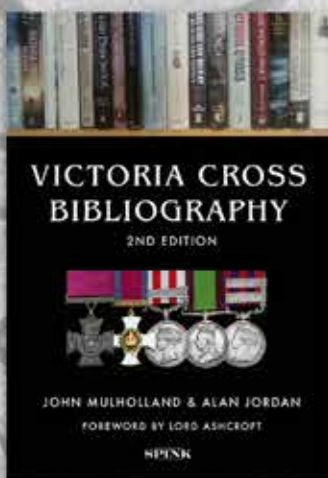


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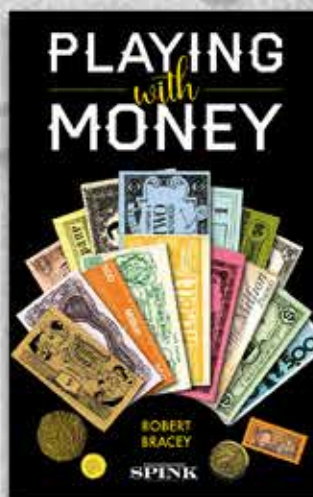
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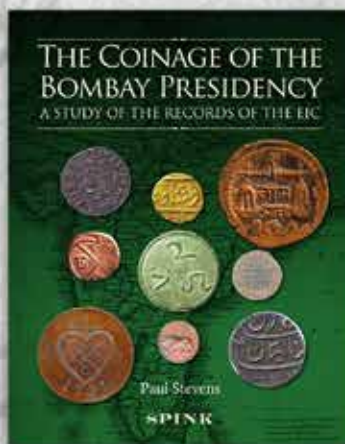
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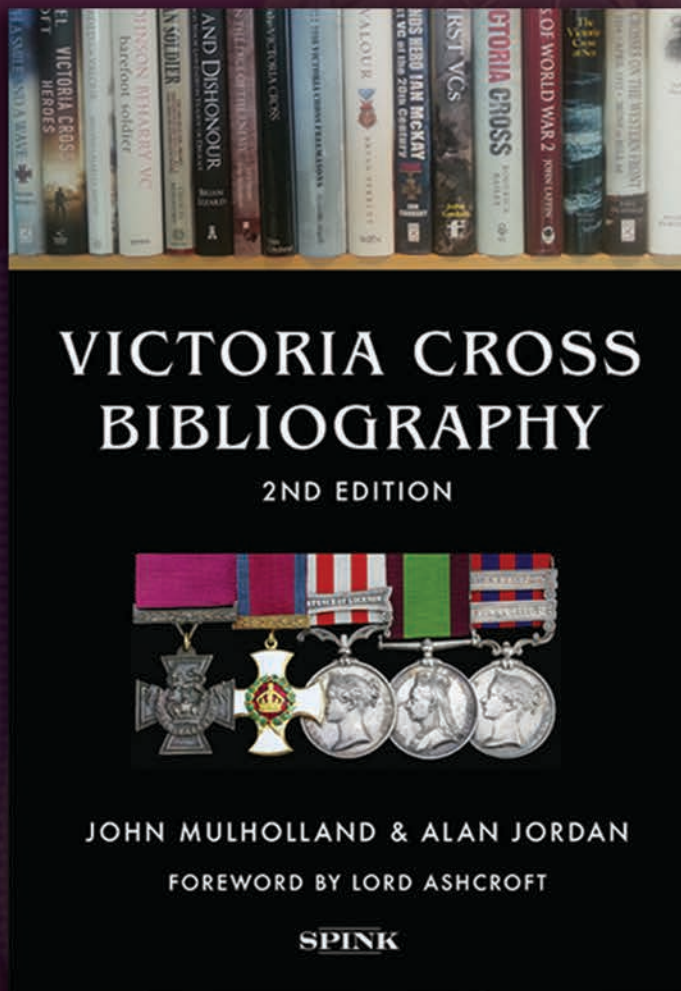


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SALE CALENDAR 2019

MARCH

26/27/28 March	The Numismatic Collectors' Series Sale	Hong Kong	CSS39
26 March	The Dr. Erik Miller Collection Part I - Crowns	London	19021
27/28 March	Coins and Commemorative Medals: Spring Auction	London	19004

APRIL

4-15 April	World Banknotes e-Auction	London	19037
10/11 April	Orders, Decorations and Medals	London	19001
12-30 April	Bonds and Share Certificates of the World e-Auction	London	19017
17 April	The Ibrahim Salem Collection of British Commonwealth - Part One	London	19030
17/18 April	World Banknotes	London	19023
24 April	The Arthur Gray Collection of Australia Queen Elizabeth II Decimal Issues	London	19013
24/25/26 April	The Philatelic Collectors' Series Sale	London	19015
26 April	The 'Bacchus' Collection of Great Britain	London	19028
29 April - 6 MAY	Ancient Coins & Antiquities e-Auction	New York	345

MAY

1-16 May	Stamps and Covers of France and French Colonies e-Auction	London	19027
7-17 May	US & World Coins e-Auction	New York	346
9 May	The Lou Manzi and A. J. Simms Collections of British Banknotes & other properties	London	19031
10-23 May	The 'Esseight' Collection of World Coins e-Auction	London	19020
22/23 May	The Philatelic Collector's Series Sale	New York	169
May	An Evening of Great Whiskies and Rums	Hong Kong	SFW31

JUNE

20/21 June	The Philatelic Collectors' Series Sale	Hong Kong	CSS40
21 June	The Treaty Ports of the Shanghai Postal System - Part II	Hong Kong	19034
26 June	English Hammered Gold Coins - The Property of a Gentleman	London	19051
26/27 June	Coins and Commemorative Medals: Summer Auction	London	19005
26/27 June	The Numismatic Collector's Series Sale	New York	347
28 June - 8 July	Orders, Decorations, Campaign Medals and Militaria e-Auction	New York	348

JULY

8 July	Historical Documents, Postal History and Autographs	London	19022
10/11 July	The Philatelic Collectors' Series Sale	London	19029
12-30 July	Bonds and Share Certificates of the World e-Auction	London	19018
24/25 July	Orders, Decorations and Medals	London	19002

AUGUST

2 August	The Tan Ah Ee Collection of India Used in the Straits Settlements	Singapore	19032
2 August	Stamps and Covers of South East Asia	Singapore	19033

The above sale dates are subject to change.

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