

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BRITISH NUMISMATIC SOCIETY, 2007

All meetings during the year were held at the Warburg Institute and the President, Dr M.A.S. Blackburn, was in the chair throughout.

(For Officers and Council for 2007, see Volume 77)

23 JANUARY 2007. Messrs Paul Sorowka and James Allen Wagner were elected by Council to Ordinary Membership. John Dekin Parry and Timothy D Cook (USA) had been re-elected by Council to Ordinary Membership and the University of Sheffield and the Vatican Library had been re-elected to Institutional Membership. Gareth Williams then read a paper entitled *Early Anglo-Saxon gold coinage*.

27 FEBRUARY 2007. Prof. Kenneth Wayne Harl (USA) and Messrs Joseph Connolly and Simon Nicholas Hawkes were elected by Council to Ordinary Membership and the University Library, Trondheim to Institutional Membership. The President announced the death of Mr James North Allen, a member since October 1973, on 31 December 2006, at the age of 86. John Talbot then read a paper entitled *The coinage of the Iceni: new information from a die study of the complete coinage*.

27 MARCH 2007. Prof. Paul Andrew Christensen and Messrs Martin Griffiths, Robert John Pearce and Huseyin Arif Sulo were elected by Council to Ordinary Membership and the Paley Library, Temple University, Philadelphia (USA) to Institutional Membership. David Dykes read a paper entitled *Peter Skidmore: the man who never was*.

24 APRIL 2007. Messrs Tim Banks, Bradley Nelson (USA), Brett Telford (USA) were elected by Council to Ordinary Membership and Trevor Frank Morse to Student Membership. The President presented the inaugural North Book Prize for the work which has made the greatest contribution to British numismatics to Dr Martin Allen, for *The Durham Mint* (2003). The President expressed his pleasure in awarding the prize of £500 to Dr Allen for his original and important work. In reply, Dr Allen thanked the Society and particularly Jeffrey North, whose generous donation to the Society had made it possible to establish the prize. Richard Kelleher then read a paper entitled *Currency in Medieval England and the single find evidence from Kent*.

22 MAY 2007. Dr Donal Bateson read a paper entitled *William Hunter and eighteenth-century coin collecting*.

26 JUNE 2007. Mr Peter Mitchell announced the death of the former member, Mr Swan, the well-known cabinet maker, at the age of 83. Stewart Lyon and Bill Lean read a paper entitled *Was an Anglo-Saxon coin invari-*

ably minted in the town named on it? Some contrary evidence from style and die-linking.

25 SEPTEMBER 2007. Andrew Christopher Barnett and James Kenneth Goode (USA) were elected by Council to Ordinary Membership. Professor Simon Keynes delivered the 10th Howard Linecar Memorial Lecture entitled *History and coinage in the reign of King Æthelred II*.

23 OCTOBER 2007. Philip David Cudmore, Clive Paul Knipe, John James Robinson (USA) and Anthony Travis were elected by Council to Ordinary Membership and Sarah Power to Student Membership. The President announced that an Extraordinary General Meeting would be held on 23 January 2008, to vote on Council's proposed amendments to the By-Laws for the election of Council members and Officers. The Meeting agreed to deem the text of the proposed amendments as having been read out. The notice would be suspended in the library, and copies of the notice would be sent to members with their ballot papers. Mr Christian Dekesel then read a paper entitled *Martin Folkes (1690–1754) and his numismatic contemporaries*.

27 NOVEMBER 2007. Alan Barry Blake, Roderick Richardson and Richard James Shelton were elected by Council to Ordinary Membership. The following Officers and Council were elected for 2008:

<i>President:</i>	M.A.S. Blackburn
<i>Vice-Presidents:</i>	C.E. Challis, G.P. Dyer C.S.S. Lyon, P.D. Mitchell, H.E. Pagan, and Lord Stewartby
<i>Director:</i>	K. Clancy
<i>Treasurer:</i>	P.H. Mernick
<i>Librarian:</i>	J.E. Roberts-Lewis
<i>Secretary:</i>	R. Kelleher
<i>Membership Secretary:</i>	R.L.N. Hewson
<i>Council:</i>	R.F. Bland, P. de Jersey, R.J. Eaglen, N.M. McQ. Holmes, W.A. MacKay (<i>Publicity Officer</i>), R.G.R. Naismith, P.J. Preston-Morley, J.G. Scott, Elina M. Screen, Frances Simmons, P. Skingley and R.H. Thompson

Council's proposal that the subscription should remain unchanged at £32 for Ordinary Members and £15 for members under age 21 or in full-time education was approved. The President, Dr M.A.S. Blackburn, then delivered his fourth Presidential Address, *Currency under the Vikings: 4. The Dublin Coinage c.995–1050*

and was thanked, on behalf of the membership, by Mr H.E. Pagan. Members present then attended a wine party sponsored by Mr M. Anderson in celebration of his 51 years of membership.

EXHIBITIONS

January:

By H.E. Pagan.

William Boys's copy of Withy and Ryall's *Twelve Plates of English Silver Coins* (1756), with manuscript additions including drawings of finds. Subsequently owned and used by Christopher Blunt in his publication of the Hougham Hoard (see *NC* 1979).

May:

By H.E. Pagan.

Siciliae veterum populorum & urbium regum quoque et tyrannorum numismata quae Panormi exstant in quodam privato Cimelio (Palermo, 1767)

Rare printed catalogue of the collection of 1071 Greek coins of Sicily put together by Gaspare Lancellotto Castelli, Principe di Torremuzza (1727–92); he sold the collection to Matthew Duane, a London attorney, and later it passed to William Hunter as part of Duane's collection. This copy of the catalogue probably derives from the library of Robert Mylne (1733–1811), the Scottish-born architect who in 1767 designed William Hunter's London house at 16 Great Windmill Street.

June:

By A. Lyons.

Two coins of Cnut's *Quatrefoil* type, struck by the moneyer Ælfsige at 'Serb' (Salisbury?).

Both coins are of a London style unique (?) to Salisbury, and were struck from the same reverse die; one obverse is die-linked to a coin of Cambridge.

October:

By P.H. Mernick

Medal of Martin Folkes by Jacques-Antoine Dassier, an exceptional specimen in Damascened bronze.

November:

By H.E. Pagan.

A bound volume of British coin sale catalogues of the 1840s and 1850s, probably from the library of the Irish numismatist John Lindsay, and including an apparently entirely unrecorded catalogue of an auction held at Newcastle-upon-Tyne on 16 January 1849.

SUMMER MEETING

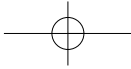
The Summer Meeting of the Society, *Currencies in Crisis*, was held jointly with the Royal Numismatic Society at Pallant House Gallery in Chichester on Saturday 7 July 2007. The meeting was opened by Mr Joe Cribb, President of the Royal Numismatic Society, and closed by the President. During the morning session, papers were read by Dr Sam Moorhead, *Ever decreasing circles: the world of the nummus in Late Antiquity*; Professor Edmund King, *The English coinage during the Civil War of 1138–1153* and Dr Kevin Clancy, *Locked into change: coinage reform in the 1690s and 1790s*. In the afternoon, papers were read by Barbara Mears, *Coinage in southern India in the early colonial period*; Graham Dyer, *Repent at leisure: the abandonment of sterling silver in 1920*; and Dr Paul Cavill, *The first Tudor coinage crisis?*

PRESENTATION OF THE NORTH BOOK PRIZE FOR 2006 TO MARTIN ALLEN

In presenting the North Book Prize for 2006 to Dr Martin Allen on 24 April 2007, the President, Dr Mark Blackburn, said:

Just a year ago Jeffrey North approached me and said that he wanted to make a donation to the Society in gratitude for the friendship and support that he had received from members of the Society and for the honour he felt in being awarded the Sanford Saltus Medal in 1995. In September of this year he will have been a member for fifty years. Council, with Mr North's support, decided that it would use the capital to endow a biennial prize for the book published in the last three years that has made the best contribution to British Numismatics. In most academic disciplines there are established book prizes, and although there are some general numismatic awards, such as the International Association of Professional Numismatists' Book Prize or the Royal Numismatic Society's Lhotka Prize for a beginner's book, there has been no prize specifically for a book on British numismatics. Now the North Book Prize happily fills that gap.

In deciding the first award of this Prize, forty eligible books were considered, and it was no easy task reducing these to a short list of four from which Council eventually chose the winner. The successful book was one that is the product of many years of research by an author who is an authority in his field, and crucially it makes an original contribution that extends



our knowledge of the subject. The book is Dr Martin Allen's *The Durham Mint*. This is the first full-scale study of the Durham mint since Mark Noble's treatise of 1780. Its strength lies in the combination of a detailed numismatic study of the coins together with research into the rich documentary evidence for Durham. Dr Allen looks at the administration of the mint and the personnel running it. Where his work breaks new ground is particularly in the estimation of mint output at various periods, marshalling a range of evidence and techniques of analysis. In economic terms Durham was but a minor mint, but the significance of this work is much greater than might be supposed from this, for it sheds new light on the operation of other ecclesiastical mints in England, and develops methodologies that will, I am sure, be applied elsewhere.

It is with great pleasure, then, that I ask Martin Allen to come forward and receive this cheque for £500 as the award for the first North Book Prize.

