

# Madison County Coin Club

of Huntsville, Alabama



Volume 9, Issue 1

January 2009

## The President's Corner

Now that 2008 is behind us, we are planning for another good year for the Madison County Coin Club. We have some good programs and events already lined up, but there are some openings if you would like to share your collecting interests as a program. Just let me know.

One of newest members, John Lindberg, will be our featured speaker this month as he talks about photographing coins. This is an interesting topic and can be useful for all of us. Please plan to attend on January 26th.

One of the best parts of our meetings is your participation in our show-and-tell segment, open discussion, and suggestions. So bring something to show at our next meeting.

*Continued on page 9*

## The Meaning Behind the "DOTS" on the 1943 Australian Penny

*By Bob Jaques*

Recently, while going through some foreign coins looking for unusual pieces, I came across some Australian silver coins minted during WW II that had D or an S mintmark on them. Intrigued with them, I did some research and discovered that many of the 1942, 1943, and 1944 issues were minted in the U.S. The denominations ranged from the 3 Pence thru the Florin. The Australian Government was afraid the Japanese would occupy their Country and confiscate their supplies of silver, so they asked the United States to mint these coins. This was important strategy needed to keep the confidence of the Australian people in their monetary system in case of an invasion. Of course, the Japanese came close, but did not occupy Australia.

But what about the large bronze penny? Their large penny is about the size of a half-dollar and had been minted since 1911. It was minted in two locations in Australia. One mint was in Perth and the other mint was in Melbourne. During the war years both mints did not use a mintmark to denote their minting location. On the reverse by the word PENNY, if there was no dot after PENNY then the coin was minted in Melbourne. If there was a single dot to the right of PENNY then it was minted in Perth.

However, for some unknown reason, the Australian Government decided to have some of their 1943 Penny's minted in Bombay, India. So how would they distinguish the coins minted in India from the others? They decided on two ways. The first was to place an "I"

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under the left bust of George V on the obverse. The second was to use two dots on the obverse by the word PENNY. If the coin was made in India then there was a dot on the left of PENNY and a dot on the right of PENNY.



*The no dot penny was minted in Melbourne*

Now there were three definite ways to tell the minting location by the use of dots on the obverse by the word PENNY. One dot on each side of PENNY and it was made in India; one dot on the right of PENNY and it was made in Perth; and no dots on either side of PENNY and it was made in Melbourne. Now for the interesting and difficult variety to find. The variety is the coin made in India. Some do not have the "I" on the front, but they have two dots on the obverse.



*The single dot penny was minted in Perth*

So if you want a challenge to your coin collecting, try to locate the three different mints of the 1943 Australian Penny. Most dealers have no idea of these

characteristics so there lays an opportunity to make a great "find" at a low cost. ■



*The two dot penny was minted in Bombay, India*

## **Inclement Weather Notice**

If the Huntsville City Schools are closed due to inclement weather, then the Huntsville Senior Center is closed. There will be no club meeting if the Huntsville Senior Center is closed. Local TV and radio stations will give notice of any Huntsville school closure.



*Let's go fishing... for some coins.*

# The Jersey 1812, 1813, and 1814 Tokens

## Part 1: The official silver tokens

By Harold Fears

The first official coinages minted for Jersey were the silver 1813 tokens. They were struck by the Royal Mint on the authority of an Order in Council from the Committee on Coins dated February 5, 1813. Thomas Wyon Jr., the chief engraver at the Royal Mint, designed the tokens.<sup>1</sup> He placed the Jersey arms on the obverse, with a wreath of oak surrounding the denomination on the reverse. Eventually, it was requested that £10,000 worth of silver bullion be converted to three shillings and eighteen pence tokens. From February through June 1813, 2535 pounds of silver were delivered to the Royal Mint. Using this silver, in late March, 4842 eighteen pence tokens were minted along with 2421 three shillings tokens. Additionally, 33,896 eighteen pence tokens were minted during the month of June. Also during the month of June, 51,890 three shillings tokens were coined. A year later, during March 1814, an extra 578 pounds of silver was delivered to the mint producing 16,793 three shillings tokens. Thus, we have a total of 38,739 eighteen pence tokens and 71,104 three shillings tokens for a nominal value of £13,571/0/6.<sup>2</sup>

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*... we have a total of 38,739 eighteen pence tokens and 71,104 three shillings tokens...*

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As Marshall-Fraser puts it, "It is necessary, however, to go back to October 26, 1812, when the States due to the paucity of small coins, decided to order some silver tokens and a Committee of nine members went into the question of amounts, denominations and costs. The States then requested H.E. the Lieutenant Governor Don to consult with His Majesty's Ministers. As a result, a letter dated November 12, 1812, from Lord Chetwynd, clerk to the Privy Council was read on December 12, 1812, and the States issued the necessary instructions to put the

tokens into circulation as soon as they should arrive and agreed to redeem the tokens at a month's notice."<sup>3</sup>

It is interesting to read a letter written on October 27, 1812 from Lieutenant Governor George Don, Government House to Viscount Sidmouth concerning the desire of the States of Jersey to issue a local coin "stamped" with the arms of the Island. From this letter:



*A proof Jersey 1813 Eighteen Pence Token*

*Continued on page 5*



"Much inconvenience having been felt by the Public here from the great scarcity of specie. The States met yesterday and passed the enclosed Act, by which Your Lordship will perceive that this assembly is desirous of issuing a local coin provided such a measure should meet with the approbation of His Majesty's Government.



A proof Jersey 1813 Three Shilling Token

I have to report to your Lordship that every effort to keep a sufficiency of circulating specie in this island has proved ineffectual and I therefore take the liberty of recommending that the measure now proposed may be sanctioned.

The States in the first instance intend to cause about six thousand pounds Sterling to be coined in small silver pieces and stamped with the Arms of the Island and to cover the expense of coinage, carriage, freight, and insurance. The intrinsic worth of the pieces will be a little less than the nominal value at which they will be issued."<sup>4</sup>

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*The coin current in Jersey was, until lately, chiefly that of France, with a small proportion of Spanish money.*

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In a subsequent letter dated July 27, 1813, he writes to "My Dear Sir" the following:

"I heartily wish that you could get your States to authorize the coinage of Ten Thousand Pounds in Guernsey tokens. This with the coinage ordered by the Jersey States would set all disputes and differences respecting money matters at rest for ever.

Yesterday my States passed an act for the additional coinage of tokens to the amount of Ten Thousand Pounds, and it seemed that the opinion of the assembly that in the event of this not proving sufficient for the circulating specie in the Island a further coinage of Ten Thousand Pounds should immediately be ordered."<sup>5</sup>

William Pless wrote in his book of 1817, *An Account of the Island of Jersey*, the following to describe the situation in 1813:

"The coin current in Jersey was, until lately, chiefly that of France, with a small proportion of Spanish money. The usual amount of specie, in circulation, has been estimated at nearly £80,000 sterling. After the French revolution, the coin of England became more generally into use, until the increased value of gold and silver completely drained the island of all specie but copper, and even that became scarce.

Continued on page 6

There were, at this period, three regular banking houses in the town of St. Helier. These, and a few mercantile men, were accustomed to issue notes, payable to the bearer on demand, for twenty-four livres French currency. So great, however, and so increasing were the inconveniences occasioned by the almost total disappearance of silver, that those houses were obliged to issue notes of five and ten shillings: these induced individuals to do the same; all having 'Jersey Bank' on their notes; until there were about eighty of these *soi disant* bankers. The island was soon inundated with notes, from the value of one pound down to that of one shilling; many of them issued by the lowest description of traders and publicans. Alarming as this undoubtedly was, necessity gave to these notes a general and ready circulation.



*From a proof Jersey 1813 Three Shilling Token*

Seriously aware of the ultimate consequences, likely to result from this unrestrained emission of paper money, the States resolved to have a silver coin struck: accordingly a quantity of tokens was issued, bearing the value of three shillings, and of eighteen pence English, to the amount of £10,000 sterling.\*

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*The island was soon inundated with notes, from the value of one pound down to that of one shilling; many of them issued by the lowest description of traders and publicans.*

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The issuing of notes under the value of one pound sterling, was then forbidden; yet such apprehensions

respecting the notes still in circulation were excited among the country inhabitants, that those who attended the market, hoarded all the coin and tokens they could procure: this was at least the reason assigned and generally believed, for the disappearance, in a few months, of nearly all the newly coined silver. The scarcity still continues, though not in the same degree.

\* About the value of £2600 sterling has been added. The States have since made an act, whereby every person issuing notes payable to bearer, is to have a regular office for the payment of them in the town of St. Helier. In consequence of this regulation, many have withdrawn their notes from circulation. The rapidly increasing evil is thus checked, but the public security will probably render stricter measures necessary".

These tokens remained legal tender until the first of October 1834, in which year English money was declared the sole legal tender. Lieutenant Colonel W. Marshall-Fraser, in his booklet *The Coinages of the Channel Islands*, stated that "large numbers" were exported to Guernsey and Canada where they were at a premium owing to more favorable rates of exchange.<sup>6</sup> This was the case even when on March 9, 1813, the States of Guernsey forbade all importation of silver and copper tokens and all such tokens had to be exported within 15 days.<sup>7</sup>

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*Although far more than three shillings tokens were struck, they are rarer today than the 18 penny pieces.*

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It is of interest to make a comment about the mintage figures quoted in some leading books and journals. Most sources state that the mintage for the eighteen pence token is 90,800 and the mintage for the three shillings token is 45,400. These numbers can be traced to a guess by Pridmore. He first computed the nominal value of these tokens from the January 28, 1834, Jersey Orders of Council and then took a ratio of two eighteen pence tokens to every one three



## Some Scenes from Last Year







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## Members' Notices

Rules for users of the member notice page: All notices are free and should be directed to the editor of the Madison County Coin Club newsletter (see back page for address). Notices will be limited to a maximum of 8 lines, including the name and contact information. The person entering the notice must answer all responses to notices. Preference will be given in the following order to notices when the page is oversubscribed in a single month:

1. Research Notices
2. Wanted Items
3. Trades Offered
4. For Sale Items

**Looking for world coins or tokens with sailing ships, or dragons.** Interested in crowns, and smaller denominations. Silver, Cupero-Nickel, bronze, Aluminum and the like. Contact Mark at [TheLarsens@bellsouth.net](mailto:TheLarsens@bellsouth.net)

**Looking for Alaskan Medals and Tokens.** Contact: Richard at [ANALMRJ@gmail.com](mailto:ANALMRJ@gmail.com) or 256-337-5092

**Looking for numismatic information concerning the Island of Jersey, Channel Islands.** Especially interested in magazine or newspaper articles. Contact: Harold at [hkfears@knology.net](mailto:hkfears@knology.net) or 256-881-6268.

*The President's Corner continued from page 1*

Harold is doing a fine job with our award-winning newsletter, but he needs articles from you. They are not hard to write, and if you need help, Harold will be glad to assist you in any way.

Our club needs your participation. See you on the January 26th.

Sincerely,  
Bob Jaques



**Why not bring a friend to the next meeting?**

shillings token.<sup>8</sup> Pridmore also quoted the January 28, 1834, Jersey Orders of Council, stating that the amount of tokens outstanding and not redeemed by the Committee as £1,363/7/6. This number is incorrect if one can assume that the amount redeemed is correctly stated in the Orders of Council as £12,256/12/6. Also note that this redeemed amount is mathematically incorrect. If we assume the redeemed amount is £12,256/11/6, then the computed amount remaining should then be £1314/9. As James O'Donald Mays states, "Their circulation over a 21-year period meant that few Jersey silver tokens survived in a mint condition. Although far more than three shillings tokens were struck, they are rarer today than the 18 penny pieces. A possible explanation is that when the tokens were recalled, holders were more anxious to have their large denominations redeemed than the less valuable 18 penny piece."<sup>9</sup> One can only guess at the remaining numbers of these most elusive pieces left for the collector.



Oak Leaves from the 18 Pence Token

Next month: The Jersey 1813 Half Penny.

### Sources:






1. Richard Sainthill, *Olla Podrida; or Scraps, Numismatic, Antiquarian, and Literary* (London, 1844), p. 27.
2. Societe Jersiaise Numismatic Section, Royal Mint Documents 1812-1814. Occasional Papers No. 4.
3. Lieutenant Colonel W. Marshall-Fraser, "The Coinages of the Channel Islands," *Societe Guernesiasie, Report and Transactions*, 1948, p. 321.
4. Jersey Heritage Trust L/F/95 General Don Collection L/F/95/B/21 Letter from Lieutenant General George Don, Government House to Viscount Sidmouth concerning the States of Jersey's desire to issue a local coin stamped with the arms of the Island
5. Jersey Heritage Trust L/F/95 General Don Collection L/F/95/B/29 Letter from Lieutenant General George Don, Government House to 'My dear Sir' concerning a memorandum relating to Jersey Revenues about the import on spirits; also concerns the possibility of Guernsey producing coinage of £10,000 and the passing of an act in Jersey for additional coinage, and quarantine on all vessels arriving from the Mediterranean in 1813.
6. Lieutenant Colonel W. Marshall-Fraser, "The Coinages of the Channel Islands," *Societe Guernesiasie, Report and Transactions*, 1948, p. 309.
7. Lieutenant Colonel B. Lowsley, *The Coinages of the Channel Islands* (London: Victoria Printing Works, 1897), p. 36.
8. Fred Pridmore, *The Coins of The British Commonwealth of Nations, Part 1: European Territories* (London: Robert Stockwell Ltd., 1960), p. 45.
9. James O'Donald Mays, *Tokens of Those Trying Times, A Social History of Britain's 19th Century Silver Tokens*. (Hampshire, 1991) p. 160. ■



## British Royal Mint Marks 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the One Pound Coin



The British Royal Mint marked its 25 years of the decimal one pound coin with a very nice set of sterling silver proof coins. Each of the sets features reverse designs that were applied to pound coins for the duration of the last 25 years.

In order to provide contrast to the silver proof coins, the British Royal Mint added 24-carat gold plating to each coin from the set, thus enriching them with extra detail. The design of the reverse is changed yearly during a five year cycle of designs that characterize England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. The table shown below shows the coin design that was active during a particular period and features the images of the brand new silver and gold proof coins that mark the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Year of Issue	Artist or Designer	Coin Design Theme	Commemorative One Pound
1983 1993 1998 2003	Eric Sewell	Royal Arms representing the United Kingdom	
1988	Derek Gorringe	Royal Shield representing the United Kingdom	
1984 1989	Leslie Durbin	Thistle and royal diadem representing Scotland	
1985 1990	Leslie Durbin	Leek and royal diadem representing Wales	
1986 1991	Leslie Durbin	Flax Plant and royal diadem representing Northern Ireland	

1987 1992	Leslie Durbin	Oak Tree and royal diadem representing England	
1994 1999	Norman Sillman	Lion Rampant representing Scotland	
1995 2000	Norman Sillman	Dragon passant representing Wales	
1996 2001	Norman Sillman	A Celtic Cross with a Pimpernel Flower in the centre surrounded by an ancient Torc representing Northern Ireland	
1997 2002	Norman Sillman	Three Lions passant guardant representing England	
2004	Edwina Ellis	A representation of the Forth Railway Bridge inside a border of railway tracks	
2005	Edwina Ellis	A representation of the Menai Bridge inside a border of railings and stanchions	



2006	Edwina Ellis	A representation of the Egyptian Arch Railway Bridge inside a border of railway station canopy dags	
2007	Edwina Ellis	A representation of the Gateshead Millennium Bridge with a border of struts	

**Please bring a coin,  
medal, note, or  
something for Show-  
and-Tell.**

#### **CLUB OFFICERS**

**PRESIDENT:** [Bob Jaques](mailto:rjapilot@charter.net) (rjapilot@charter.net)

**VICE PRESIDENT:** Dennis Delong (fastfords1@bellsouth.net)

**SECRETARY:** [Richard Jozefiak](mailto:analmrj@gmail.com) (analmrj@gmail.com)

**TREASURER:** [Mike Campbell](mailto:mcampbell7@juno.com) (mcampbell7@juno.com)

**BOARD MEMBER:** [Mark Larson](mailto:thelarsens@bellsouth.net) (thelarsens@bellsouth.net)

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### **January is Silver Dollar Month**

January is silver dollar month. So if you wish to trade, sell, or buy some silver dollars, the coin club's January meeting is the place to be!



*The reverse of a nice 1883 Akahi Dala (silver dollar)*

# Business Report from November 2008 Meeting

By Richard Jozefiak

The November 24, 2008 MCCC meeting was the last one of the year. At the meeting, a number of club business issues were done. The following people were elected 2009 officers by a voice vote. There were no other candidates for the positions.

- **President** Bob Jaques
- **VP** Dennis DeLong
- **Secretary** Richard Jozefiak
- **Treasurer** Mike Campbell
- **Board Member** Mark Larsen

After the election, Mike Campbell made a motion that the club donate \$100 to the Huntsville Senior Center. This motion was seconded, and with a voice vote approved by the members. The Huntsville Senior Center does not charge the club any fees for the use of the room or announcements in *Senior Life*. Mike will issue the check and get it delivered to the staff at the Huntsville Senior Center.

The MCCC officers also decided to give MCCC Coffee Mugs to the senior staff as a token of appreciation for their support. The mugs were put in holiday gift bags. The following Huntsville Senior Center staff received the mugs:

- **Tom N. Glynn** Executive Director
- **Pamela Donald** RSVP Director
- **Susan Holder** Programs Director
- **Susan Kirkland** Director of Marketing
- **Carol Woolnough** Executive Secretary

The program for the evening was the club's annual holiday pot luck and end of year bourse night. There was plenty of good food, and a number of members bought and sold items. There were three guests who attended the meeting along with about a dozen members. ■

## 2009 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

All meetings are held at the Senior Center in Huntsville in the Ceramics Room. We meet on the fourth Monday each month except for May and December. Meetings start at 6:30 and typically end around 8:30. The Thomas W. Davidson, Sr. Senior Center is located at 2200 Drake Ave. SW, Huntsville, AL 35803

### JANUARY 26

Photographing Coins by John Lindberg

### FEBRUARY 23

State of the Coin Market by Charles Cataldo.

### MARCH 23

Early Halves by Mike Ford

### APRIL 27

Lincoln: His Legacy on 100 Years of Pennies by Bob Jaques

### JUNE 22

Annual potluck and bourse night.

### JULY 27

Open

### AUGUST 24

Open

### SEPTEMBER 28

Open.

### OCTOBER 26

Commemorative Halves by Robert Patrick

### NOVEMBER 23

Annual Thanksgiving celebration and bourse night.





## 2009 Coin Shows Around Huntsville, AL Area

Date(s)	Area	Location	Contact Info	Richard's Rating
Feb 14-15 Sept 19-20	Pelham (Birmingham), AL	Central AL Coin Show Civic Center 500 Amphitheater Road Pelham, AL Sa 10 am – 6 pm Su 10 am – 3 pm	Dr. Carl Shory 205-620-0560	★
Feb 21 March 14 April 11 May 23 June 13 July 11 August 15 Sept 5 Oct 17 Nov 14 Dec 19	Franklin, TN	Coin Show I-65 & Hwy 96 Best Western Hotel 1308 Murfreesboro Road Franklin, TN 9 am – 4 pm	Col. Tom Bass 615-740-7952 615-428-0125 tbass73142@aol.com	TBD
Mar 6-8	Chattanooga, TN	Tennessee State Numismatic Society Camp Jordan Arena I-75 Exit 1 Chattanooga, TN	Gayle Pike 901-327-1703 901-210-7669 (cell) pikegk@aol.com www.tsns.org	TBD
April 17-19	Dalton, GA	45 <sup>th</sup> Georgia Numismatic Association Coin Show Northwest Trade Center I-75 exit 333 2211 Dug Gap Battle Road Dalton, GA Fri- Sat 10 am – 6 pm Sun 10 am – 3 pm	Chip Cutcliff 770-421-8387 chascoins06@yahoo.com www.gamoney.org	★ ★ ★
May 8-9 Oct 2-3	Huntsville, AL	Rocket City Coin Show Knights of Columbus Hall 3053 Leeman Ferry Road Huntsville, AL	Charles Cataldo AL Coin & Silver Co. 256-536-0262	★
July 17-19	Bessemer, AL	Alabama State Coin Show 1130 Ninth Ave SW Bessemer, AL 10 am – 6 pm	Corbitt Chandler 205-939-1178 corbitchandler@bellsouth.net	★ ★
Aug 21-23	Dalton, GA	50 <sup>th</sup> Blue Ridge Numismatic Association Coin Show Northwest Trade Center I-75 exit 333 2211 Dug Gap Battle Road Dalton, GA Fri-Sat 10 am – 6 pm Su 10 am – 3 pm	Bob Hurst 321-383-1742 forvm@cfl.rr.com www.brna.org	★ ★ ★

**Richard's Rating:**

★ Small coin show, no educational programs

★ ★ Medium/Large coin show, no educational programs

★ ★ ★ Large coin show, educational programs and/or exhibits. Worth the drive

TBD- Have not been to show

Madison County Coin Club  
14047 Camden Circle  
Huntsville, AL 35803

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