



# ONTARIO NUMISMATIST

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## President's Message

Congratulations to the Nickel Belt Coin Club on reaching a great milestone of "50 Years". I was honoured to be a part of their 50 Anniversary. To have some longtime members still as members is another great accomplishment. 45 members and guests attended the celebrations June 18th at the Caruso Club in Sudbury. Having dedicated leaders and good volunteers always makes for a good club.

The ONA has been asked to have the 2008 Convention back with the Nickel Belt Coin Club. We will surely do our best to accommodate their wishes. Thanks Alan, Gerry and the members for an enjoyable weekend.

Many of our clubs choose not to hold regular meetings during the summer months but I assure you there are still lots of numismatic things to do; start with the C.N.A. Convention July 20th to 23rd in Niagara Falls at the Sheraton Fallsview Hotel and Convention Centre. This is one of the largest conventions they have ever put on, something for everyone.

Another summer related hobby proving lucrative is metal detecting. I am seeing and hearing of not just jewelry but old and even gold coins being found while just strolling on the beach, ball fields, parks, old church's and historic sites. Metal detecting clubs are in most communities and this is when they do their best treasure hunting.

Other things to do in the two months are garage sales, flea markets, or just swapping with a fellow collector, reading your coin catalogues or even organizing your collection better.

While traveling to other countries check out all the coin shops.

See you at the C.N.A. Convention in July.

Please have a safe summer and HAPPY HUNTING.  
Thanks.

Tom Rogers

**APPOINTED COMMITTEE**

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**Robb McPherson**  
Robb4359@hotmail.com

\*Available only evenings & on week-ends

**MEMBERSHIP FEES**

Regular Membership - \$15.00 per year  
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Club Membership - \$20.00 year  
Life Membership - \$450.00

(life memberships are accepted only after  
one year of regular membership)

Send money order or cheque (payable to the  
ONA) for membership to:

Bruce Raszmann, ONA Treasurer  
P.O.Box 40033, Waterloo Square P.O.  
75 King St. S., Waterloo, Ont. N2J 4V1

**"ANNOUNCEMENT"**

Robb McPherson past president of the Waterloo Coin Society is taking on the challenge of being the web manager for the O.N.A. [www.ontario-numismatic.org](http://www.ontario-numismatic.org)

We ask all clubs and members to work with Robb to pass on proper information on club meeting dates, locations email addresses of club contact person show dates, places etc. This is to keep the public and the members up to date with what is new in the numismatic circle.

**MEMBERSHIP**

The applications for membership which appeared in the May-June issue of the Ontario Numismatist have been accepted. We welcome the new members.

- J1881 Michael Carpino, Orillia
- 1882 Lawrence I. Scott, Stony Plain, Alta.
- J1883 Nick Jakub, Brantford
- 1884 Len Kuenzig, Mississauga
- 1885 George Manz, Regina, Sask.
- 1886 Young S. New, Cote-St-Luc, Que.
- 1887 Peter Bondett, Trenton
- 1888 Darrell Bates, Bath
- 1889 Roy K. Longmore, Kingston
- 1890 Randall Underhill, Alymer
- 1891 R.M. Craig, West Hill
- J1892 Wynne Killing, Woodstock
- 1893 Alfred Bergeron, Leesburg, Fl. USA
- J1894 Brent Devos, London

**APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP**

The following applications for membership have been received. If there are no objections, they will be accepted into O.N.A. membership and their acceptance published in the next bulletin.

- J1895 Joshua Cheung, Richmond Hill, Ontario
- 1896 Dave Pommer, Woodstock, Ontario
- 1897 Scott Douglas, Acton, Ontario

Yours truly  
Bruce H. Raszmann  
O.N.A. Treas. & Membership Chairman

## Upcoming Shows

### **PARIS - Sunday, August 13**

SWON Show at the Paris Fairgrounds, 139 Silver St. 9:00 to 4:30 p.m. Admission is \$2. Ticket draw for a gold coin with paid admission. For more information contact Ted Bailey at 1-866-747-2646 or email [tedscollectables@bellnet.ca](mailto:tedscollectables@bellnet.ca).

### **NIAGARA FALLS - September 9-10**

TLC Show, Ramada Suites Hotel, 7389 Lundy's Lane. Hours: Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sun. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Admission adults \$4, seniors and students \$2. Free parking. Draw for gold coin. For more information, contact Linda Robinson, 519-680-0213, [linda\\_ann@rogers.com](mailto:linda_ann@rogers.com) or Tom Kennedy, 519-271-8825.

### **WOODSTOCK - September 10**

17th Annual Coin Show, South Gate Centre, 191 Old Wellington St. S. Hours: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Admission \$1, kids free. Door prizes and displays. Sponsor/Affiliate: Woodstock Coin Club; 41 Masefield Cr., London, ON N5V 1M9, 519-451-2316.

### **LONDON - September 17**

14th Annual London Numismatic Society Coin Show, Ramada Inn, 817 Exeter R. Hours: 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Admission \$1, includes draws for RCM products. Juniors admitted free. Sponsor/Affiliate: London Numismatic Society. For more information, contact Len Buth, 519-641-4353, [lbuth@web-manager.on.ca](mailto:lbuth@web-manager.on.ca).

### **HAMILTON - September 22 to 24**

TNS, Ramada Plaza Hotel, 150 King St. E. For more information, contact [rscoins@cogeco.ca](mailto:rscoins@cogeco.ca) or call (905) 643-4988.

### **ESSEX COUNTY - September 24**

The Essex County Coin Club will hold it's Annual Fall Show at the Real Canadian Superstore, Community Room, 201 Talbot St., E., Leamington. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free Admission. Lots of free parking. For more information contact Margaret Clarke at (519) 735-0727. email: [mclarke@wincom.net](mailto:mclarke@wincom.net).

### **OAKVILLE - September 29 to October 1**

Oakville Show (TICF) to be held at the Oakville Park Plaza, 360 Oakville Place, Oakville, Ontario (Same Hotel as 2005

show, only new name). Auction for this show will be conducted by C&P Numismatics. For more information contact Ted Bailey at 1-866-747-COIN (2646).

### **TILLSONBURG - October 15**

Tillsonburg 44th Annual Coin Show, Mt. Elgin Community Centre on Highway #19 (south of 401) Hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. \$1. Admission. 25 tables of numismatic material, hourly draws. Sponsor/Affiliate: Tillsonburg Coin Club. For more information, contact Wayne MacFarlane, (519) 842-6666, [waynemacfarlane@sympatico.ca](mailto:waynemacfarlane@sympatico.ca)

### **GUELPH - October 21**

South Wellington & Waterloo Coin Societies Coin Show, Ramada Inn, 716 Gordon Street. Hours: 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Coin, medals, tokens, banknotes, trade dollars, penny draw prizes, door prizes, display tables. Sponsor/Affiliate: South Wellington & Waterloo Coin Societies. For more information, contact South Wellington Coin Society c/o Lowell (Rick) Wierstra, 8 Smart St., Guelph, ON N1G K9; (519) 842-6534; [ljwierstra@sympatico.ca](mailto:ljwierstra@sympatico.ca)

### **OSHAWA - October 14**

COIN-A-RAMA, 5 Points Mall, 285 Taunton Road E. 9:30 to 5:00 p.m. Free admission. Featuring coins, paper money, tokens and medals. Free dealer draw, member draw and public draw. Celebrating 45 years in numismatics. Sponsor: Oshawa & District Coin Club. For more information contact Sharon or Earl at (905) 728-1352, [papman@idirect.com](mailto:papman@idirect.com).

### **TORONTO - October 28 & 29**

TOREX, Radisson Admiral Hotel, 249 Queen's Quay W. Admirals Ballroom. Saturday (10:00 to 5:00 p.m.) & Sunday (10:00 to 3:00 p.m.). Admission \$6. For more information, contact Brian Smith at (416) 861-9523, [www.torex.net](http://www.torex.net).

### **STRATFORD - October 29**

Stratford Coin Club, Annual Show, Festival Inn, 1144 Ontario Street. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission \$2. Coins, medals, paper money. Sponsor/Affiliate: Stratford Coin Club. For more information, contact Larry Walker, 519-271-3352, [larryw@golden.net](mailto:larryw@golden.net).



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## Member Clubs in Ontario

First Tuesday	London Numismatic Society Midland Coin Club
First Wednesday	Mississauga - Etobicoke Coin, Stamp & Collectibles Club South Wellington Coin Society Scarborough Coin Club Sarnia Coin Club
First Thursday	Champlain Coin Club (Orillia)
Second Sunday	Oshawa & District Coin Club
Second Monday	St Thomas Numismatic Society Windsor Coin Club
Second Tuesday	Waterloo Coin Society Pembroke Coin Club
Second Wednesday	Wasaga Beach Coin Club Peterborough Numismatic Society Leamington & District Coin Club
Second Thursday	Woodstock Coin Club Lake Superior Coin Club
Second Sunday	Timmins Coin Club
Third Sunday	Watford Coin Club Brantford Numismatic Society St Catharines Coin Club Nickel Belt Coin Club (Sudbury)
Third Monday	Ingersoll Coin Club Toronto Coin Club
Third Tuesday	Tillsonburg Coin Club Alliston Coin Club
Third Wednesday	Stratford Coin Club Kent Coin Club (Chatham) Niagara Falls Coin Club
Fourth Monday	Cambridge Coin Club City Of Ottawa Coin Club
Fourth Tuesday	Collingwood - Georgian Bay Coin & Stamp Club North York Coin Club

Clubs Not Listed: Nipissing Coin Club, Polish-Canadian Coin & Stamp Club, Mississauga, Troyak, Polish Canadian - Markham.

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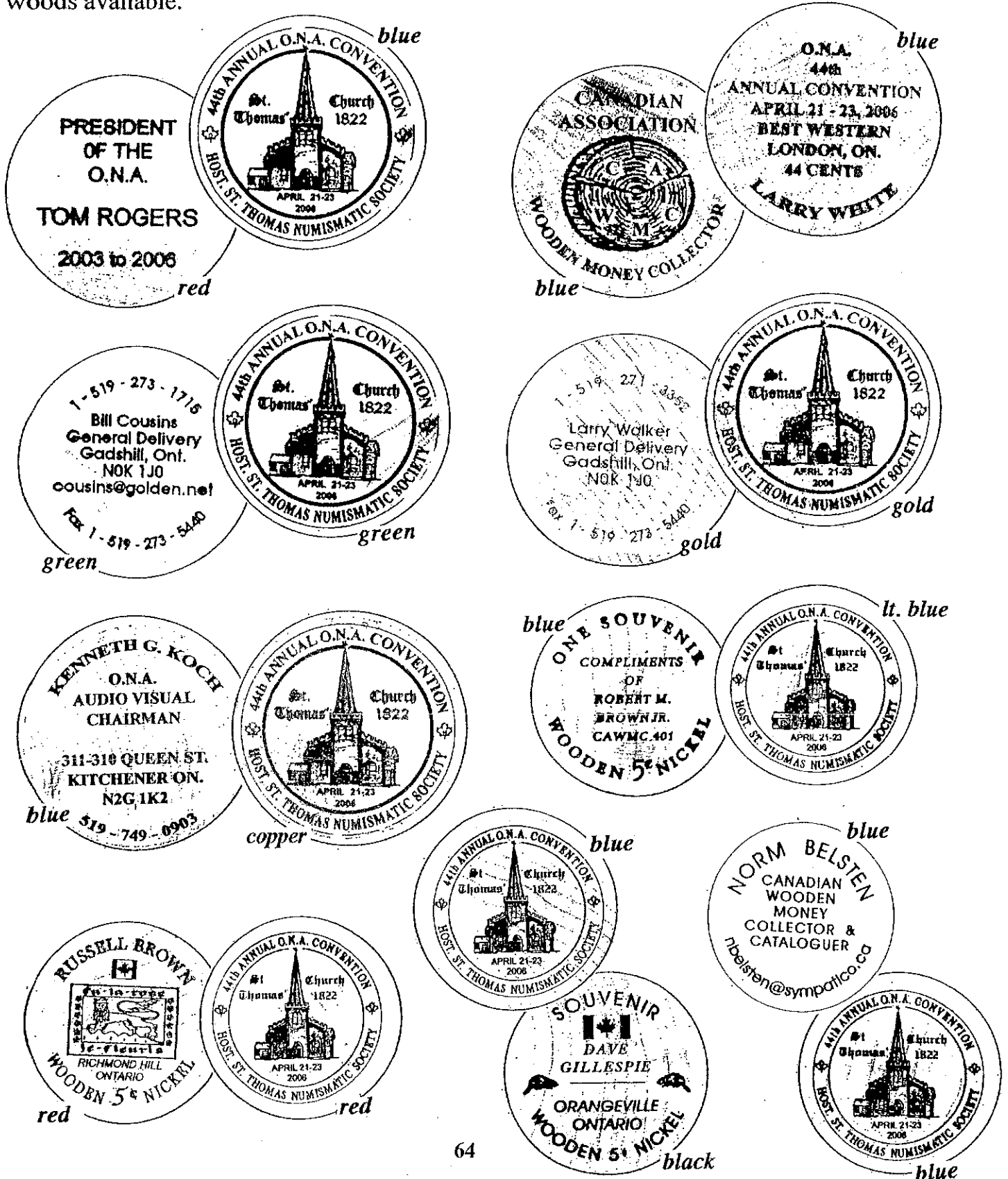
**email:teds.s.w.o.n.22@sympatico.ca**

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Courtesy of the Timber Talk

**ONTARIO NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION CONVENTION "WOODS":**

For the April O.N.A. convention, held in London, Ontario, I believe there were nine souvenir 'woods' issued. They are shown here with colours. I assume they would be available from the actual issuers of each wood, but I expect that there would be no more of the 'Tom Rogers' woods available.



## Courtesy of The Collector

### WEB NEWS

by Doug Adams #639

When first television, and now the web, started to evolve, the newspaper industry thought they'd be out of business. Well we all know that just never happened. Most newspapers today use the web to keep their readers updated with breaking events between editions. Well here at CTCCC, we do the same thing. The web site is a great tool that you can use for just this purpose. If you haven't visited the site, take a moment and move your mouse over to [www.ctccc.ca](http://www.ctccc.ca)

This web site has been running for a little over a year now and contains a lot of general information for members and for prospective members. If you are still concerned about our old site (<http://www.nunetcan.net>) a 're-direct' has been added there so when you click on the appropriate link for our club you'll be automatically sent to the new site.

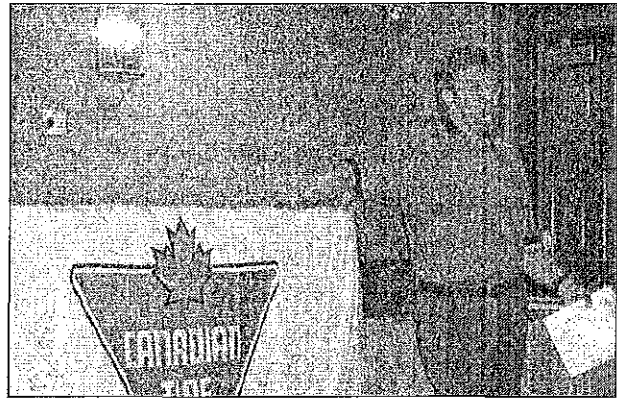
If you are still finding the old page, you should delete it from your 'favourites' and replace it with the [ctccc.ca](http://www.ctccc.ca) web address.

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## SOME ONA PICTURES



Roger Fox setting the table, with an assist from Sandy Lipin



Mike Hollingshead addresses the group



Don Bradt and Bill Symes do some dealing



Don Robb "You want that coupon for how much!!"



Toby's wife Betsy and Doug Adams' wife Jayne join the festivities at Toby's



Ron Wilkie, Sandy Lipin, Jerome Fourre and Roger Fox at Toby's doing some serious trading

Courtesy of the Timmins Coin Club

*“2006 Ottawa Senator Hockey Coin”*



Introducing the recently released 2006 Canadian colorized Ottawa Senator Hockey Club 25¢ coin. The coin was issued earlier this spring 2006 and follows on the heels of similar sets that included colorized 25¢ coins with the logos of the Montreal Canadien and the Toronto Maple Leafs hockey clubs. The latter are also dated 2006 but were issued in November 2005. The sets are available for C\$ 24.95, however, several coin dealers have broken the sets up and are offering the colorized 25¢ coin alone for approximately C\$ 17.00.

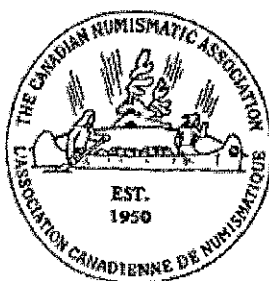
Courtesy of the Champlain Coin Club

**Numismatic History:** Napoleon Bonaparte was one of the world’s greatest military leaders and conquerors. Evidence shows us that Bonaparte expected an easy victory over England. In 1804, the little Emperor had a medal struck that showed Hercules holding a mermaid. The inscription read “Descent en Angleterre, Frappe a Londres en 1804”.

The invasion of Angleterre (England) never took place and the medal was forgotten. Only one piece is known today. Many modern copies exist for collectors.



Nickel Belt Coin - Auction With Bob Denton



## Canadian Numismatic Association

Charles Moore, President

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### June 29, 2006 - For Immediate Release

Charles "Chuck" Moore, President of the Canadian Numismatic Association, is pleased to announce the appointment of Paul Johnson as the Association's new Executive Secretary.

Paul Johnson began collecting coins in 1965, joining the Canadian Numismatic Association in 1972 and transferring to life membership in 1978. He is a member of about 30 numismatic associations. Paul has held several elected and appointed positions in the C.N.A. including Second Vice-President, Ontario Director and Finance Chairman and has been Education Committee Chairman since 1991. He was coordinating editor of the first CNA Numismatic Correspondence Course released in 1995 as well as the second one launched in 2005. He served the CNA as Junior Director, Club Services Chairman, Finance Committee Chairman, Ontario Director, Second Vice President and Toronto area Director. Paul was an exhibit judge at most CNA Conventions from 1979 to 2004. He received the J. Douglas Ferguson Gold Medal Award in 1995, the CNA Fellow Award in 1997 and the CNA Presidential Award in 2005. He has served on many CNA Convention committees.

Paul served the Ontario Numismatic Association as Head Exhibit Judge from 1997 to 2006 and as Award of Merit Committee Chairman from 1991 to 1999. Paul received the ONA Award of Merit in 1985 and the ONA Fellow award in 2001. He has held ONA Life Membership since 1983. Paul joined the American Numismatic Association in 1972 and is a recipient of the ANA Outstanding Young Numismatist award. He also received the ANA Presidential award in 1995. In 1996, Paul received the title of MASTER NUMISMATIST for completing the ANA Numismatic Diploma Program.

He has been an active exhibitor at coin shows since 1967 and has received numerous Best of Show awards. He has exhibited competitively in every Canadian province except Newfoundland and has exhibited in 25 different states of the United States.

Paul has served on the executive of the North York Coin Club over a 20-year span as Vice President, Director and Program Chairman, receiving an honorary life membership in 1998. He was also on the executive of the Peterborough (Ontario) Coin Club.

His 33-year background as a General Accountant, Financial Analyst and Cost Accountant in the manufacturing and service industries will serve him well in his new position. He and his wife Mary-Ellen have a nine year old daughter, Laura.

Paul can be reached at the C.N.A. Executive Office, 5694 Highway 7 East, Suite 432, Markham, Ontario L3P 1B4, telephone (647) 401-4014; fax (905) 472-9645 or via e-mail at [cnainfo@rogers.com](mailto:cnainfo@rogers.com).

## Victoria Cross honoured on Manitoulin Island annual token

“Last year was the Year of the Veteran in Canada, this year it is Year of the Veteran on Manitoulin Island” said David Walton, the Token Program Coordinator of the Little Current Lions Club, when he announced the upcoming issue of their 45<sup>th</sup> token. “We’ve decided to honour Canadian war heroes by commemorating the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the institution of the Victoria Cross with our very first 5-Dollar token” he concluded.

The 5-Dollar municipal trade token will have currency value, at participating merchants on Manitoulin Island, until November 30, 2006. It is not only the first of that denomination, it is also the first time that the club offers enamelled pieces for their lower denomination issue.

The obverse shows: a traditional Victoria Cross (i.e. with the “For Valour” legend rather than the Canadian version with “Pro Valore”) with the legend: HAWEATER 5 DOLLARS 1856 VICTORIA CROSS 2006. The traditional Manitoulin reverse has been used showing a map of the island flanked above by a deer and by a fisherman below with the legend: MANITOULIN / (island) / WORLD'S LARGEST FRESHWATER ISLAND.

The 35 millimetre tokens were struck as follows: 2,500 on antique Florentine bronze blanks (\$7.50), 150 on nickel-silver blanks (\$17.00), 150 on gold-plated blanks (\$18.00) and 150 on antique Florentine bronze blanks and enamelled (\$35.00). The ribbon of the medal is coloured crimson on the enamelled pieces. They are available from the exclusive distributor, Bonavita, Box 11447, Station H, Nepean, ON K2H 7V1 CANADA, tel: +1-613-823-3844, fax: +1-613-825-3092, Email: [bonavita@eligi.ca](mailto:bonavita@eligi.ca), at the prices indicated in parentheses. S&H is extra. Canadian resident must add the applicable taxes. Eligi Consultants Inc. had the token struck for the club from designs by Major Serge Pelletier, CD.

The Victoria Cross is the Commonwealth's highest decoration, given “for most conspicuous bravery or some daring pre-eminent act of valour or self-sacrifice or extreme devotion to duty in the

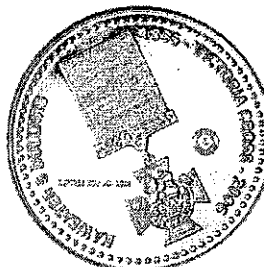
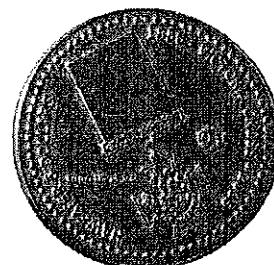
presence on the enemy”. A bar is awarded for additional acts of bravery. Instituted on February 5, 1856, with awards retroactive to 1854, there have been 1,351 Victoria Crosses and three bars awarded worldwide, 94 to Canadians (Canadian-born or serving in the Canadian Army or with close connection to Canada). The first one was awarded in February 1857 to Lieutenant Alexander Dunn for his participation in the famous “Charge of the Light Brigade”.

Whilst both Canada and the United Kingdom have issued coins this year to commemorate this significant anniversary, this is the only numismatic item made of material similar to that of the medal and the only one to show the ribbon. “We felt it was the only way to honour it properly” said Major Pelletier, the designer, and an officer in the Canadian Army, “since the metal is a significant part of its history and meaning”. Indeed, the Victoria Cross is made of bronze from Russian artillery pieces captured during the Crimean War.

For more info:

Serge Pelletier, [serge@eligi.ca](mailto:serge@eligi.ca)

Cell: +1-613-825-2318



## Birthday Queen Gives Maundy Coins

*(Note: The following article is taken from a BBC News report. The view photos and a video of the story, visit <http://news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/fr/-/1/hi/uk/4905376.stm>)*

The Queen has distributed Maundy Money to 160 pensioners in a service ahead of her 80th birthday next week (on April 21, 2006). She gave 80 men and 80 women two purses each at the ceremony at Guildford Cathedral, which she attended with the Duke of Edinburgh.

The purses contain 80p in Maundy coins and a £5 coin both of which mark the Queen's forthcoming 80th birthday.

Meanwhile, the Archbishop of Canterbury is to take part in an ancient Maundy Thursday feet washing ceremony.

Dr Rowan Williams, assisted by chief clergymen, will wash the feet of 12 members of the congregation during a service at Canterbury Cathedral.

### Service recognition

The recipients of the Maundy money presented by the Queen are all retired pensioners recommended by clergy and ministers of all denominations in recognition of service to the Church and to the community. The oldest recipient will be 94.

One of the purses presented by the Queen also contains a 50p coin marking 150 years of the Victoria Cross. All the coins are newly minted this year.

Among the recipients was Mary Boxall, who said she was delighted to be attending the event in the Queen's 80th year. "People keep asking me what I'm going to do with the money. I can't imagine wanting to spend it," the 72-year-old from nearby Chilworth said. "It's going to be rather exciting," she added.

Mrs Boxall, who has been a Sunday school teacher, a girl guide leader and a pastoral assistant, was put

forward for the ceremony by her local vicar. Following the Royal Maundy service, the Queen and Prince Philip were due to attend a reception at the cathedral's Deanery. They were then expected to take a walkabout in Guildford High Street.

### Washing feet

The Maundy service dates back centuries. Until the 18th Century the monarch would also wash the feet of the poor selected to receive the coins. In modern times the monarch has distributed the money without washing the recipients' feet.

The origin of the "Feet Washing Ceremony" can be traced to the Last Supper when Jesus washed the feet of his disciples. Jesus gave them a command or "mandatum" - from which Maundy is derived - to love one another. From about 600 AD St Augustine noted the ceremony involved the king, queen or their representative washing the feet of the poor.

Nosegays or posies are still carried in the royal procession - a reminder of when foot odour needed disguising.

The Queen has attended the service in person since 1971 and, by her own decision, it is now held in a different cathedral each year.

Canterbury Cathedral spokesman Christopher Robinson said the feet washing ceremony at the cathedral was re-instated in 2003 after a 400-year absence. He said it had been reinstated at the suggestion of the Dean of Canterbury, Robert Willis, who said there had been a move away from symbolic ceremonies during the 16th Century Reformation and more emphasis put on the written word.

Mr Robinson added: "This is the start of the three days leading up to the great celebration of Easter. It's the biggest festival in the church year."

Story from BBC NEWS :  
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/fr/-/1/hi/uk/4905376.stm>

## Courtesy of the Timmins Coin Club

### A Look at a Few Birthday Coins for Elizabeth II

The following is a pictorial look at a number of coins celebrating the 80<sup>th</sup> birthday of Queen Elizabeth II. Others are sure to follow.



(left) Great Britain's 5f circulation coin marking Elizabeth II 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday

(right) Australian 50¢ coin available as both a circulation base metal coin or as a collector's piece in sterling silver with gold plated core.



Australian silver dollar issued by Perth Mint to mark the Queen Elizabeth II's 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday. The coin is a collector's edition issued in sterling silver and has a colorized reverse.

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Courtesy of the Ingersoll Coin Club

# A NICKELS WORTH OF FRAUD AND MYSTERY

by David Harper.



There has never been a series of United States coins in numismatic history like that of the Liberty head nickel. The first and last issues have been surrounded by controversy, shady dealings, and attempts to defraud the public. This series has troubled two centuries.

The idea for the Liberty head series was born sometime during 1880, when the shield nickel was but 14 years old. It was in that year that Charles E. Barber first created the design. It took two years of experimenting and persuading but in 1883 the first Liberty Head nickel was struck.

The design followed the then prevalent tradition of carrying the designer's likeness of Liberty on the obverse. In this case, the crowned Liberty faced left and is surrounded by 13 stars along the edges, representing the 13 original colonies. The date is found below the profile. The main feature of the reverse was a large Roman numeral "V", used to designate the denomination as being 5 cents. The "V" is surrounded by a wreath of agricultural products which in turn is surrounded by the legends, E PLURIBUS UNUM and THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. The word "cents" was omitted which proved to be a costly error.

As soon as the new coin appeared, unscrupulous people, noting the absence of the word "cents", quickly seized the opportunity to make a fast buck. Plating the coin with gold they passed it off as a 5-dollar gold piece. With the newness of the design, the size being the same, and the gold coloring, the coin fooled many a busy clerk. Later in the year the mint added the word "CENTS" to the design to prevent further attempts of fraud. The word "CENTS" was placed where E PLURIBUS UNUM was and the latter was pushed to an inconspicuous place above the "V".

The years that followed the initial issue passed without any further undue occurrences to mar the series. However, in 1913, the spectre of dishonesty again haunted the series. In 1913, the design of the nickel was going to change to the buffalo version. The mint, however, in case the buffalo design was scrapped, prepared dies for a 1913 Liberty Head nickel. The buffalo nickel went through and the Liberty Head dies were locked up for good, or so they thought.

A NICKELS WORTH OF FRAUD AND MYSTERY (Cont'd)

In 1919, an ad appeared in "The Numismatist" offering to buy 1913 Liberty Head nickels, and in 1920, Samuel Brown came up with five of them. No-one could explain their existence and Brown, who was an ex-mint employee was suspected of creating the five nickels himself. Whatever the case, the controversy is still raging and it will probably never be resolved.

This series, even with its derogatory history has done much to further the cause of numismatics. When the word "CENTS" was added to the nickel in 1883, many people hoarded the "centless" coins as oddities. Who knows how many new collectors were started in this way. The 1913 Liberty Head nickel has also helped. B. Max Mehl, the "Grand Old Man of Numismatics", ran ads offering 50 dollars for one. These ads spurred many a person to look through his change. How many collectors began in this way?

Whatever the case, the Liberty Head nickel series has served its purpose well. It was a successful issue for 30 years and it sparked the interest of many into becoming collectors. For this we should be grateful.

\*\*\*\*\*

BRITISH 1933 PENNY POSES A MYSTERY

Among the famous rarities in British coinage is the 1933 bronze penny of George V. Unlike other coins which have achieved rarity through loss, destruction or the natural attrition in numbers that comes over a period of years, the 1933 penny was born rare.

Only six were struck, according to mint records; of these, four are said to have gone into cornerstones while two were retained by the mint.

Through the years a small mystery has developed around the coins. A British numismatic writer points to the claim of London coin dealers that three other 1933 pennies exist beyond the mint's recorded six. The extra three are supposedly in private collections. The supposition may or may not have gained a degree of confirmation from a story that made the rounds a year or two ago, a story that a London youth had put a 1933 penny on the market after receiving it as a gift from his coin collecting uncle. A Royal Mint authority was quoted as saying the coin was worth a small fortune. But there the story ended. A similarly undetailed story of about 15 years ago had a 1933 penny in circulation, placed there by someone who had no knowledge of its value.

And what would its value be -- if there were one? Well, several years ago when a fake 1933 penny showed up in London, dealers said a genuine George V penny of that year could be worth anywhere up to \$80,000.00.

Krause's World Coins list the coin as 8 known, but no price given - just very rare. Until one of these coins is offered on the market, a true price cannot be quoted.

Then when the mint records indicate only six being struck and other records say eight - we'll let you be the judge.

Is there an extra 1933 British penny at large? If so, where? And what's it worth?

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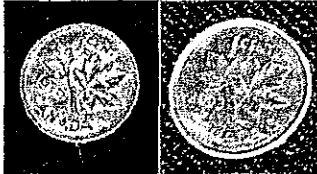
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## Courtesy of the North York Coin Club

**Copper prices through the roof. Don't throw out your penny jar!**  
CBC News Online, April 26, 2006 by Robert Sheppard

*Robert Sheppard began his career at the Montreal Star (may it rest in peace), spent 22 years at the Globe and Mail and was recently senior editor at Maclean's magazine. He has co-authored a book on the Canadian Constitution and writes on a variety of subjects.*

They may look similar, but only those coppers from 1996 or earlier have any real copper content (98 per cent worth). The new ones are 94 per cent steel, 1.5 per cent nickel and 4.5 per cent copper, not nearly enough to melt down.



Ok, you're a savvy investor, even if you only have a few cents to rub together. You see the price of zinc and nickel and copper are soaring like never before. Copper, in fact, just bashed through the \$7,000 a tonne mark on the London Metal Exchange, courtesy of the voracious demand in China's growing economy and, it is said, an impending strike at a Canadian-owned copper mine in Chile. So what are you going to do with that massive jar of copper cents that's been sitting on the bedroom dresser all these years? Can it be – dare we ask – worth its weight in gold?

In the U.S., the actual cost of a cent has become something of a public policy issue ever since the New York Times reported recently that, because of the rise in the price of metals, it is costing the U.S. mint 1.4 cents to make a cent. And because of increases in state sales taxes, the demand for cents is growing. An added irony here is that the American copper doesn't even contain much copper: It is mostly zinc with just a thin copper coating. But when it comes to pricey metals these days, zinc has been rising faster in value than

copper – and both have been shooting up faster than gold.

Zinc is up on average 70 per cent from a year ago; copper, just over 50 per cent. Which raises the question: Is it time to get out the welding torch and melt down all that loose Canadian coinage you have kicking around?

### *Hold off on the backyard smelter*

While well known in numismatic circles, not everyone is aware that the Canadian cent is not much of a copper, nor is the nickel a nickel. Both, indeed all Canadian coins, are at least 92 and more likely 94 per cent steel, with a relative smattering of nickel and copper thrown in for colour and authenticity. The exception of course is the gold Maple Leaf coins, which are quite literally worth their weight in gold. The \$50 dollar gold coin is purely a symbolic face value. One of the purest gold coins in the world, its current value is in excess of \$500. Steel coins have been the norm here since 2000, while for a few years before that the Canadian cent was more like its American cousin, copper-plated zinc.

The upshot is, our cent costs approximately .008 of a cent to produce, according to the Canadian Mint. (That was the average cost of producing over 800 million cents last year; loonies and toonies cost just under 11 cents to produce and distribute.)

And because banks pay face value for all the coins and bank notes they buy from the mint, this leaves a tidy surplus, called a seigniorage, which has amounted to \$1.6 billion over the past 20 years and which the mint turns over to the federal treasury to play with as it chooses.

### *How big is your jar?*

Still, if you're determined to play the commodities market with your loose change then you are going to have to go through your stash and sort by years (and even then it probably wouldn't be worth your while in smelting and

distribution costs, numismatists and commodities people say). Canadian cents from 1996 and earlier – and U.S. ones from 1981 and earlier – are 98 per cent copper, veritable gold mines at today's prices. But you'd have to have quite a few to make this work.

A cent weighs 2.5 g. That means you would need 408,163 pre-1997 cents to end up with a tonne of copper. As legal tender, this stash would be worth \$4,081.63 but as a potential truckload of copper destined for China this would bring in US\$7,230 just now on the LME futures market. The good news is there may be enough cents out there to pull something like this off: The mint produced almost three billion cents between 1990 and '96. The bad news: You'd have to break the law to do it. It's illegal in Canada to deface our coins. You're not even supposed to put them on the railway tracks for trains to squish.

The mint does have an alloy recovery program it runs, to cull old quarters and nickels from banks and transit offices. But this is meant to get those coins from the '60s and earlier with a high silver content. And while it may expand this to nickel if the commodity boom continues, the lowly copper seems still destined for that jar on the dresser, or the cracks in the car seats.

### **FROM THE EDITOR**

At the June Strawberry Social of The Stratford Coin Club the guest speaker was Mr. John Powers of Cambridge. Known as "The Butterfly Man" John has pursued the hobby of collecting butterflies and butterfly memorabilia since he was a young boy. Coins and stamps are among the many butterfly related items in his collection.

A true hobbyist he loves to display his collection and talk about it. He would make an excellent speaker for any upcoming meetings and can be reached at Greenway Blooming Centre, R.R. #2 Breslau, (519) 648-2328.

## Courtesy of the London Numismatic Society

### ANOTHER GREAT METAL DETECTOR FIND

Ross Blakey



It is probably a metal detector's dream to make a find that would go into the record books. A single coin, such as the Coenwulf gold penny as noted earlier in this bulletin as a followup, is one instance of such a spectacular find.

A press release by Spink's on 28 February 2006 noted on their website, [www.spink.com](http://www.spink.com), as "Spink Finds Yet Another Rarity To Auction".

Spink is proud to announce the discovery of an Edward III Gold Double Florin (also known as a Double Leopard). This coin, which was recently discovered by a metal detectorist in the south of England, is the third known specimen, and is the only one in private hands.

Only two specimens were previously recorded - both found in the bed of the river Tyne in 1857, both are in the British Museum. No other specimens were known until this coin was discovered and dug up within the last month by a metal detectorist in the south of England. This is therefore the third recorded specimen and the only one in private hands available to the market. It is a slightly different variety to either of those in the British Museum, and is as such unique. It is estimated at £100,000 to £150,000 and will be offered for sale in Spink's London auction room on Thursday, June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2006.

The finder was working with the permission of the landowner who has a joint interest in the coin - the proceeds of the sale will be divided between them. In order to protect the site, the find spot is not being disclosed.

This will be a unique opportunity to acquire a most important milestone in the history of English coinage, and is also a most attractive specimen of medieval art with its delicate Gothic architecture.

Description: Edward III (1327 - 1377) gold "Double Florin", also known as Double Leopard, struck in 1344. It had a face value of 6 shillings, and is 35mm in diameter. It was first authorized on 14 December 1343, but was replaced by a new coinage of Nobles on 9th July 1344. It was therefore only issued for seven months.

The design consists of a full length portrait of Edward III seated on a throne, holding a sword and sceptre, below a Gothic portico, with crowned leopard's heads on each side, decorated with fleur de lis. The reverse consists of a floriate cross within a gadrilope with small leopards in the angles.

History: The issue of the Double Florin represents the first coinage of large gold coins in England, after many centuries that only consisted of silver, and was intended primarily for foreign trade. A few earlier small gold coins of the Anglo-Saxon period are known, but only eight exist, and all of the eight are quite different from each other. Expert opinion is divided on whether they were used for ceremonial purposes or were intended for circulation. The latest was bought by the British Museum this month for around £355,000, after being auctioned by Spink on 6th October 2004. The British Museum held up permission for its export by an American buyer at the auction and was eventually successful in buying it. It is 20mm in diameter, smaller than a current £1 coin. All eight are now on display in the British Museum.

This issue of double florins followed as the first documented attempt to issue an English gold coinage. With a diameter of 35mm they were much bigger, larger than an old halfcrown. The double florin was not successful partly because of the high costs of production, and also was an awkward denomination as it did not divide conveniently into the pound. However, it was immediately followed by the issue of gold nobles (face value 6 shillings and 8 pence, a third of a pound), which continued for over 120 years.

The denomination was based on the gold Florin of Florence, and the design was derived from a French gold coin ("masse d'or") of Philip IV of France (1285 - 1314). Edward's issue of large gold coins was emblematic of the might of England during his reign. Edward ruled not only England but also much of France which he claimed through his mother Isabella, daughter of Philip IV. It was Edward's brilliant son, the Black Prince, who secured English interests on the continent with his stunning victories at Poitiers and Crecy.

So it shall be interesting to see if it achieves a price comparable to the Coenwulf gold penny, or even possibly greater. It could well be that this piece may be exported despite the fact that it is an important and highly desirable milestone of English numismatics, as it is not unique, but a slightly different variety of a specimen already in the national collection.

Courtesy of the Timmins Coin Club

## Visit the Coin Zoo

*(Editor's Note: The following interview originally appeared in the Edmonton Numismatic Society publication, "Planchet". It was also edited and appeared in the following form in the Canadian Numismatic Association publication "CN Journal", May 2006.)*

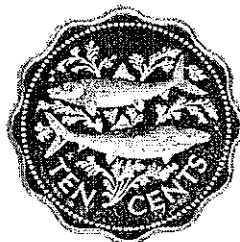
The February 2006 issue of the Planchet, official publication of the Edmonton Numismatic Society, contained a very interesting article titled "Daniel's Coin Zoo". The article consisted of an interview with Daniel Clements, web master of an internet site called *Daniel's Coin Zoo*. Shortly into my reading of the article I visited the website ([www.coinzoo.net](http://www.coinzoo.net)) and was surprised and pleased to discover what was available. I was further surprised to read that this was all the work of one person. It certainly makes one believe that our hobby can change in a very positive direction with the aid of computerization and high speed internet access. The possibilities for our hobby with the Internet are only commencing. Even the interview by Joe Kennedy, a member of the Edmonton club, was done via email. If you have not yet visited the site, do so now.

*Daniel's Coin Zoo* is a web site established to display coins with animal designs from around the world. Daniel Clements is the site creator and Zoo Master. What should please many collectors, especially those who have distain for the profusion of high priced non-circulating legal tender issues is the following remark from the web site: "The Coin Zoo will be populated mainly with animals that were important enough to a country to put on their national circulating coinage, that is, the everyday change that citizens use in daily transactions."

The objective as stated on the site is to "include every animal type coin minted around the world from 1901 to the present".

According to Clements, this number would be in excess of 900 coins and approximately two-thirds can be found for less than one dollar. At present the site contains 427 coins from 87 countries. All coins are within the Zoo Master's collection which includes 200 additional pieces that remain to be posted on the site.

The following excerpts are taken from the ENS article. For a complete read of the article check the ENS web site at [www.edmontoncoinclub.com](http://www.edmontoncoinclub.com) or better visit the site at [www.coinzoo.net](http://www.coinzoo.net).



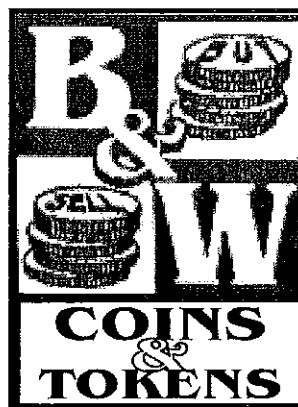
*(left) Bonefish on reverse of a Bahamas (KM61) 10 cent; (right) Upland Goose on reverse of Falkland Island (KM3) 2 pence*

JFK: *Is the coin zoo free?*

Zoo Master: The Coin Zoo web site is free for anybody to visit and use.

JFK: *Can kids visit the zoo?*

Zoo Master: My goal is to make the Coin Zoo very "kid friendly." The information presented – geography, history, and animal information – does not go into too much depth, but there are lots of links if people want more information.



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*Continued from previous page.*

I would like to develop the Coin Zoo into a good resource to give kids ideas for school projects. I try to present most of the information in an easy light-hearted way, although that can be difficult with some of the history. I think this is a web site that children will be able to visit while they are in school and learn something. (I am certainly learning a few things putting it together!)

*JFK: How are the animal exhibits organized on your website?*

Zoo Master: You can select a country, and see all the coins for that country. You could also select an area (e.g., "Europe"), and see all the countries in that area, and how many coins are in the zoo for each country, and then choose a country from there. Or, you can select an animal class (e.g., "Birds") and see all the animals from that class regardless of the country. I also plan to add some "special exhibits" in the future. This will be the spot for non-circulating legal tender coins that I happen to like, such as the Canadian 50¢ whale and birds of prey series. However, these won't appear in the regular lists since that is reserved for circulating issues. Finally, there is a search function that works pretty well. For example, if you searched for "cow" you would find all the cow coins added so far, plus a few other coins such as the Brazilian 100-cruzeiros featuring a manatee (aka "cow of the sea").



*Elephants on the reverse of a Malawi (KM3) Florin*  
*JFK: What's your motivation to display the zoo collection as a website?*

Zoo Master: After I started this collection, I dreamed up the idea of the Coin Zoo, and spent a lot of time thinking about it. I think every collector has a desire to show their collection to other people, so that is probably the main driving force. The internet is the ultimate vehicle for displaying a coin collection, since it can be viewed by anybody from all over the world. Then there is the desire to create something that other people find interesting, which I think is a natural part of human nature. In the end, I would like to build something that is not just fun and informative, but an actual reference for other collectors. To achieve that, I need to have all the animal coins displayed. Perhaps the site will even encourage some people to take up coin collecting.

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## Courtesy of City Of Ottawa Coin Club

### A Bimetallic Coin Made of an Unusual Metal

by Kim Zbitnew

All of us are familiar with the traditional metals used for coinage metals, such as copper, silver and gold, as well as the metals used for more modern coins, like aluminum, stainless steel and nickel. However, many of you may never have heard of the metal Niobium.

The non-circulating coin from Latvia pictured above has an outer ring of silver and a central disk of Niobium (also called Columbium). Niobium is uncommon and its main industrial uses are in special heat-resistant alloys, and in the nuclear industry.

Although too scarce and difficult to work with to be used in regular coinage, niobium has a unique feature. This is the blue colour of the niobium disk, which is not the result of ink. Niobium develops a blue colour when exposed to air, although its natural colour is silvery gray. As in the case of this coin, special processing is used to enhance the colour. Other colours can also be obtained by

this process, which makes Niobium useful to make jewelry.

Unlike some non-circulating coins, the theme of this piece has a connection with its country of origin. One of the chemists involved in identifying Niobium as a distinct chemical element was Heinrich Rose, who was born in Latvia in 1795. His initials appear on the obverse of the coin. The diameter of the coin is 34 mm.

The Latvian National Bank calls this the "Coin of Time". The flower on the obverse is a heraldic rose, a symbol of love and reverence, and not coincidentally, the last name of the scientist who helped to discover Niobium. The reverse features an astronomical clock, which gives both time and date. The clock is intended to symbolize an important event in a human life, but not a specific event since the hands of the clock are absent thus creating an atmosphere of mystery.

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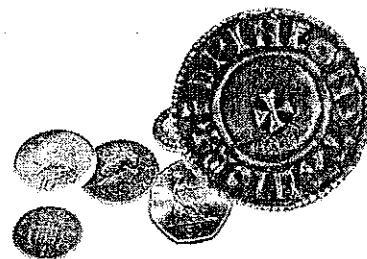
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