

NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF IRELAND

Cumann Moneolaíochta na hÉireann

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NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF IRELAND
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From the Editor

Wishing a Happy New Year everyone. A peaceful & prosperous 2025 to all.

The role of publications editor has been bestowed upon me & as such I wish to thank all those concerned for their support to date. As another Bulletin has been completed many, many thanks to all the contributors. Their commitment helps the Society to continue to document the state of our hobby in our time. New articles are always welcome & if you have a few photographs of a series of Irish coins that can be used on the front cover, please send them along.

Your anonymity is assured if you prefer. Also, if you have a favourite medal, you might send along photos. If you know its provenance that would be very interesting too. I look forward to serving in my fullest capacity in picking up the mantle of my predecessor, Ronan, who has developed the bulletin into a very successful publication.

Contents

NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF IRELAND –MEETINGS SEPTEMBER 2023 – MARCH 2024	2
FAVOURITES FROM THE MEDAL CABINET – TRINITY COLLEGE DUBLIN	17
AUCTIONS & SALES ROUND-UP SEPTEMBER – DECEMBER 2024	18
FINDS OF RING MONEY	26
ELDON ALLISON AN APPRECIATION	28
A FRESH LOOK AT PHASE II HIBERNO SCANDANAVIAN PENNIES	371
ANNUAL WRITTEN COMPETITION 2024 - 2025	39

HONORARY CHAIRMAN **GREG CARLEY**
HONORARY SECRETARY **MURRAY SMITH**
HONORARY TREASURER **PETER O'REILLY**
LIBRARIAN / OP EDITOR **GARRY BYRNE**
PUBLICATIONS EDITOR **ALAN KEOGH**
COMMITTEE MEMBERS
**MICHAEL E. KENNY, DEREK KERINS, AIDAN
KEADY, RONAN FITZPATRICK, MÁRTAN MAC DEVITT.**

ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO:
HONORARY SECRETARY NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF IRELAND.

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[HTTP://WWW.NUMISMATICSOCIETYOFIRELAND.COM/INDEX.HTML](http://www.numismaticsofireland.com/index.html)

Cover coins/tokens description-- Bank of Ireland ten pence & five pence tokens, Dublin token half penny 1794 & Blake Menlough castle 6 pence 1819 work token

Erratum note: for page 5 of B80, where it is stated that the changeover to the Euro was in 1971. That date was of course the changeover to decimal. '1971' should read 2002.

Numismatic Society of Ireland –Meetings

September 2023 – April 2024

Ely House, 8 Ely Place, Dublin 2, D02 P028

By Murray Smith Hon. Secretary

Ordinary Meeting of the Numismatic Society of Ireland Show & Tell

Friday, 15th September 2023

The meeting began at 8.00 p.m.

The Chairman, Greg Carley, welcomed all present. After remarks on the recent rainy weather, he spoke about the launch in the Central Bank of Ireland & on 30th May of the €2 coin commemorating 50 years of Ireland &’s EU membership, to which he & other members had been invited, saying he had discovered one in his change.

He said that the Society had had a good year, with 104 paid up members, including four honorary ones. He relinquished the position of Treasurer to Peter O’Reilly, who had done ‘a lot of work’ with the EBS to resurrect the Society’s dormant account. The Secretary, Murray Smith, ‘keeps us all going’, from writing the minutes to organising meetings. Other committee members were also thanked. He spoke about the BANS Congress meeting in Portsmouth in March, at which the Society & the Northern Branch were ‘very well represented’.

Member Robert (Bob) Smith, from Ottawa, Canada, was thanked for attending, the Chairman commenting that the damp weather had seemingly discouraged many locals from attending. The November Coin Fair in the RDS was cancelled, replaced by a shorted one on Saturday, 21st October.

He spoke about the Society having a ‘full programme’ during the year.

The Secretary read out the minutes of the meeting of 31st March, which were unanimously approved by those present. The Chairman then began the main business of the meeting: Show & Tell. The following six people spoke, three in person, and three online:

1. Aidan Keady: He spoke on the ‘Camino de Santiago Xacobeo Coin’. He walked the last 11 days until Tuesday, on the fourth & longest stage of the Camino de Santiago, from León, of 309 km (192 miles). He spoke about the discovery of St. James’s tomb, the resulting pilgrimage, its decline by the 1970s, & its huge revival from the 1980s, people making the pilgrimage for various reasons. Spain minted a silver €10 coin every holy year, when that saint’s day (25th July) is on a Sunday; & he passed around & showed photos of one from 2010, with King Juan Carlos on the obverse & the famous Botafumeiro & a wavy line representing the Camino, leading to the Cathedral, on the reverse. He showed slides of the Camino certificates he had received, having done it four times.

2. Andy Fitzsimons: He spoke about ‘Variations of Ormonde Coins’, using slides to display 5 such coins in his collection, making comparisons. The first, which he bought from Fr. Rice’s Collection, was a 1643 crown, which all agreed with him was in ‘great condition’. The fifth crown, he said, was not as well struck, & with a different coloration, perhaps to remains of gilt plating, a legacy of the item it was struck out of being silver & gilt on one side.

3. Michael Kenny: The Committee member & former Chairman spoke about the ‘Smugglers’ Coin Box’, made from a 1797 copper 2d of George III, struck by the new steam presses of Matthew Boulton in Soho, Birmingham. Due to its use as a weight & a souvenir, many have survived, it being called a ‘cartwheel’ coin due to people disliking its cumbersome size & thickness & replaced by 1806. Many such coins were hollowed out & joined together as a box, a

‘smuggler’s box’, used to conceal a guinea, said to be able to fool highwaymen. He felt that most highwaymen were not fooled, being as expert as tax collectors & customs officers; & that most such boxes were ‘crude affairs’, easily spotted. He showed photographs of, & passed around, a ‘smuggler’s box’ from his collection, saying that the host coin was of very fine quality, & that the guinea depicted was replaced in Ely House by a brass token. He finished by saying that this 2d coin was ‘very cheap’, his example being worth €60.

4. Murray Smith: The Secretary spoke about the ‘Dunkirk Medal (1960)’ showing a copy he bought at the RDS Coin Fair on 14th April, illustrating with slides the story of that medal, it being established by that town to honour the defenders of it & its surroundings against the German invasion of May-June 1940, its award extended from French service personnel to any Allied member involved in the evacuation of Operation Dynamo (26th May to 4th June), including those on the ‘little ships’. He spoke about how well it was regarded, despite being unofficial, & of its influence, including its ribbon’s colours being on the awning of a restaurant in Ramsgate!

5. Oisín Mac Conamhna: He spoke on ‘Dating the Cross-on-Rose Coinage of Edward IV: Some new evidence’. He said that there were ambiguous references in the documentary sources about these coins, he once believing that they were struck in the early 1460s. The alternate view, which he now agreed with, was that they were from the late 1470s & early 1480s. He said he did so due to the ‘documentary & weight evidence’ in his recent research being against such early dating. He illustrated this research by slides showing the relevant coins & close ups of the lettering used in the various issues, showing how he tried to match them. He concluded that the Cross-on-Rose coins were struck in Dublin by the moneyer of the Suns and Roses coins (1483) before he moved to Drogheda, saying that member John Stafford-Langan, a proponent of the alternate view, was ‘right all along’!

6. Ronan Fitzpatrick: The Publications Editor spoke about ‘Imitation, Fake & Electrotypes Coins’. It was inspired, he said, by viewing the coins in the Society’s visit in July to the Airgead exhibition in the NMI Collins Barracks. He said that due to these imitations of Irish coins being very much part of the numismatic scene, there was the need to know something about them. He showed three photographs, the first being a plate of British & Irish coins, electrotypes intended for study, the photo being made available for museums & libraries. While fakes, they were ‘so good’ & ‘so useful for study’. They were fine if an authoritative source produced them. The second was of four fake Irish coins, very popular ones originating from China, in 2015-8, till stopped by Covid. They were of extremely high quality, even when felt in the hand; so it was necessary to know about coins to deal with such items. The third photo, inspired by the NSI visit, was of what was described as an Irish gold double pistole of Charles I, said to be an electrotypes copy, the British Museum saying it was a cast imitation. As only two real coins exist, one in the NMI, he said there were ‘a lot of questions’ about this imitation, on terms of who produced it, how it was made, where & when, & the benefit to the maker. He finished by asking that if anyone had one such coin in a collection or knew of one, ‘I’d be interested in knowing’.

Questions were asked at the end of some presentations. The former Chairman asked if there were many ‘smuggler’s boxes’ around, said yes, but again that a lot were dented & crude, his one being the finest he had seen. The Secretary asked about the colours on the ribbon of the

Dunkirk Medal, said that he saw no evidence on why they were chosen & that more research was necessary. Perhaps, he suggested, the colours were recycled, this happening with French decorations. The Publications Editor's presentation led to a great deal of discussion, in terms of copies of such pistoles & double pistoles & how people were able to use originals to produce them.

By 9.29 p.m., Aidan Keady closed the presentation & handed back the proceedings to the Chairman, who thanked him & the six presenters.

A vote of thanks was passed to Aidan Keady, for his work in chairing the presentations, & general work in ensuring the hybrid meeting's success.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.36 p.m., the discussions continued in Doheny & Nesbitt's with refreshments.

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Ordinary Meeting of the Numismatic Society of Ireland

Friday, 20th October 2023

The meeting began at 8.06 p.m.

The Chairman, Greg Carley, welcomed all present. The Society's website address was, he said, being fully established as www.nsi.ie, with www.numismaticsocietyofireland.com. now directing those clicking on it to the new one. A new Society flyer had also been developed, of which he showed a copy.

The Treasurer, Peter O'Reilly, had, he said, progressively taken over the position from him. He hoped to have from Peter good news about the Society's dormant EBS account; & the latter was also getting extra signatories onto the Society's AIB account.

The Chairman also said that he would be sending final notices to members who had not paid for a number of years. The October Coin Fair would be on in the RDS tomorrow, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., in the Clyde Room, the Society having a stand there as usual.

He then passed the chair over to the Secretary, Murray Smith, who introduced the main business:

Darrell McKinley, member of the Society & Secretary of the Medal Society of Ireland (MSOI), who gave a talk entitled 'The Basic of British Medal Collecting', supported by a display of some of his collection.

The speaker began by 'shamelessly' plugging the MSOI, then talked about being an 'enthusiastic collector' for over 30 years, gaining a lot of experience, good & not so good. He considered NSI members to also be 'anoraks', just wearing ones of a different colour. He began his talk with the question 'Why British medals?', answering it by pointing out that, in Victorian times, a third of the British Army came from the island of Ireland, enlisting for many reasons, & not just in the traditional Irish regiments. The interest in such medals could be seen, he said, if anyone looked at the medal collecting & genealogy forums online.

He gave examples of medals shown him by relatives, who came to the four times yearly MSOI fairs in Monkstown, some of them being 'absolutely amazing to see'. One example was a Naval General Service Medal with a bar for the Battle of Copenhagen (1801); another was a George Medal given to a young soldier in the Battle of El Alamein (1942). Identifying medals was one of the services of the MSOI, which would give valuations if asked.

He got into medal collecting, & researching the awardees, when his mother-in-law gave him his first medal, an Ulster Constabulary Long Service Medal, which drove him to research its awardee. A First World War medal group was then bought by him, seven medals for £24 in an antique shop. While knowing that most people who buy medals don't research the awardees, it, in his opinion, 'beggars belief'.

He spoke about the values of medals, contrasting anything relating to orders ('five or six figures') & the Victoria Cross (£300,000 upwards) with an MBE & First World War medals selling for about £100, although a basic campaign medal could be £10 & up. However, monetary value should not, he felt, be a criterion for buying a medal.

The speaker then looked at the 'boring bit': the tools a medal collector would need. First were loops, to help failing eyesight & to find marks, & digital callipers. Second were reference books, he naming three: Hayward et al.'s *British Battles & Medals*, 7th edition, (Spink & Son Ltd., 2006); Howard Williamson's *The Great War Medal Collector's Companion* (Anne Williamson, 2011); &, annually, the *Medal Yearbook*, by Token Publishing.

Advising a person starting out, he suggested joining a relevant society, membership being 'fantastic' in terms of the advice one would get. The MSOI was keen on recruiting young people, it being into medals & Irish history, and suggested that people with questions look it up online.

Speaking about medal grading, he pointed out that while there were similarities with that of coins, there were slight differences. After using, as an example, a set of Victorian medals, he said that condition was not normally something that affected medals, particularly rare ones. Medals can tell a story, shiny ones telling that this was a serviceman who looked after his medals daily, as he did his kit.

In terms of names on medals, he illustrated from one set that they could be engraved on the edges in different styles & were not necessarily fakes.

Official renaming was not a major problem as long as that was acknowledged. In terms of lost medals being renamed, it was okay, as long as it was not an official medal & in a different style. It was important to find out about the person who was trying to deceive. He showed a 1914 Star to a named person, who also won the Distinguished Conduct Medal, saying that the original was in a museum, with a fake originating in Bulgaria being sold.

The speaker gave more examples, saying that Crimea Medals got particularly tampered with; & Second World War medals, particularly of air crew, had their scrolls 'faked all the time'. He knew that he was 'preaching to the converted' here. It was sometimes difficult to get the authorities to take action, with them only doing so against a person who manufactured fake Military Crosses, after evidence was shown of him copying Royal British Legion tiepins!

About storage, he said he knew many members had coin cabinets, medal collectors also using cabinets, bags, & showboxes in their dens or mancaves! Space & how one showed off one's medals was important. Converted old video cabinets were good, but not all types of wood & cloth were good. Insurance was not always possible, it being a 'thorny issue' in the UK.

He spoke about the famous First World War trio of Pip, Squeak & Wilfred, illustrating them with those for Acting Sergeant William Johnson, in the Royal Irish Rifles, his first set of medals. He spoke about how he acquired Johnson's medal card, from his service record in the National Archives, explaining the 'fantastic information' on them. He also showed Johnson's Commonwealth War Graves Commission memorial page, including where he was buried.

When he got those medals 30 years ago, not all the online resources now available existed. The MSOI have records, which can be accessed if one is a member. It also was possible to access Second World War service records, under certain circumstances.

Other sources of information for First World War servicemen included the websites www.ancestry.co.uk, & www.findmypast.ie. The National Archives had a lot of free information if you created an account. There were also the Irish census returns for 1901 & 1911, & the British one of 1921. A lot of Unionist soldiers signed the Ulster Covenant, now online.

He later spoke about the downside in collecting that trio, many being often broken up & many gone; as many British War Medals were 'cashed in' for their silver content. Some were broken up to give to children & grandchildren, ending up with different branches of a family. He had 30-40 medals missing others in the set, so would buy to fill those holes.

The speaker then talked about First World War memorial plaques, showing an example from his collection. The War Office, he explained, wrote to ask for the names, the plaques being sent in the post with a scroll, with over 1,300,000 produced. The most valuable were for the 600 women who died in the war, with 'SHE DIED...' in the inscription.

He then discussed researching the names on these plaques & on medals, showing one example. He ended by saying that he had given 'briefest of introductions', & asked people to get in touch with him with their enquiries about such research, giving his contact details.

The speaker finished at 9.28 p.m., &, among the questions & comments, Committee member Alan Keogh asked about collecting miniature medals. The speaker answered he had collected some, & traded in them occasionally, calling them 'absolutely fabulous'. He warned people to 'stay clear' of modern reproductions. For further information, there was a miniatures branch of the Orders & Medals Research Society in the UK.

The Treasurer asked about the UK's highest medal of honour before the Victoria Cross. The Chairman said that he was 'delighted' with the talk & asked about polishing medals. The speaker repeated his earlier comment that many awardees of medals, having to keep them immaculate when in service, had pride in that, keeping them polished, clean, & in a pouch, something collectors had to accept. His preference was to keep the medals in the condition they were found.

The Secretary proposed a vote of thanks to the speaker, which was passed unanimously.

The Secretary, with the Chairman's consent, closed the meeting at 9.41 p.m., & the discussions continued in Doheny & Nesbitt's with refreshments.

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Annual General Meeting of the Numismatic Society of Ireland

Friday, 17th November 2023

The meeting began at 7.53 p.m.

The Chairman, Greg Carley, opened the A.G.M. & welcomed all. He spoke about the past year being 'very successful', one in which they & others came out of Covid, ending with 99 fully paid-up members. He showed the Society's new flyer & application form, thanking the Publications Editor, Ronan Fitzpatrick, & Librarian, Garry Byrne, for their input, saying that it was based on a flyer of the Reading Coin Club. He spoke about the meeting he and Committee Member Michael Kenny had on 24th April in the Department of Finance regarding some 1992 specimen 10p coins. He finished by saying that the Society's website address was finally www.nsi.ie, thanking the Website Manager, Martin Davitt, for his work, and asking members to spread word of this to friends and colleagues.

1. Minutes of last A.G.M.: The Secretary, Murray Smith, read out the minutes of last year's A.G.M., held on 18th November 2022, which were unanimously approved by those present.

2. Secretary's Report: The Secretary spoke about some of the events that happened in the past year, in particular the invited visit to the Central Bank of Ireland (CBI) on 30th May, for the launch of the €2 coin to commemorate Ireland's 50-year membership of the EU, and the 8th July visit to the Airgead exhibition in the National Museum of Ireland's Collins Barracks.

3. Treasurer's Report: The report was presented both by the Chairman & the Treasurer, Peter O'Reilly. The Chairman said that, during the past year, he had steadily handed over the Treasurer's responsibilities to the current incumbent; so, he would deal with the Society's income & expenditure for the past financial year of 1st August 2022 – 31st July 2023, referring to a copy both displayed online & distributed to those present in person. He compared it with the previous financial year, 2021-2022, & spoke about, out of the total income of €5,577, there being a good share from subscriptions (€2,982), which included those paid in advance, a significant increase on the previous year. The income from December auction commissions (€2,380), amounting towards half the Society's income, was 'amazing', which brought a round of applause.

In terms of other income, he explained that there were still *Tavern Tokens of Ireland* books for sale. The sale of library books was due to the Librarian clearing out duplicates for sale at the

January meeting. Looking at expenditures, he referred to the room rental (€675), the visiting speakers' expenses (€610), as well as gratuities and a wreath, and a donation to Simon (€200). He said that the Coin Fair sponsorship (€500) was fair, due to the Society having a stand. The BNS membership (€90) was due to the society paying every two years. Total expenditure for 2021-2022 was €4,184, compared to €5,357 the previous year. This left a surplus of deficit of €1,393; but there was still €4,751 in the AIB Current Account, & there was also €7,627 in the EBS Account. The Treasurer then spoke about 3 matters.

First, the CBI's patronage. He & the Chairman met a CBI representative at the October Coin Fair about this matter. There had been a new manager appointed; & the representative undertook to make the case to her & would follow up.

Second, the EBS account. It was in the name of three former members: Francis Heaney, John Lee, & Colm Gallagher, a long-term savings account, which had become dormant. He had met the EBS 3 times & been through the process. The first two former members were thanked, as they had to sign off the application. A withdrawal form was lodged. While it would take time to transfer the money, due to it being a historical account, he was 'confident' he would report that transfer.

Third, he changed from two to four those who could give drawing instructions for the AIB account. When things were up & running, he would see if it was easier for members to make direct payments, instead of sending cheques & cash. He finished by asking members to pay their subscriptions. The Chairman & Treasurer were thanked for the report by those present.

4. Election of Committee for 2023-24: The existing holders put themselves forward for re-election, and were re-elected unanimously:

Chairman: Greg Carley

Secretary: Murray Smith

Treasurer: Peter O'Reilly

Librarian: Garry Byrne

Publications Editor: Ronan Fitzpatrick

Webmaster: Martin McDevitt

Committee Members: Alan Keogh, Michael Kenny, Aidan Keady, Derek Kerins

5. Any other business:

No other business was raised.

The Chairman then brought the A.G.M. to a close & announced the main business of the evening.

Member Michael McKeever, on Zoom from New York City, NY, USA, spoke on 'The Coins of the Cantons of Switzerland', copiously illustrated by slides of photographs of coins in his collection.

He began by explaining why he collected such coins. He was a former foreign exchange trader, transferred to Zurich for six months in 1986. He was the liaison between the New York & Zurich offices, & had, as part of his job, to go to several different cantons. He fell in love with the country, its culture, history, food & drink. He was also a 'history buff', having taken a course in European history in college.

When he got back to the USA, he began to collect Swiss coins. He spoke a little about Switzerland's history, explaining that it began as a confederation of states (or cantons), starting with an alliance of 1291 between the cantons of Uri, Schwyz & Unterwalden against Austria, which joined with others to make eight by the late 14th century, then 13 by the period 1513-1798. Today, Switzerland has 26 cantons.

In terms of the categories of coins themselves, he looked at their beauty, execution, metal content, & tradition behind them. The coins he would show were 'a small part' of his collection.

The first area of coins he showed were those from St. Gallen, in the north-east of the country, near the borders with Lichenstein, Germany, & Austria. It was founded by an Irish monk, St. Gall, of whom it was said a bear helped him build a hermitage, where a monastery was later built. The coins he called 'extremely beautiful'. He explained that the abbey, the city & the canton all minted their own coins over the centuries, before the French invasion of 1798.

The category was started by the speaker showing two recent Swiss Francs, a coin minted from 1850, of 2020 & 2002 respectively, both of 20 francs, one showing the Abbey of St. Gallen, & the other St. Gall & the bear. He then showed a 1738 silver 30 kreutzer coin of the city, showing the bear, but not the saint. He said that the kreutzer was dropped in the 1800s, in favour of the batzen. He contrasted it with a 1777 taller from the abbey, showing the abbot's mitre & coat of arms on the obverse, including a scene of the Annunciation at the bottom, the reverse showing the bear with a log. He continued showing the differences between the abbey, city, & canton coins, from the 1738 30 kreutzer coin mentioned - including a worn 1773 coin he was 'lucky to get' - to a 1815 post-Napoleon canton coin of 1 batzen, of relatively low grade silver, showing the canton's arms.

He finished with a 5 batzen coin of the canton of 1813, showing its arms & a fasces, from the Mediation Period (1803-15), when Napoleon, through the Act of Mediation, attempted a compromise between the old regime Confederation & the unpopular French-imposed Helvetic Republic.

The second area looked at by the speaker were coins minted by the Bishopric of Basel, in Switzerland's north-west, on the River Rhine, which were 'not easy to find'. They ranged from a 1723 & a 1725 20 kreutzer coins, with the portrait of the bishop, Johann Conrad II, on the obverse, & a double-headed eagle (a legacy of the Hapsburgs) & his titles on the reverse, to an octagonal one 'in amazing condition', minted in 1788, the last by the bishopric.

The third area were some rare coins of the Grisons, the largest & easternmost canton, the result of an alliance in 1471 of the Three Leagues, against the rising power of the Bishop of Chur & the Hapsburgs. He called it his 'favourite canton', showing that the coins issued by it were highly engraved & executed. One coin was a silver 2/3 taller of 1690, minted by the then Baron of Haldenstein, George Philip, from a castle outside the city of Chur. The coins were, he said 'highly decorative'. There was an earlier one of 1687, of 15 kreutzer, smaller, with a smaller but big portrait, slightly worn.

The speaker then showed & discussed coins minted by the Bishopric of Chur, the capital & largest town of the Grisons. They ranged from a taller, undated, but probably from 1601-27, with a bishop enthroned on the reverse, through to a 10 kreutzer of 1630, with the bishop's coat of arms on the obverse, & the double-headed eagle on the reverse. Another 10 kreutzer coin, from 1632, was to a slightly different design, with a crown on top of the double headed eagle. The latest coin, a 3 kreutzer from 1735, had a mountain goat on the bishop's coat of arms, & an image of St Eustace on the reverse. He spoke about the use of St. George slaying the Dragon as a design in coins from the Grisons, & showed a coin of 1676 issued by the then Duke of Milan, who had 'absorbed' part of the Grisons, with his portrait on the reverse, & a three-faced head portrait on the reverse, demonstrating his 'eclectic taste' in Swiss coins.

The speaker finished his talk with showing 1 & 5 batzen Swiss coins from 1807, from another of the cantons of the Mediation Period, already mentioned.

The Chairman thanked the speaker for showing & discussing an 'amazing selection' of his coins, which would not be known to Irish people.

He then asked Michael Kenny to speak about the next meeting, on 8th December, the Society Auction. Michael said that over 100 lots were already listed. He pointed out that the buyer's commission was only 10%, compared to 24% elsewhere. He then spoke generally about the lots. The Chairman spoke about people bringing Lady Lavery, Second Series or even Ploughman notes to the CBI, even though they would only get the equivalent amount in euro, rather than selling them for far more by auction.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.50 p.m., the discussions continued in Doheny & Nesbitt's with refreshments.

**December Auction of the Numismatic Society of Ireland
Friday, 8th December 2023**

The auction went very well!

The input and expertise of Alan and Aidan (awakened in China at 3.00am) & the persistence of Peter, ensured the auction went ahead.

The honorary auctioneer Michael Kenny summed up the evening by saying, "When I first saw the list estimates I thought "these will not sell" the prices looked so high, but you know what, GOOD STUFF ALWAYS SELLS!"

"We took in over 18K hammer, nearly double last year's total, with fewer lots."

"Our thanks to all concerned, especially Aidan and Alan, and to the dealers present & the newer members who were very active in their bidding."

A summary of the top twelve lots sold at society auction.

150	Jersey Gold & Silver Proof Set 1972 [9]	3,100
149	USA Silver Dollar Eagles in album BU x 35	900
59	Edward VII Sovereign 1910 C GEF	800
118	Irl. Gold Proof 50 Ecu 1990 Proof FDC box & cert.	780
143	Edward VII Sovereign 1902 M GVF	560
136	CB Proof Gold €50 & Silver €15 Proof set 2016	550
55	Edward VII Sovereign 1908 P GVF	540
24	Irl. Silver Halfcrown 1937 slabbed AU58	540
140	UK Victoria YH Crown 1845 VIII GVF	520
133	Irl. CB 1986 Specimen set UNC [7]	440
56	Prussia Gold 20 Marks 1908A GVF	420
28	Irl. Silver Halfcrown 1943 VF	380

All hammer prices + 10% buyer's premium + pp if posted + subs if not paid.

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Ordinary Meeting of the Numismatic Society of Ireland

Friday, 19th January 2024

The meeting began at 8.15 p.m.

The meeting was the planned occasion of the Society's Display Competition, & was a social evening, with wine, cheese, soft drinks, grapes, crackers, breadsticks, crisps, nuts, mini double chocolate chip muffins, & a relaxed atmosphere.

The Chairman, Greg Carley, welcomed all. He said that the Central Bank of Ireland issued, on 13th December 2023, its 2023 Proof Annual Coin Set, including the €2 commemorating the 50th anniversary of Ireland's EU membership, limited to 1,000 sets.

He reminded people of the Irish International Coin Fair, taking place in the RDS on Saturday, 17th February, & of the Society's next meetings on Friday, 16th February (the Emil Szauer Lecture, to be given by Rob Page) & Friday, 8th March (the talk to be given by Oisín Mac Conamhna).

He finished by saying that Francis Heaney, one of the Society's oldest members, was celebrating his 80th birthday today.

The Chairman handed proceedings over to Committee member Aidan Keady & the Secretary, Murray Smith, to run the Display Competition, for which there were **five entries**.

Aidan Keady then took over proceedings, continuously displaying the five entries (anonymous, & given the letters A to E), with the Secretary reading out the commentaries

given by the entrants.

After counting the votes given online & in person, Aidan announced the winner:

D. Political Jettons in the Spanish Netherlands in the 16th Century, by Alan Dunlop [NB]. The runner up was *A. Representing Heraldic Colour on Coins & Medals*, by Ronan Fitzpatrick, the Publications Editor. Both entrants were congratulated by the Chairman.

After thanking his fellow members for voting him the winner, Alan Dunlop spoke about the jettons in question, explaining that there were 4,500 listed in the standard work on them, which dated from the 1890s. While they were used for calculation, what was depicted on these jettons reflected the feelings on both sides in the Eighty Years' War (1568-1648), of which he gave a taste. He specifically referred to one jetton of his depicted, of Englishman Sir Henry Dowcra's involvement on the Dutch side in the Battle of Turnhout (1597), a man who in the 1600s tried to develop Derry as a city.

Other matters discussed included Macrina Clancy starting a discussion about whether the Society could get more involved with schools, in their use of coins & jettons. Garry Byrne, the Librarian, spoke about the forthcoming *Bulletin & Occasional Papers*.

The Chairman thanked Aidan Keady & the Secretary for their work.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.36 p.m.

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Ordinary Meeting of the Numismatic Society of Ireland Emil Szauer Memorial Lecture

Friday, 16th February 2024

The meeting began at 8.00 p.m.

The Chairman, Greg Carley, welcomed all. He spoke about the steps the Treasurer, Peter O'Reilly, was taking to ensure the prompt payment of membership subscriptions. He reminded those present that eBay, like other digital platforms, was obliged by EU Tax Directive DAC7 to report transaction data to the relevant tax authorities, of its users who reside in the EU & whose net income from sales on eBay exceeds €2,000, or who complete 30 or more sales.

He finished by announcing that Michael E. Kenny, Committee member & former Chairman, had been made an Honorary Member of the Society by the Committee, & presented him with a suitably inscribed silver medal. The former Chairman accepted the medal & gave a speech of thanks for this honour, due to being Chair for 27 years, & noted that he, next year, would be 50 years a member.

Proceedings were handed by the Chairman over to the Secretary, Murray Smith, who announced the main business of the meeting:

Robert (Rob) Page, Council member & Website Officer for the British Numismatic Society (BNS), who gave the Emil Szauer Lecture on 'The MCHBI Online Database, & its Application to the Medieval Coin Hoards of Ireland'.

The speaker said he was honoured to be asked to address the Society. He began by explaining that the MCHBI (Medieval Coin Hoards of Britain of Ireland), set up in November 2022, was an online database containing summary details of all medieval coin hoards in Britain & Ireland, covering 450 to 1544 A.D. He said he would give a live demonstration of how to use the database, which he later did, Committee member Aidan Keady having set things up.

The speaker gave an introduction about what the database could do. He showed that it could show the coin hoards on maps, the relevant icons of which can be clicked on to show a summary on that hoard, including hyperlinks relevant to what was online about it.

He said that new research projects required evidence about hoards, & the ability to change the parameters regarding them. He went to the BNS's home page, to show the relevant menu item at the top, highlighted in yellow. Clicking on it, he showed, enabled you to get into the database, where you could click anywhere on the map of Great Britain & Ireland. He pointed out the five information tabs on the left, containing links to information on the project.

Showing the map with the individual hoard icons, the speaker said that there were also a lot of hoard clusters. If one went closer, the icon would break down into such clusters.

He showed the controls on the side of the map & explained what they were, before sharing access to the main memes on the bottom of the page, & showing how to change the settings, using the slider control. The speaker began his live demonstration at 8.35 p.m., showing how, when he made a polygon, all the hoards outside the drawn borders disappeared, giving examples of using ones to include Irish hoards only.

He showed a simple search, with the word 'Delgany', for a particular hoard. He then drew a polygon around Dublin & generated a report of the hoards in the selection. He showed references to Michael Dooley, for whom the BNS was going to hold a commemoration of his birthday's 100th anniversary.

The speaker then demonstrated the Advanced Search option, using it to locate hoards with Hiberno-Scandinavian coins. He said that he tried to show the power of the system for those doing numismatic research & asked that anyone who knew that information was missing or wrong to let them know, & that they would update the database.

He talked about Irish medieval coin hoards, saying that 226 were there, of which 156 contained 6 or more coins. In terms of distribution, later hoards were concentrated in the west of the island, also in the north-west. Earlier hoards dominated in the east, particularly in Dublin & in the Pale.

He showed the results of the percentage of such hoards with the minimum number of coins equal or greater than a given value. 64% had 6 or more coins, which he felt was 'likely deliberate'; 10% had more than 350 coins. The results showed that there was no obvious increase in hoarding relating to the Anglo-Norman invasion period, of 1167-70. He showed the details of two hoards, one being in the Newcastle area, deposited c. 1045 – c. 1050, containing several Hiberno-Manx coins, the first for Northern Ireland, few found elsewhere in Ireland in the last few decades.

John Rainey [NB] spoke about Hiberno-Manx coins in general, & that Irish coins circulated in the Isle of Man. The Chairman remarked that on a visit he made with the scouts in 1965, Irish coins were accepted.

The speaker said that some of the hoards of 1330-50 might be related to the impact of the Black Death. In the period 1490-1544, the peak period of hoardings was 1530-44, the time of the Geraldine Uprising & the setting up of the Kingdom of Ireland. He showed the differences between the second & third coinages of Henry VIII, when the silver content was devalued.

He made comments about the discovery & reporting of hoards. 60% of known hoards were found before 1900, & 80% before c. 1970, with only 6 hoards in the database being reported in the last 20 years. He speculated why this was the case & talked about the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAC) in England & Wales, saying that it had been taken up by other European countries, & hoped that things changed in Ireland.

Proceedings were handed back to the Chairman, & several questions & comments followed.

Committee member Alan Keogh asked if Scotland had a similar system to the PAC, and was told by the speaker that they had, the Treasure Trove Unit, which he called 'a good system themselves'. The former Chairman said that the issue in Ireland was the National Monuments Act, based on a feeling that the government in Ireland didn't trust that people to be honourable. In Ireland, nothing was ever found, at least not officially, the items in question being spirited to other countries & sold. The speaker replied that he felt a large percentage of finders were good people, but there would be 'a small percentage' of crooks.

The Treasurer agreed with this, saying that in England & Wales, 94% of finds were by metal detectorists, the other 6% the result of archaeological investigations & digging up in gardens.

John Rainey [NB] said that due to this current situation in Ireland, they were losing the provenance of the items, even if they were found. Alan Dunlop [NB] remarked that with the Northern Ireland Assembly back in session, there was talk about dealing with finds in Northern Ireland saying that a lot of historical & archaeological information was being lost.

A vote of thanks was passed, thanking the speaker for his presentation. He replied that it was 'a real pleasure' for him to be invited & to have given it.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.33 p.m., the discussions continued in Doheny & Nesbitt's with refreshments.

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Ordinary Meeting of the Numismatic Society of Ireland

Friday, 8th March 2024

The meeting began at 8.05 p.m.

The Chairman, Greg Carley, welcomed all, including member John Russell, from New Zealand, online at his first meeting.

He spoke about 3 coin fairs in the RDS. The one on 17th February he said was particularly good, the dealers being 'quietly happy'. Two future fairs would take place there, on Thursday, 14th - Friday, 15th March, & on Sunday, 21st April.

He said that the BANS Congress of 2024 would take place in Exeter from Friday, 22nd to Sunday, 24th March, & would be attended by three from the Society, & three from the Northern Branch. The NB would, with the Ulster Museum, be having a series of public lectures there on Saturday, 6th April. He finished by commending the work of the Treasurer, Peter O'Reilly, assisted by Garry Byrne, the Librarian, in dealing with members' subscriptions. The Secretary, Murray Smith, then read out the minutes of the meeting of 21st April 2023, which were unanimously approved by those present.

The Chairman then handed the chairing of the meeting over the Secretary, with the consent of those present.

The Secretary then announced the main business of the meeting: Oisín Mac Conamhna, a member living in North London, who spoke online about 'The Limerick Mint of Edward IV: 1463 – c. 1476: A corpus & die study'.

After thanking the Society for the invitation, the speaker began by said that his project was in four parts. First, identifying as many Limerick mint specimens as possible. Second, identifying all different dies & their links, represented by the specimens. Third, using this information to get an insight into the mint's operations & chronology of the specimens. Fourth to make the information available as a catalogue & a tool for others.

He then gave a contextual summary for his described research, a reduced version of his 2022 Emil Szauer Lecture. He said that the minting of coins in Limerick was restarted after 250 years in 1463 by an act of the Irish Parliament. He spoke about the role of Thomas Fitzgerald, 7th Earl of Desmond, who was Lord Deputy & executed unjustly by his successor, Sir John Tiptoft, in February 1468. He thought now that the Limerick mint stopped temporarily at that time, with one in Cork starting c. 1469, which coined for Henry VI in 1470-1, suppressed by a 'draconian' act of parliament, which told the moneyers to present themselves to that body, or be hung, drawn & quartered.

He showed what he believed was a groat portrait shared between the Cork & Limerick mints of c. 1474. His explanation was that there was a transfer of the mint from Cork to Limerick, restarting the mint in the latter. The Limerick mint was active in 1476-7, when James Fitzgerald, 8th Earl of Desmond, Thomas's heir, came of age. An act of a parliament held in 1476 condemned & demonetised the coinage 'lately made' by the Limerick, Cork & Youghal mints, & elsewhere in Desmond. Pre c. 1473 issues he called 'extremely rare', knowing only four of them.

The speaker then looked at the coins in question & their dies, his talk copiously illustrated by photographs of the former, including those from his own collection. He looked in detail at the 1463 & 1465 coinages, the first (Titled Crown) struck at Dublin, Trim, Waterford, & Limerick, the same year Germyn Lynch was appointed mintmaster. The second was similar to the design used in England, but to a lighter weight, with Dublin, Trim, Waterford, Galway, & Limerick being authorised to strike them, possibly also Drogheda slightly later.

He said that both coinages were annulled & demonetised in December 1467, immediately before the 7th Earl's execution. The Limerick mint was authorised to mint the Doubles coinage

of 1467-70; but there was no evidence it did so. The reaction to the execution was so violent & prolonged that minting such coins seemed 'far-fetched'.

In 1473, there was evidence that the Limerick Mint produced such coins, the last coins it would so produce until the advent of gun money. The 1472 Act of Suppression of the Cork mint did not mention Limerick at all, the speaker feeling that this precipitated the Cork moneyers' move to Limerick. He suggested that at least one moneyer was striking at or below the light Irish standard in the relevant period (1473-83), comparing photos of Cork & Limerick groats. He also suggested that minting equipment & personnel were transferred between the Desmond mints, & that the same punches were used for each of the three denominations issued, to the end of the Limerick mint.

He then concluded by saying this showed evidence of the transfer of dies between not just the mints in Cork & Limerick, but also between Waterford & Cork, showing the portrait similarities on photographs of the coins in question. He suggested this was due to a moneyer who went from Waterford to Cork, then went to Limerick, finishing with the question, 'Who knows what happened?'

When the speaker finished, the Secretary handed the chairing of the meeting back to the Chairman; & a number of questions & comments followed. Alan Dunlop [NB], holder of a Limerick groat, asked the speaker to explain the difference between quatrefoils & saltires, & was told that it was the same punch but a different orientation.

John Rainey [NB] asked about the use of different dies & different punches to form a portrait. The speaker said it was 'factored in [to]' his survey. You could, you said, tell two coins from the same die due to the details being absolutely identical, allowing for wear & double striking. When asked about whether the moneyers in Cork were executed under that act of parliament, the speaker said that there was no evidence. They 'disappear' from history. Asked by Alan Dunlop about the possibility of a Carlingford mint, the speaker said that he didn't think so, despite it being authorised under the 1467 legislation; but it would have been 'wonderful' if that was the case.

The Chairman thanked the speaker for his 'illuminating' lecture, reminded those present that he would be one of the speakers at the 6th April public lectures at the Ulster Museum, & again reminded them of the two future coin fairs in the RDS.

The Chairman, after he called for a vote of thanks for the speaker, closed the meeting at 9.30 p.m.; the discussions continued in Doheny & Nesbitt's with refreshments.



Northern Branch Memorial Lecture

*Micheal Dolley Public Lecture
1pm, 5th April 2025
Belfast Room, Ulster Museum, Belfast*



The Numismatic Society of Ireland (Northern Branch), together with National Museums NI, are pleased to present an afternoon of free public lectures inspired by the life of Michael Dolley as celebration of the 100th anniversary of his birth.

Born in Oxford, Michael Dolley (1925–1983) was a renowned numismatist & historian, particularly known for his work on Anglo-Saxon, Irish, & Manx coins. He not only excelled in coin identification, but also advanced the study of coins in their context & coin hoards, leading the way in integrating numismatics with archaeology & history.

Over his career he held a number of prestigious positions at institutions including the British Museum & Queen's University Belfast, where he became Professor of Historical Numismatics.

For more information, please contact nsinbsec@gmail.com.

Dr Kristin Bornholdt Collins

Making Waves - Dolley & the Vikings in Dublin, Belfast & Man

Dr John Rainey

Personal Recollections - Standing on the Shoulders of a Giant

Oisín Mac Conamhna

From Sihtric to Sarsfield: Some Aspects of Irish Numismatics, in Memory of Michael Dolley

A New John Third Issue Limerick Farthing of Willem

By: Garry Byrne and
Oisín Mac Conamhna

Lot 502 of Noonans auction of Irish coins on 9 May 2024 was a regal John farthing, Willem of Limerick, c1208-12, which sold for £1,600, the third specimen of the type identified to date. It weighs 0.29g and was described as better than fine. History in Coins subsequently listed it for sale on 28 May 2024 for £4,375, first illustration. (No longer listed, so probably sold).

This type was first published in NSI Bulletin 62 in September 2018, where two specimens were recorded, one sold by Timelines in November 2017 and the other by Mike Vosper in early 2018. Limerick regal farthings of John were subsequently added by Spink to their 4th edition of Coins of Scotland, Ireland and the Islands in 2020, as S6234A, to moneyer Wace only; this type is represented by an apparently unique coin, discovered c2000, and illustrated in Withers & Withers, *Irish Small Silver*, Galata 2004, page 37.



Sovereign Rarities in the UK re-sold the Mike Vosper specimen in 2019 (no price given). They didn't acknowledge that sale and added 'this may be the only known example of a Willem Farthing at Limerick'. It weighs 0.38g and was described as VF, second illustration. The Timeline specimen weighs 0.35g, and is illustrated below for comparison.



The three Willem specimens are all from the same pair of dies, and the obverse die is different to that of the Wace specimen. The probability that all three Willem specimens should be from the same die pair is low, unless only a small number of dies were actually used for Willem farthings; and most probably, on the evidence of the three specimens, only a single pair of dies was actually used for the Willem Limerick farthing issue.

Wanted Early Occasional Papers

Member looking to source the following original two issues of the OPs to enable him to bind a complete run of OPs into bound volumes. Willing to pay for OPs & cover postage costs:

#2 (OPs 3&4) 1967

#9 (OPs 29-38) 1988; the 25th anniversary edition (entitled, 'Small Change', in red cover)

Please contact:

David S. Dunlop
23 Esky Road, Derrytrasna,
LURGAN, Co. Armagh.
Northern Ireland, UK.
BT66 6PA

07843 092 176
028 3889 0043
davidsdunlop@gmx.com

Occasional Papers

Nos. 1 – 44 (Sold out with the exception of 17,18 & 24-28)

Nos. 45 – 51 (2011) (Sold out)

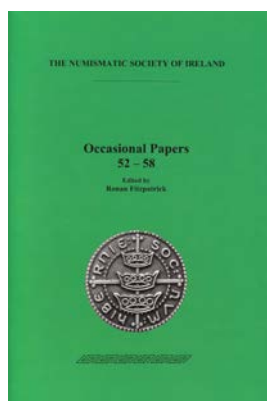
Nos. 52 – 58 (2014) (Sold out)

Nos. 59 – 66 (2017) (Sold out)

Nos. 67 – 69 (2020)

Nos. 70 – 74 (2021) (Sold out)

Nos. 75 – 83 (2022)



€10.00 plus packaging & posting

These items are always available for purchase at the Society monthly meetings & at the Society table at RDS coin fairs or by post from the Hon. Secretary.

Buy more than one item & combine postage.

Favourites from the MEDAL CABINET



TRINITY COLLEGE DUBLIN

Tercentenary bronze medal

The College was founded in 1591 during the reign of Queen Elizabeth and 1891 was the nominal year of the tercentenary. A four-day tercentenary festival was held the first week of July 1892 attended by dignitaries from around the world and the corrigenda page of the Records of the Tercentenary Festival notes that 562 was the exact number who attended the Banquet on Wednesday 7th July.



IRELAND, TRINITY COLLEGE DUBLIN: Tercentenary Bronze medal, 1892,

Obverse: Conjoined busts of Elizabeth and Victoria left, shamrock sprigs below Legend: AB ELIZABETHA AD VICTORIAM, 1592-1892

Reverse: Armorial shield of Trinity College Dublin, hatched blue, rose left, portcullis right on a cross-hatched field with shamrocks. Legend: within beaded and wire circles COLL SS TRINITATIS IVXTA DVBLIN CCC ANNOS FLORET MDCCCXCII

Diameter: 64mm; Metal: Bronze; Signed: Johnson. TCD (1894) reads struck by Edmund Johnson.

TCD (1894) Records of the Tercentenary Festival of the University of Dublin held 5th to 8th July, 1892, Dublin: Hodges Figgis & Co (Ltd), printed at the University Press (obv, p 6; rev, p72)



Auctions and Sales Round-up

September - December 2024

Garry Byrne

Information on Auctions are on the coin dealers' websites and on Sixbid and NumisBids. Buyer's premium in brackets, Myntauktioner (17.5%), Sovereign Rarities, Spink (20%), Myntkompaniet (21%), Nomisma (21.63%), CNG, NAC (22.5%), Baldwins, Heritage, Morton & Eden, St. James's Auctions (24%), Aidan Foley (25%), Noble 27%. Euro equivalents outside EU, except UK (€1.21) and USA (€0.95), * = coins illustrated.

September

CNG sold Hiberno-Norse pennies, Phase I small cross* for \$2,500, Phase III \$1,000 and \$750 and a silver gunmoney halfpenny, 1690* graded NGC PF58 \$2,750. Heritage sold an 1808 30 pence Bank token for \$1,800, NGC MS65, accompanied by memorably gushing commentary, a Bank of Ireland five pence of 1805, NGC MS63 \$160 and 1813 ten pence, NGC MS62, \$320.



Baldwins sold Limerick mint coins, halfpennies John 'Rex' Willem £320 and £260 and Wace £300, Edward IV light groat £400, a pierced Richard III Dublin groat, £700 and a Clarke West silver token 1804*, c/m both sides crowned harp. Heritage sold a silver St. Patrick's small halfpenny, PGCS VF30 for \$6,000. Sovereign Rarities sold a silver pattern double-florin 1900* by R. Huth for £2,000, NGCPF62, a 1943 halfcrown, NGCMS62+ £2,200. Two lots of a 1943 and 1961 mule halfcrowns, made £340 and £360, proof sixpences 1939 £480 and 1942 £800.



Myntauktioner in Sweden sold a Phase I Hiberno-Norse long cross penny for €702 and Phase VI €439, both well rounded attractive coins. Spink sold an Inchiquin 1642 shilling for £2,300, a silver May 1690 shilling £2,400, a type II penny 1690* £1,400 and an EF 1943 halfcrown £1,600. A VF Heavy Issue Drogheda groat of Edward IV, 2.47g, with strong portrait was withdrawn. At two later auctions they sold a large size St Patrick halfpenny for £500, a lot of same, one small and four large £1,000 and a Henry VI Cork groat* 1470-71, for £2,000, cf BNJ Research Blog (21 May 2024) by Oisín Mac Conamhna. It was found in Pembrokeshire in Wales and recorded on PAS on 7 June 2024 (DYFED-2D5597) and weighs 1.55g.



Pesek Auctions in the Czech Republic sold only two of their thirteen Irish milled copper coins, all in fair condition, with reasonable reserves. Aidan Foley, Doneraile, Co. Cork sold a 1943 florin for €4,400, NGC VG10, rev. only provided* probably the worst known specimen.

October

St. James's Auctions sold halfpennies, pewter type II 1690 £220, 1691 £85 and £170 (2), 1693* and 1760 Voce Populi £50 each, Woods 1724 NGC UNC55, £320, 1782 £300. Ten pence Bank tokens 1805 and 1813 £95 each. Proof 1805 copper pennies £850 gilt*, £320 and £300 and halfpenny £300, farthing proofs 1806, £200 twice and £95.



Baldwin's had a fine selection of 24 late 18th century copper tokens in aUNC, many with lustre. Halfpennies made £60-£260 generally, but two Camac, Kyne & Camac brockages made £2,500* and £950*. The four farthings made £65-£420 and three Charleville 1802 thirteen pence copper tokens made £800, £270 and £100.



Aurora in Italy offered a silver Morbiducci medal*, c1930, 41mm, 26.57g with the Irish reverse of his 1927 penny at €600 after it failed to sell at auction. See NSI OP81, this is the 10th specimen of this variety noted in silver. Noonans sold an Edward I Waterford halfpenny* for £240, pennies: King John, Dublin Robert £110 and £95, Edward I Waterford type 1b £110 and Dublin type IVb £60, Edward IV sun & roses £280. CNG sold halfpennies, 1686 \$120 and small size 1691 \$400 and \$275.



CNG had two Edward IV Anonymous Issue Dublin pennies for sale at \$5,750 each in their shop, Burns N-1A, 6mm, 0.74g* and Burns N-5, 15mm, 0.63g*. A well centred groat of this issue, 26mm, 2.80 g was on offer at \$4,750, all ex Hibernia Collection. Other sales included Third 'Rex' John farthing of Willem \$2,250 and halfpenny of Roberd \$750.



CNG sold halfpennies, 1686 \$120 and small size 1691 \$400 and \$275, all aVF.

November

Myntkompaniet in Sweden sold a Phase III Hiberno-Norse penny* with prominent thumbs on the hands* of the reverse for €416. Morton & Eden failed to sell a James I shilling in nEF, mm bell, started £1,200, but sold an Inchiquin shilling*, 5.44g, for £3,200.



CNG sold an Ormonde shilling*, in gVF, struck on a large flan, 29mm, 5.82g for \$900, a 1691 large halfpenny in gF made \$180.



December

Numismatica Ars Classica (NAC) in Switzerland sold a Queen Mary shilling 1553* (MDLIII), 6.1g for €4,025, Elizabeth I shilling 1561 VF €3,488, 1690 crowns pewter* €23,610 and copper full lustre €1,503, silver shilling 1690 €2,415, Woods halfpennies, 1722 pattern* €10,732 and proof NGC PF66BN €18,245, 1724 €725, Northumberland shilling 1763 €912.



History on Coins listed for £545, Lot 459, Noonans 9 May 2024, Henry VIII Jane groat, aVF which sold for £298, inc BP, an increase of 83%, see bulletin 80 for other increases. Noonans sold halfpennies 1686 for £65, small 1691 £80 and 1775 £150, pennies Henry III, Ricard class IIa £130, Edward I, Dublin type IVa £70 and George IV 1822 £75, Henry VIII harp groat, HI £130, florin 1933 £75, March 1690 halfcrown £150 and two 1690 crowns £140, all around VF. A Lot of six late 17th century copper coins in decent collectable condition made £220.

eBay/ Catalogue

An Edward IV Dublin half-groat* sold for €278, a 1677 Kinsale Corporation token €305, tavern tokens R Bateman n/s, BIN obo €184, R.100 €132, R.204 €410, a bronze Horticultural Society of Ireland medal, 'Presented by the Marchioness of Londonderry to Mary Doyle, Bahana, Co. Wicklow for 3rd Best Cottage and Garden August 16 1855' made €55. Mark Rasmussen sold an Edward IV Doubles groat* of Trim, 1.33g from list 37 for £7,750.



An ex-mount Mostra Bovina medal in silver*, Morbiducci with his reverse of the Irish 1927 shilling, sold BIN for €110. It has rose under bust, the second recorded. A bronze version*, with fasces under bust, was sold by Nomisma for €480 in September.



*Irish Tokens 'From Various Properties'
Noonan's Auction 310, 8 October 2024*

By: Garry Byrne

This important auction included tokens from the 17th to the late 19th centuries, with a number of rarities, most of which made high prices. All tokens were illustrated, many were in multiples, given in brackets. The commission was 24%.

Lots 509-536: 17th century tokens, generally legends were legible and conditions were fair to gF, with prices to match. Pennies, Co. Armagh, Charlemont, Edward Parrey, £35, Carlow town, Garret Quigley and Tho. Reynalds (2) £90. Co. Cork, Charleville, Robert Cowan and Commonwealth farthing (2) £85, City halfpennies (2) £55, City pennies, one 1658 and two 1659* (3) £60, City penny and two worn later tokens (3) £40. Enniskeane, Henry Wheddon, 1678 penny £60. Kinsale Corporation pennies, 1668 and 1677, John Watts 1668 with farthing forgery (4) £160. Youghal, Walter Hibbard 1668 penny with three forgeries (4) £35.



Co. Down, Downpatrick, John Lawe penny £140. Dublin, city pennies, Alexander Aickin, Wil Brooking & Jonathan Butterson (3) £120, Christopher Cleear £120, Gerrard Colley* £160, John Dutton 1655 £55, Ridgley Hatfeild, 1654, and Randal Lester 1655 (2) £90, Edward Michell, £140, Jo Partington £90, John Sweetman £65, two Mic Wilson halfpennies and Nicholas Rochford, Lazey Hill (3), £40.

Kilkenny city, Thomas Adams, penny, 1658, Limerick city halfpennies, Tho. Linch, 1679 and Ed Wight, 1677 (3) £140. Pennies, Co. Derry, Coleraine, John Browne* £220, Co. Louth, Drogheda, Edward Bythell, Co. Meath, Kells, Edward Dyes and Trim, Pathrick Helond (3) £120, Co. Roscommon Boyle, Edward Munns, 1678 and Co. Tipperary, Lismalin, Garret Quigley 1659 (2) £120. Waterford City pennies, two 1659, Thomas Noble, 1656, Edmand Russell [16]73, Mary Stephens, 1667 (5) £140, David Owen [16]71* £240.



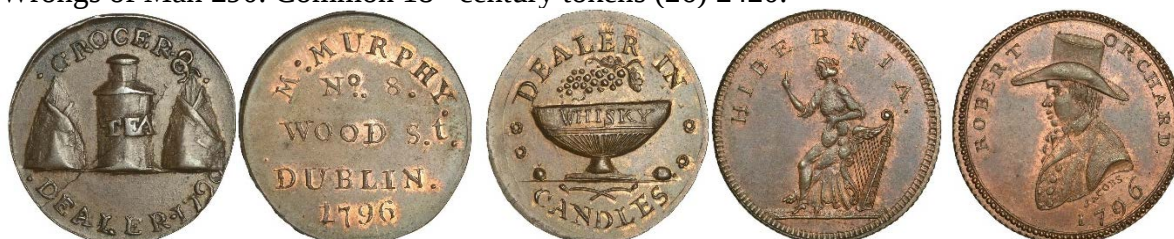
Pennies, Co. Westmeath, Athlone, James Lenon and Mullingar, James Melaghlin (2) £40. Co. Wexford, Ross, R[ichard] S[tephens], 1673, the diligent hand maketh rich, Wexford town, Fran[–] Harvey, when yov please ile chainge thes, Michael Kearney (3) £95. Uncertain Irish locality,

alexr[——]raii, rev. and Wells, City Farthing, 1657, overstruck on a Belfast penny of John Stewart (2) £40.

Lots 578-591: early to mid-18th century tokens. Twopences, Belfast, William Ringland 1734 and two Hugh Magarragh 1736 (3) £60, William Ringland 1736 £150, Co. Down, Dromore, Will Hall* £1,500, Newtownards, Thomas Fisher £45 twice, John McCully 1761, £85. Silver threepence, Alex Morton, Armagh, fair, broken and repaired £140. Dublin James Maculla, penny 1731 £50, same with two 1729 halfpennies (3) £75, 1729 halfpennies £110, £80 (2) £85 and £65. Common 18th century tokens (19) £170. **Lot 600** Co. Tyrone, Dungannon, Thomas Rea* £1,700.



Lots 592-599: Dublin farthings. EF 1795 M. Murphy, Wood St*. £100, different reverse* £340, T O'Bryen, Church St. £130, Robert Orchard with 1795 penny (2) £120, Robert Orchard* £120, The Wrongs of Man £90. Common 18th century tokens (26) £420.



Lot 631 common early 19th century tokens (23) £130. **Lots 650-656:** mixed 19th century tokens (14) £110. Carlow town tea token 1891* £35. Farthing tokens, 19th century (5) £60 and (5) £85. Co Down, Banbridge Co-op 1/2d and 3d (2) £100, Castlewellan, Annesbrook Stores, brass shilling £120. Dublin Kernan & Co and Austin's Dressing Case, (2) £150. **Lot 666:** Wexford Pierce & Co uniface work token* £85.



Lots 657-665: tavern tokens, which made relatively modest prices. Rice numbers, first three illustrated are uniface R76 £95, R89* £140, R121* £60, R126* £160, R213 £30, R300 £110, R305* £70, R372 £110 and R392 £70.



Tavern Tokens Updates

By: Garry Byrne

Rice 113-115 are tokens issued by M. & J. Dawson, Maynooth in the value of 2d, 4d and 6d, with only the 2d illustrated. The 4d and 6d are now provided as line drawings, provided from rubbings by Neil Todd. Also not illustrated in Rice are **R.207**, M. Hughes, 15 Anne's St. and **R.209**, E. Ivers, 55 Old Kilmainham. With thanks to Frank Heaney for the illustrations and for providing the first new token below.



Two unlisted uniface tokens have recently come to light. The first is brass, with 2 PENCE over J.K, with beaded border. It is very similar in style to Rice 144, 151 (photo 150 in error in Rice), 242 and 243. It is probably Dublin but could be elsewhere. Like Rice 144, it resembles the late Parkes pieces with blank reverse (1873-1901). The token can be recorded as **Rice 213A**.



The other new token is also brass, reading M O R above, 47 NORTH WALL below, and D over 2 in the centre. It is brass and 28mm in diameter. It is a very plain and unlike any of the tavern tokens listed in Rice. It may therefore not be by Parkes, but if so, blank reverses are recorded for 1852-62, 1873-1904 and 1907-13. Thom's Dublin Directories show that one Michael O'Reilly took over the Chester and Holyhead Hotel & Tavern at that address in 1867 and continued to be listed there until 1901. The following year the premises were taken over by Molloy & O'Reilly and although this produces similar initials, they were only at the address for just a year or two, and it is more likely that the token was produced by Michael O'Reilly. The token can be recorded as **Rice 303A**.

The pub was demolished to clear the way for the National Conference Centre at Spencer Dock. O'Reilly had various additional premises through the years, including Burkes Bar at 47 Amiens Street and actually lived at the adjoining house 1 Buckingham Street Lower. It is still standing and perhaps there is a tavern token for there waiting to be found. With thanks to Peadar Farrell for bringing the North Wall token to attention and for the photograph and to Frank Heaney for identifying the issuer.

Rice lists three uniface tokens issued by Robert Perry, as brewers, Rathdowney, Co. Laois, none of which were originally illustrated, nor other physical details provided. The first, **R310**, is given an incorrect Batty reference number, 1157A when it should be 1557A and which in turn, incorrectly quotes Adams description of Perry's issue. The token actually reads ROBERT PERRY & SON over, BREWERS RATHDOWNEY under, and 1/- in the centre, as shown in the third supplement, bulletin 74 and here. It is uniface, brass and 29.8mm in diameter. While Batty neglected to indicate the value expressed on the token, Adams in his description had a stop after each word in the legend. A specimen fitting Adams description has yet to surface.



Rice 310A is similar to R310 except that the legend includes "...& SONS" as shown here. It is uniface, brass and 29.8mm in diameter. A specimen with the addition of the letter 'd' after the value as indicated in Rice, has yet to surface and may or may not even exist.

Rice 310A1 the 5/- issue, similar to R310 above, is shown here, it is uniface, brass and 29.8mm in diameter. With thanks to Frank Heaney for the illustrations.

References: Adams, B. W., *'On the dates of issue of some undated modern tradesmen's tokens'* The Numismatic Chronicle, Vol.19 (1879) pp 191-195, no.33.

Batty, D.T.; *'Copper coinage of Great Britain, Ireland, British Isles, and the Colonies'* 3 vols., (1868-94), Vol.2, no. 1557A.

Rice nos. 328 – 335 lists eight copper Dublin tokens reading Red Bank Oyster Rooms 55 Dame St. on the obverse, together with incuse values of 2d, 3d, 4d, 6d, 11d, 1/- and 1/3. These values are known from a handwritten ticket by Cockayne showing these values, illustrated. Rice had only the 2d and 1/- to hand and illustrated, but the second edition (2017) identified and illustrated the 3d, 4d, 6d and 11d, leaving just the 1/3 not illustrated. The reverses are either blank, n/a or Parkes V, the 2d is recorded as 27.7mm, the 6d at 27.8mm.



An eBay listing on 1 December 2024 by Alan Hunt, Exeter, UK offered a variety of R.335, the 1/3 for sale at £160, as brass and 27mm with a Parkes reverse. The listing noted that it originates from Baldwin's vault. Both sides of the token are illustrated here and while somewhat unclear, the reverse can be taken as Parkes V, the same as the 2d, R.328 and 1/-, R.334. The incuse 's' above the '1' for shilling will be noted, which is not on R.335 or the shilling and brass is not recorded for any of the tokens, so this can be recorded as new and as **Rice 335a**. While samples of all values have now been identified, just R.335 itself has to turn up and the possibility of other obverse and reverse combinations coming to light remains.

Finds of Ring Money, an Unreported Hoard, c1900, from Co Westmeath

By: Garry Byrne

Originating in the Lower Danube area, archaeological evidence suggests that ring money may date to the late Bronze to Early Iron Ages, or around 800-300BC. They have been found in much of Europe, including Switzerland, Germany, Britain and Ireland. They are either gold, gold plated, or copper, solid or hollow and are open-ended, so they may have been threaded through hair or a garment. Alternatively, they may have been used as currency or a means of exchange. They stand alongside other contemporary gold ornaments such as torcs, neck rings, armlets and dress fasteners.

Sizes range from 10-40mm and they are either plain or cable twisted with plain ends. Weights also vary considerably, as evidenced by the following sample gold British lots sold by Noonans on 19 November 2024, Lot 1, cable-twist 4.3g, 22mm, Lot 2, plain plated, 9.18g, Lot 3, plain plated, 12.88g, Lot 4, plain plated, 4.44g and Lot 5, plain plated, 1.99g. Ten lots of ring money, Lots 501-510, auctioned by Noonans on 27 September 2022, were mainly solid gold and ranged from 1.14g, 20 x 17mm to 11.78g, 39mm. Lot 1321 of Noonans auction of 15 June 2017 was 19.18g and lot 1322 was 2.79g, both solid gold and described as Irish.

Two lots of ring money found in Co. Westmeath were sold by Morton & Eden in London on 20 November 2024, being. The lots are described as follows:

Lot 7: Ireland (?), so-called ring money, in good gold, of penannular and twisted form, 22 x 26.7mm, 10.11g, very fine Provenance: Offered with R. Carlyon-Britton's ticket no. 632401 and with another stating 'Found at Westmeath with three other rings'. A recent XRF test gives a result of 95.1% gold, 4.6% silver, 0.3% iron and 0.1% copper. (Sold for £3,800, BP 24%).



Lot 8: Ireland (?), so-called ring money (2), both in base gold, of penannular and twisted form, 20 x 24mm, 1.41g and 14 x 14mm, 0.99g, very fine; together with a plain bronze ring of indeterminate date, 28mm (3) Provenance: The two penannular rings are offered with R. Carlyon-Britton's tickets, nos. 632402 and 632400 respectively. A recent XRF test gives results of (i) 13.7% gold, 81.6% silver, 4.7% copper and (ii) 19.9% gold, 75.5% silver, 4.2% copper, 0.4% iron. (Sold for £950, BP 24%).

Raymond Carlyon-Britton (1893-1960) and his father, Philip William Poole Carlyton-Britton (1863-1938) were both active numismatists. Raymond published articles of Irish interest in many British journals, including in the *Numismatic Chronicle* on the coins of Edward V in 1941 and the harp groats and halfgroats of Henry VIII in 1954. He inherited many of his coins from his father, supplemented from, among other sources, the collection of the 10th Duke of Argyll (1872-1949),

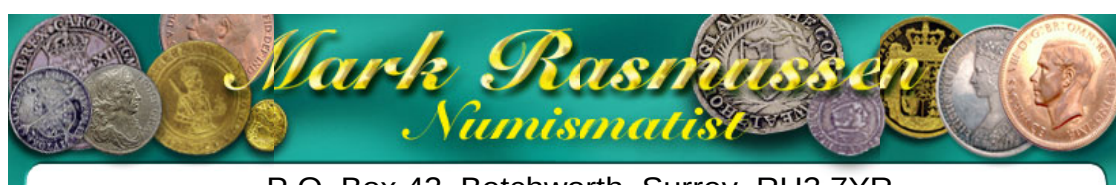
as well as a fair selection from the Lockett auction at Glendining & Co. in 1957. He is best known in Ireland for his 'third collection' which included many Irish coins. That portion was acquired by Seaby and sold *en bloc* to the Ulster Museum.

Further details, on these two lots, such as the exact find spot, if a casual find, or part of an archaeological excavation, if other items were found, are not to hand. However, the wording on the tickets would suggest that just these four items of numismatic interest were found. The wide variation in size, weight and metal content would not suggest fixed denominations, if indeed they were used as currency.





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Eldon Allison: an appreciation



Eldon Allison, who sadly died in June 2024, was a founder member of Cork Numismatic Society in 1966 and Treasurer for a number of years. In that role, he had considerable interaction with the NSI in the late 1960s. Eldon was an old friend: it was at Cork Grammar School together that we discovered a mutual obsession with numismatics that lasted for over 60 years. As teenagers, we organised Ireland's first Coin Fair in Cork in 1967, and Cork Numismatic Society had a lively – if rather short – existence in those years. A chartered accountant, Eldon moved to England and became financial controller of several companies before setting up his own accountancy business in Cambridge, where he spent the rest of his life.

Eldon's numismatic interests shifted away from coins to art medals in the early 2000s. He joined the British Art Medal Society (BAMS) in 2008, becoming a valued and vigorous member. He served on the Society's Council from 2013 to April 2024, was Membership Secretary from 2013 to 2018, and Treasurer from 2018 to April 2024. He and I authored a paper to the British Association of Numismatic Societies' conference in Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge, in 2010. That paper was one of the first involving our joint new interest – an exploration of French medals between 1880 & 1930 – with enthusiastic audience participation, asking those present to choose their favourite. It was great fun and Eldon was good at 'great fun' – it is fair to say that he was instrumental in encouraging a spot of informal conviviality after the rather formal BAMS meetings! His considerable contribution to the Society was well-marked with a grant of honorary membership in early 2024.

Art medals fascinated Eldon. He possessed a superb collection of these hand-held sculptural pieces; many were BAMS-commissioned medals from well-known (and not-so-well-known) artists. Another interest lay in medals of the First World War. But he found what he liked without being a slave to 'the set'. He had a fine eye for the intriguing and the beautiful, and he was a patron of the student medals sponsored by BAMS, acquiring many specimens, most unique. Eldon was unique, too. Our deepest condolences go to Ann, his children and grandchildren and a wider circle of family and friends, in Ireland and England.

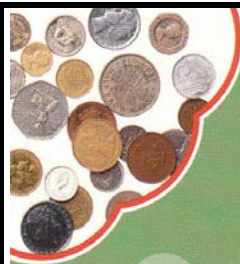
Ian d'Alton



Brian Hennessy RIP 11th September 2022



It is with regret that the Society has learned of the death on 11 September 2022 of long-time member Brian Hennessy. Brian was attended meetings frequently & will be remembered for his cheerful disposition and good humour. May he rest in peace.



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Please keep these dates free. Further information will follow.



A Fresh Look at Phase II Hiberno-Scandinavian Pennies

By Robert Page

The phase II pennies were minted in Dublin from c. 1020 to c. 1035, a period in which Dublin was under the rule of Sihtric Silkbeard (989–1036) who ruled over Dublin for more than 45 years. Their obverse design is modelled on Aethelred's Long Cross type. For a comprehensive account of the Hiberno-Scandinavian series and its historical background see Blackburn¹.

In this brief study I have examined images of a number of obverse types of Hiberno-Scandinavian Phase II coins in order to determine the relative abundance of each. The images of the coins are from various sources including relevant SCBI volumes and auction archives. The rare Hiberno-Manx coins, based on Irish phase II pennies, have been excluded. Not included in this data set are the phase II coins found in the Glenfaba Hoard from the Isle of Man. Discovered in 2003, this significant hoard contains 464 coins deposited c. 1030 AD, including 323 Phase II pennies, of which most varieties are represented except those with an 'E' on the neck and which are probably therefore late in the series. Fortunately, coins from the Glenfaba hoard will soon be published in a forthcoming SCBI volume².



Phase II coins are readily identified by the four small pellets on the reverse, one in each of the four quadrants. Here we will be looking only at the obverses of these coins, and in the analysis ignoring any variations such as extra pellets sometimes seen on the reverse. Imitations of Aethelred's Long Cross type commenced with understandable inscriptions, but through Phase II the inscriptions become garbled through repeated copying, and soon become just meaningless. A number of examples of Sihtric's Phase II coins are illustrated towards the end of this article.

In this study of 209 coins, the most commonly observed obverse type on Phase II coins has a symbol, often a cross, behind the neck, but obverses are also seen with symbols before the bust &/or on the neck. With three possible locations for symbols to occur, there are a maximum of eight possible types, designated types A-H, however one of these eight possibilities has not been observed in this study. Note that symbols are occasionally also seen on Phase I imitations of the long cross type, and also on some of the phase III obverses.

Symbols include pellets, various styles of crosses, a wishbone-shaped object & a bishop's crozier., and some examples are illustrated on the following page. Dolley, in SCBI #8, gives very little mention of these symbols, however Blackburn¹ briefly discusses them but notes that the pattern of use of the symbols, and their function, await further die link studies, particularly on the coins from the Glenfaba hoard.

During the period when Phase II coins were being issued there was a progressive decrease in coin weight & also the previously mentioned deterioration in the literacy of the die-cutters, with later legends being quite garbled. Thus, through weight & legend, it is possible to have an approximate idea of whether a phase II coin is early or late, but at this time there is not yet a clear understanding of the progression through time of the various symbol patterns.

Some examples of the symbols are illustrated below:

Before head:



On neck:



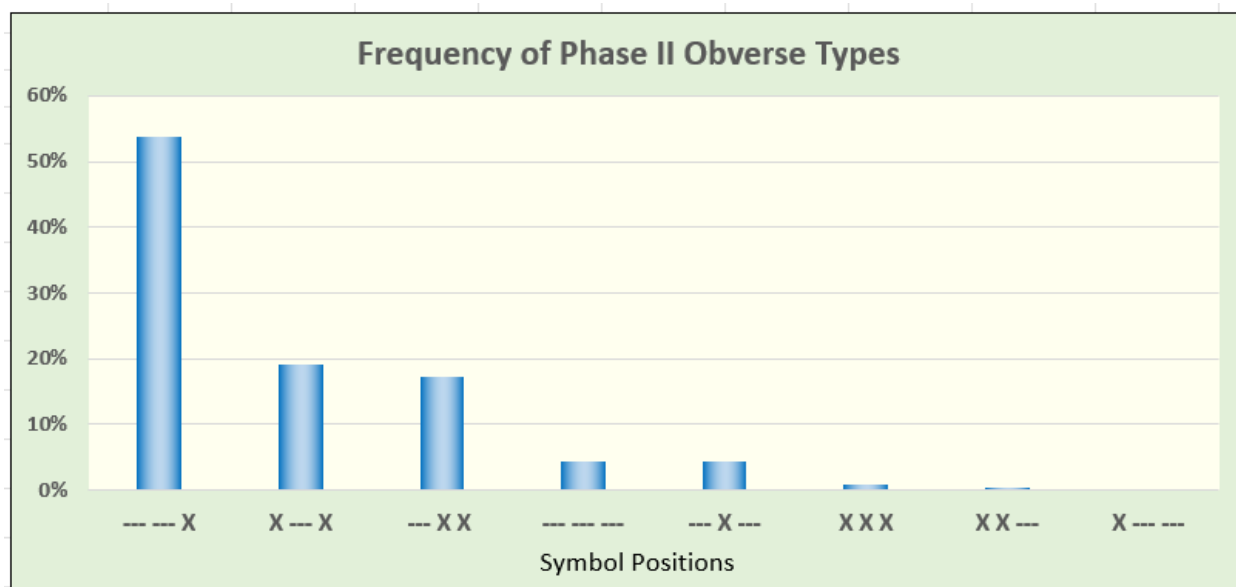
Behind neck:



It is not surprising that some of these symbols have a Christian character as Sihtric was a sympathetic promoter of Christianity having established a bishopric at Dublin in 1028 after making a pilgrimage to Rome, and he later founded Christ Church Cathedral in Dublin. This was largely a result of the influence that England's Danish king Cnut had on Sihtric. For discussion of both church & trade see Wallace³.

The following chart is based on the data presented in the Appendix. In the horizontal legend the presence of an "X" indicates where symbols are located, in front of the head, on the neck & behind the head. Clearly the commonest obverse type is the one that only has a symbol behind the head. Other types are scarcer, some particularly so. Coins with a cross behind the neck sometimes also show one or more pellets behind the head, however this type has not been differentiated here.

See chart:



It may be that symbols were used by illiterate die cutters to identify their work, however, examination of the images in this article indicates that variation in symbols and their placement is observed for coins which are apparently from the same moneyer. Inspection of the images shows that many of the coins refer to the moneyer Færemin; however, in many cases this part of the legend is blundered. It may be a case of illiterate moneyers attempting to copy Færemin's name, & hence the possibility of different symbol combinations relating to different moneyers cannot be ruled out.

One other possibility is that minting was not under the total control of Sihtric at the time, but that leading Norsemen could take their own bullion to the mint & have it turned into coin; the symbols thus perhaps being an identification of different batches of coins struck for different persons.

Further examination of Phase II symbology is a topic for future research & is beyond the scope of this article; it is not the intent of this article to propose a definitive explanation of the symbols but to highlight both the need for further research, and the relative scarcity of the different types. The latter should prove of interest to collectors. It is hoped that this brief article may act as a catalyst in generating interest in pursuing a better understanding of this fascinating coin series.

SOME EXAMPLES OF PHASE II TYPES



Obverse Type A

Early Phase II silver penny, with pellet behind the bust.

Obv: + SIHTRIC REX DYFLN.

Rev: + EIRI EMNO NMDI LHBI (EIREEMNON)

Weight: 1.47 gm

Hiberno-Norse sylloge, Dolley, #63. Rob Page collection (RP-1068).



Obverse Type A

Common obverse type with a symbol behind the neck, but with a few additional small pellets behind the head, which are discussed by Blackburn (p.129).

Obv: SIHTRCRE+DYFLN

Rev: FIE/REMI/NMO/DYFLI

Moneyer: Færemin

Weight: 1.35 gm.

Images courtesy of Stephen Liu.



Obverse Type A

A single symbol behind the neck – the commonest obverse type. In this case a cross potent.

Moneyer: Færemin

Weight: 1.05 gm.

Rob Page collection (RP-2498).



Obverse Type A

Inverted crozier behind head., Obv: INTRC RE+ IDYFNI,

REV. INRIFNM IIO DICI, blundered legend but probable moneyer: Færemin

Weight: 1.21g

SCBI BM 80; SCBI Copenhagen 85-6, same dies; SCBI Ulster 109, same dies.
Image credit: Noonans



Obverse Type B

Symbols before & behind bust; two pellets before bust & a cross behind. Also note the extra pellets in two of the reverse quadrants.

Weight: 1.18 gm.

Rob Page collection (RP-2510).



Obverse Type C

Symbols on neck (wishbone) & behind it (cross).

Moneyer: Færemin,

Weight 1.37 gm.

Image courtesy of Noonans. 15/03/17, lot # 569.



Obverse Type D

Symbols on neck only.

Moneyer: Færemin,

Weight 0.77 gm.

Image courtesy of Noonans, 11/03/20 lot # 3.



Obverse Type F

Rare obverse type having symbols in all three locations. (CNG link)

Obv: ZHITR · C RE + DY

Moneyer: Færemin

Weight: 1.32 gm.

Images courtesy of Stephen Liu.

APPENDIX

This is the raw data that the bar-graph in the main text has been prepared from:

Type	Symbol Locations			British Museum (SCBI 8)	Belfast (SCBI 32)	Merseyside (SCBI 29)	DNW Archives	CNG Archives	SCBI 22 Copen - hagen	Francis & Brand Parcels	Rob Page Collection	Totals	Percentage
	Before Face	On Neck	Behind Neck										
A	---	---	x	11	50	1	20	4	23	2	2	113	54.1%
B	x	---	x	6	15		3	1	13		2	40	19.1%
C	---	x	x	3	17	1	3	1	5	5	1	36	17.2%
D	---	x	---	1	3		2		3			9	4.3%
E	---	---	---	3	4				1			8	3.8%
F	x	x	x				2					2	1.0%
G	x	x	---		1							1	0.5%
H	x	---	---		0							0	0.0%
Totals:				24	90	2	30	6	45	7	5	209	100.0%

At left, under “Symbol Locations”, an “x” denotes the presence of a symbol in that location, so, for example, type h has a symbol before the face & a symbol on the neck, but nothing behind the neck.

Additional References:

SCBI 8. British Museum. Hiberno-Norse Coins. By R.H.M. Dolley. 8 plates, 1966.

SCBI 22 - Royal Collection of Medals National Museum Copenhagen, Part V

Hiberno-Norse & Anglo-Irish Coins, Georg Galster, Michael Dolley, Jørgen Steen Jensen, published by British Academy, 1975.

SCBI 29 –Merseyside County Museums v. 29, Margaret Warhurst, published by Oxford University Press 1982

SCBI 32 - Ulster Museum: Belfast Part 2: Hiberno-Norse Coins, Wilfred Seaby, published by Oxford University Press, 1985

¹ M. Blackburn, 'Currency under the Vikings, Part 4: the Dublin coinage c.995-1050' BNJ vol. 78 (2008), 111-37 ([Link](#))

² Kristin Bornholdt Collins, 'Manx Museum, Douglas, Isle of Man: Anglo-Saxon, Hiberno-Scandinavian, Hiberno-Manx & Other Coins & Currencies (to c. 1275)', *Sylloge of Coins of the British Isles* 73.

³ Wallace, Patrick F., 1986, "The English Presence in Viking Dublin" in *Anglo-Saxon Monetary History - Essays in memory of Michael Dolley*. BNS Research Blog 30 April 2024



Letters & eMails

The **NSI** are holding BANS in April 2026 in Dublin. This will also mark the 20th anniversary of the Dublin 2006 BANS which ran very successfully using the space within the National Museum of Ireland. The 2026 event will take place at the Royal Marine Hotel in Dun Laoghaire. We look forward to arranging a series of topical talks & a trip on the Saturday within the environs of Dublin.

Alan Keogh

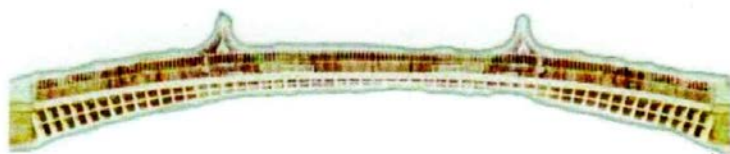
Royal Mint News

The Royal Mint Launches the 2025 Sovereign Collection.

The full Sovereign Collection for 2025 includes commemorative, bullion & historic ranges.

From 2026 all gold Sovereigns will return to being crafted from yellow gold.

Collection includes remastered design to mark the 200th Anniversary since the 1825 Royal Arms Sovereign was introduced. For the first time in the Sovereign's history, The Royal Mint will also be producing a silver Sovereign.



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2. The competition will be adjudicated on using the same criteria as the Visual Exhibit competition. However, the adjudication will be by a panel selected by the Committee. A bibliography or source references will enhance entries.
3. An entry should consist of no less than 800 eight hundred words (800 & must be typed) on any numismatic theme & must not have been previously published.
4. The competition is open to all members including branch members.
5. A minimum of three (3) entries will be required for the competition to take place.
6. The committee will retain discretion to determine if the standard is acceptable & may decide to award a bronze medal or in certain circumstances no award.
7. A condition of the Written Award competition is the right of the Society to publish any of the entries in the Society Bulletin or Occasional Papers with due acknowledgement. The written article will remain the intellectual property of the author.
8. An unsuccessful entrant may resubmit an entry for up to two subsequent years.

Entries should be sent to:

Honorary Secretary, Numismatic Society of Ireland. Members may enter both competitions & are eligible to win both medals. Medals will be awarded for both competitions at the Society April meeting in Dublin.

When you are with your friends tell them about us. Tell them we are a very friendly group with great knowledge of Irish Numismatics & that we freely give of our time for the future of the Society. Tell them we have no hidden agenda & that we welcome guests in person & online to our monthly meetings. &, most importantly, tell them we will enjoy meeting them.

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