

## Auction #174 Report, The Fine Sale, 19-20 February 2020

A fantastic result for an auction of just 879 lots: £374,350 total sales including premium.

This was boosted by the remarkable price realised for lot 308, the Rolex Submariner, which went for a hammer price of £150,000 (£182,400 incl. premium). This model, reference 5513, is of the type worn by George Lazenby and Roger Moore in multiple James Bond films, and is highly sought-after by collectors.

Besides this outstanding result, the auction was strong all round. The jewellery, especially the mixed lots were heavily contested, with some, for example lots 209 and 235, selling for up to £2000 against an estimate of just £100 to £200. Other vintage watches, especially Rolex dress watches and some lesser known makers such as 'Richard', lot 329, well exceeded estimates. The Georg Jensen jewellery was eagerly received. For example, the 'Torun' collar necklace, lot 291 (est. £300) sold for £800.

Some silver snuff boxes proved popular in the silver and plated-wares, such as 460 and 485 selling for £440 and £460 hammer.

Amongst the ceramics a 1930s "Shelley Girl" advertising figurine estimated at £600, sold for £1450. A Troika chimney vase (est. £80) went for £460 (hammer).

The toys and models saw a packed room, with many enthusiasts after the mint sealed Britains model soldiers. A bulk lot of Kenner Star Wars figures made £520 hammer. Loose figures are not typically unusual but they were housed in a big plastic 'Darth Vader' case, and it may be the case that's rare.

A collection of autographed manuscripts was sold, with prices going far beyond estimates almost universally. To give some examples: Documents by Judge John Bradshaw (est £180), Prince Frederick Duke of York (est. £100), Admiral Shovell (est. £150), and Robert Southey (est. £80); made £1900, £850, £560, and £1050 hammer. The interest generated by this collection brought in the antiquarian book and ephemera community, who then pushed the general books, documents and photographs up beyond our expectations as well. An autograph book containing those of Buddy Holly and the Crickets sold for £1050 hammer!

Altogether the auction was a wonderful success, and thus 2020 is looking to be our best ever year if things continue the way they are. The March Coins & Collectables catalogue is being assembled and could potentially be a record sale for us.

Consignments are welcome for the May C&C, the late May Banknote Sale and the June Fine Sale. The current market has been so strong this year, we encourage everyone to make use of this momentum.



Lot 308: Rolex Submariner with "Explorer" dial c.1964/65, reached £150,000 hammer.