

Auction #170 Report

Our two-day auction of Coins & Collectables held 16th-17th November 2019 achieved total sales of over £366,000.

Some original British Airship memorabilia sold successfully at the start of the Militaria section: £150 hammer was paid for a piece of the outer skin of the Airship R33. £360 hammer was paid for lot 435, a Luftwaffe pilot's badge, who collided with an RAF Wellington R1334 on 22-7-1941. Some exotic swords sold well including lot 917, an Ethiopian 'shotel' sword, which sold for £380 hmr.

There was a large offering of banknotes, with strong results particularly for English, Scottish, Irish and British Commonwealth notes. Throughout the auction; bulk lots were the most sought-after and contested -lots of Ebayers and dealers looking for stock!

The best prices in the collection of Edward I pennies were £380 for the Abbot of Reading Annulet Issue, and also £380 for the unusually high grade London Class 1c -lot 1572.

Tokens, engraved coins, and Churchill medals received strong interest. Lot 1707, the 'National League for Opposing Woman Suffrage' (!) enamelled brass fob achieved £700 hammer, against an estimate of just £80 to £85. Obviously a very rare item, which illustrates some people's attitudes at the beginning of the 20th Century.

Royal Mint cased coins and sets have become very sought-after since the craze for commemorative 50p's. Gold remains strong; £7600 hammer was achieved for a 1937 gold set, even with a damaged case. A scarce 1887 Jubilee Sovereign with a 'small hooked J on truncation' reached £580. The high grade Victorian silver minors caught the attention of collectors. Lot 1875, the plain edge proof 1839 fourpenny 'groat' made £400 hmr. Some scarce world coins were sold including lot 2052: Netherlands East Indies Menangkabau Kingdom proof 2 Kepings for £400 hmr.

Some superb Roman Colonial bronze coins were sold, with some well-exceeding estimates; such as 2134: Caracalle bronze of Serdica (est. £40-£50) £270 hmr, and 2274: Severus Alexander bronze of Istros (est. £60-£80) £320 hmr.

Further hammered pennies were well-received including a gem of local history: Lot 2371: Stephen penny of Castle Rising (Norfolk), which sold for £1150 hammer. Even though well off-centre, it has a good reading of the mint signature and is thus a choice example of this type, which was struck haphazardly during the anarchic reign of Stephen.

Lot 2630 fetched the highest price of the sale; a large framed set of signed photographs of the 1924/25(?) Australian Cricket Team: £3000 hammer (estimate £200 - £250). The early FA Cup programmes also sold successfully.

The Victorian stamps were popular. £520 hammer was achieved for the used pair of Penny Blacks, lot 2786. £650 was paid for the 1867 £5 Orange, lot 2791.

Two evocative historic items were sold: Lots 2865 and 2866; an autographed magazine and a letter by members of the crew of the Terra Nova, from Captain Scott's fateful Antarctic Expedition of 1911. These reached £580 and £560 hmr.

The specialist collection of boxing cigarette-cards met with strong interest; for example lot 3206 the Cope Bros double set made £700, and 3213 the Singleton & Cole part sets went for £621.

We look forward to the December Sale of jewellery, watches, toys & antiques to end our year's events on 4-5 December.

We return with Coins & Collectables on 25-26 January, accepting consignments until 6 December.



Lot 2630: Sold for £3000 hammer.