

Lockdales' Auction #204 Report: Coins, Weapons, Medals & Militaria: 24-26 September 2021

Total prices realised: £551,000 (including premium)

A spectacular auction, held over three days, with strong online, room and commission bidding. We began on Friday 24th with a single auction room selling the Weapons and a Private Collection of Polish Coins. 282 lots of weapons were offered, with prices reaching as high as £5000 for a set of dueling pistols, and £4300 for a single gun by the famous maker Robert Wogdon. A rusted Indian sword in at just £50 went for £2500. This sleeper lot turned out to be an elegant 18/19th Century Tulwar with a pattern gilded handle. A curious long-barrelled Luger made £1000.

Following this on the Friday we sold a Private Collection of Polish Coins, which achieved near double top estimate overall at £85,350 combined. Exceptional prices were seen including £14,200 for the "Heaven Rise" gold medal of John II Casimir; £5800 for a 1593 Ducat of Danzig; and up to £4600 for the many rare Thalers.

Saturday 25th saw our usual tandem rooms in session - Coins and Militaria. The demand for English coins was simply staggering. Very few lots went unsold throughout the English milled gold, silver etc. £1600 hammer was paid for a single 1989 proof Sovereign (cased) which might be a record. The 1934 Wreath Crown made £4000. A very recent 2021 Maundy Set made £800, and a known error date Iraq 20 Fils 1933/AH1252 went for £3200 against an estimate of £300. Some very nice Ancient & Hammered coins were sold also, including a William the Conqueror Two Sceptres Penny of London for £1500 (est. £400-£500).

The first day of Militaria saw multiple lots sell for many times their estimates. Lot 804, the WWII group to Harry Morris achieved £1800 (est. £200 - £250). He served at Dunkirk, with the Paras at Cos, and evaded capture at Arnhem. A 19th Century 32nd Cornwall Regt belt plate more than tripled its estimate at £850.

The second day of Coins saw the usual fierce bidding for bulk lots. In the Exonomia section a pair of Queen Victoria's privately commissioned John Brown memorial medalets sold at their top estimate of £1500.

The second day of Militaria saw some extraordinary lots go under the hammer. Lot 1286, the George Medal group to London Blitz fireman John Cornford reached £6200. The Antarctic Expedition commemorative plaque and ephemera belonging to William Lashly of Capt. Scott's crew made £2700.

Our next auction of Coins & Collectables takes place 20-21 November, with consignment open until 8th October. We hope to hear from you regarding consignment. The market for collectables is astonishingly good right now, and our online customer base has you covered for all kinds of material worldwide. We had national newspaper coverage for this past sale regarding the George group!



Lot 300: Gdansk (Danzig) gold Ducat of Sigismund III, 1593: £5800 hammer.