News & Views

Lockdales Auction Report

Here is the report for our 63rd sale on Sunday 18 November 2007 at the Ipswich Orwell Holiday

Inn. Total overall sales: £202,420.

Total ancient and hammered coins and artefacts section sales: £33,680 The sale was very busy and there was a lot of interest especially in the ancient and hammered coins. We note that Celtic coins are making very high prices.

The individual highlights are as illustrated.

Chris Elmy, Lockdales



Lot 625 Henry I facing bust/ quatrefoil with piles type penny GODRIC on ? nicked VF some weak spots, estimate £450-£500, final price £675

For the first time, the general public will have the ability to cast their votes alongside mint officials, museum curators, medalists, and journalists to determine the "People's Choice" of the world's best coinage, when Coin of the Year voting goes live December 1 at NumisMaster.com.

Expert judges from around the world will be deciding the category winners and the Coin

Coin of the Year Voting Goes Public

of the Year as in the past, but this year the public will be deciding the outcome of a congruent award honoring the ultimate in coinage design.

The contest, which is sponsored by World Coin News, is now in its 25th year of honoring the mints of the world producing the most artistic, historically relevant, and innovative coinage.

Last year's Coin of the Year winner was the US Mint, for its coin celebrating the 250th Anniversary of the United States Marine Corp. Mints from Germany, Australia, Austria, Belarus, and Israel were also honored with awards. This year's ceremony will be held at the World Money Fair in Berlin, Germany, during the first weekend in February 2008.

To view this year's nominees and to cast your vote, visit NumisMaster.com and click on "Contests".

Rare Viking Cloisonne Brooch Found

A rare Viking cloisonné brooch was unearthed in a field at Rushmere St. Andrew, Suffolk on 21 August 2007 by David Cummings, Chairman of the Ipswich & District Detector Club.

The soil conditions were light and sandy, which is ideal in preserving bronze and copper alloy metalwork. The brooch was discovered in an area which was sunken and was most likely part of an existing pond, presumably to supply the needs of people and their animals that lived nearby.

The brooch is almost complete and with other examples known, exhibits a series of peripheral lugs, two of which are missing, most probably broken in antiquity. This example has seven lugs.

As admitted by most archaeologists, Viking antiquities are not common and are rarely found by metal detectorists.

The brooch is made from copper alloy and originally plated with gold merely to deceive the onlooker. Just as today people wanted to look good and power dressing was understood then, the same as it is today. Bronze items were gilded and silvered to mimic gold and silver. This example has fantastic surviving glass and enamel inlays, including small glass beads set in the peripheral lugs, and is similar to the style and manufacture of the famous Alfred Jewel.

The reverse exhibits traces of original gilding; however, the pin and spring are missing. The examples listed in Benet's Artefacts of England and the United Kingdom show only six peripheral lugs, indicating regional differences.

Find of the Month Diplomas

We would like to remind all club PROs and Secretaries that we still have in stock a number of "Find of the Month Diplomas". Not only do these certificates give any awards made by clubs a professional touch, but also make an excellent keepsake for the recipients. They are available free of charge. Requests for copies should be marked "Diplomas" on the envelope and sent to: Treasure Hunting, Greenlight Publishing, 119 Newland Street, Witham, Essex CM8 1WF.



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