



Volume 31

# Journal of the Numismatic Association of Australia



# Numismatic Association of Australia Inc.

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Front cover: Photo of the Alexander tetradrachm, no. 68 (see article of Lloyd Taylor Fig 1 page 52)



# NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC

## President's Report

With COVID-19 now endemic, the Association has not been able to hold a conference because of the upsurge this year of the virus Australia-wide, but nevertheless the NAA has continued to function with an upgraded website and the publication of this double volume JNAA31, which is available for free download at the NAA website. We plan to hold a conference next year in Adelaide, 19 – 20<sup>th</sup> October 2023, hosted by the Numismatic Society of South Australia.

I am delighted to announce the award of the Ray Jewell Silver Medal to our Managing Editor, Associate Professor Gillan Davis for his services to the NAA, and his numismatic work both in Australia and overseas for which he has an international reputation. Congratulations Gil from all of us.

The NAA continues to enjoy sponsorship at a sustainable level, with Noble Numismatics (Gold), Coinworks, Downies (Silver), Coins & Collectables Victoria, Drake Sterling, Mowbray Collectables, Sterling & Currency and Vintage Coins & Banknotes (Bronze) all contributing to ensure the Association's continued success. Membership is being maintained, and with the contributions by sponsors and members, the Association can function in these difficult times.

The NAA now has a new Secretary, Bridget McClean, and a new address in Nunawading, Victoria. This is convenient as the NAA is incorporated in Victoria. Much time has been spent changing bank signatories and updating Consumer Affairs Victoria; nothing happens quickly these days!

The Numismatic Association of Australia now has a functioning PayPal account linked to [president@numismatics.org.au](mailto:president@numismatics.org.au). This is very convenient for payments coming from overseas and avoids most international bank fees. Like with banking, setting up a PayPal account is not a five-minute exercise, but well worthwhile.

I am impressed with the considerable work our Managing Editor Gil Davis has put into this volume notwithstanding his being extraordinarily busy transferring between universities and setting up new programmes at the Australian Catholic University. Also, I am grateful to Barrie Newman for his on-going work in getting the journal set up and printed, taking on the tasks of both layout and copy editor.

Council continues to meet by ZOOM, hosted by David Galt at Mowbray Collectables.

Finally, the Association cannot function without the dedication of its secretary and its treasurer (Lyn Bloom); thank you both Bridget and Lyn.

Professor Walter R. Bloom

President, NAA

[www.numismatics.org.au](http://www.numismatics.org.au)

3<sup>rd</sup> August 2022

# Editor's note

This volume has been a long time in the making. Usually, an issue is based around the NAA annual conference, but COVID-19 made that impossible. More importantly, as the peak body for numismatics in the country, we are focussed on making each volume wide ranging, interesting and impactful. So, we waited on the completion of a couple of key contributions and have brought out a combined two-year issue which I have dubbed 'the professors' volume' on account of the academic attainment of most of the authors. I trust you will agree that the results justify the decision, because here we offer a splendid collection of eleven articles on an eclectic range of topics with some of the best numismatic analysis and writing I have read. Personally, I have learnt a lot, and I expect that you will too. The collection is rounded out by an obituary by NAA stalwart Peter Lane of the late Maurice B Keain, a real character on the Australian scene.

There are two articles on Australian topics. Vincent Verheyen offers a forensic scrutiny of 'proofs' and 'specimens' from the Melbourne and Perth mints issued in just two years, 1955 and 1956 and seeks to differentiate between them. Walter Bloom provides an interesting study of Western Australian numismatic medallions and badges with an emphasis on the Castellorizian Brotherhood which represented the émigrés from that Greek island.

Lloyd Taylor gives us a Hellenistic trilogy which is a tour de force in numismatic analysis. He starts with a brief but compelling argument correcting one of Hersh's additions to Price's Alexander typology showing that it was already in the corpus. Next, he reattributes Macedonian imperial coinage attributed to Berytos to Byblos. Finally, he shows that an issue of tetradrachms struck in the name of Philip III was in fact a posthumous issue of Seleukos.

There are four articles on a Roman theme:

- Bruce Marshall moves us into the turbulent period of the late Roman Republic with a study of 'labels' on a small number of denarii which he contends fed into the contemporary political discourse.
- Graeme Stephens and John McDonald offer us something unusual and valuable. They document and analyse an unpublished hoard of fourth and fifth centuries AD Roman coins and local imitations from Sri Lanka.
- Andrew Chugg explores the veracity of commemorative medallions of Antinous, paramour of the emperor Hadrian who was deified after his death in the Nile, arguing that there are ways of distinguishing between genuine and fake examples.
- John Melville-Jones offers us a magnificent work listing the names of Roman coins as used by the Romans themselves and sometimes just by modern numismatists.

Written in John's inimitable style, this is an invaluable reference for collectors, students and scholars.

The next article by Emy Kim and Cristiana Zaccagnino takes us into the fascinating world of a numismatic collection of some 600 Greek and Roman coins housed at Queen's University in Canada that is being used in teaching and research. They show just how valuable coins can be when treated as artefacts used to inform historical and scientific understanding. This represents a welcome trend in modern scholarship to integrate numismatics into cross-disciplinary studies.

Finally, we publish a long autobiographical article by Maria Caltabiano. This is justified by the profound impact which she has made on numismatics in a lifetime as professor of numismatics at the University of Messina in Sicily. Along the way, she describes many of her projects with a particularly fascinating exposition of an example of iconic programmatic minting in late fifth century BC Kamarina in the period of the 'signing masters' – some of the most exquisite ancient coinage ever struck. Sadly, we tend not to know enough about numismatics in early Europe, and this article goes some way towards filling the gap.

I sincerely thank the many diligent anonymous reviewers who have done so much to improve the papers. Likewise, I thank the members of the editorial board who stand ready and willing to help when called upon, and John Melville-Jones who happily proofreads the articles. Above all, I pay tribute to Barrie Newman without whose tireless efforts across the years, these volumes would not see the light of day.

Associate Professor Gil Davis  
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# Numismatic evidence of the Castellorizian Brotherhood and early Greek settlement in Western Australia

Walter R. Bloom

## Abstract

*This paper studies numismatic medallions and badges in Western Australia that have a strong Greek connection, and places them in the context of such objects Australia-wide. The medallions and badges are tracked through the history of Greek settlement in Western Australia from the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. A substantial listing (but necessarily incomplete) of corresponding Greek-Australian objects is also provided, primarily related to major historical events in Greece.*

## Keywords

[Greek badge] [Greek medallion] [Sheridan's] [Athanasios Avgoustis] [Castellorizian Association] [appeal badge]

## Introduction

The motivation for this paper lies in a 1914 medalet of the Castellorizian Brotherhood of Western Australia which was illustrated (from an old photograph) in a 1996 book,<sup>[3]</sup> but for which no example was known. Recently, the author obtained an example which turned out to be a numismatic item of significant local historical interest. The medallion highlights the role of the Kastellorizians in establishing the Greek community in Perth from the arrival in 1886 in Fremantle of Athanasios Avgoustis to his eventual settling in Perth after 10 years working in Broome and Adelaide. Avgoustis was instrumental in establishing the Castellorizian Brotherhood of Western Australia in 1912 and played a large role in the development of the local Greek community.

## Castellorizian Brotherhood Medalet



(25.7mm, not to scale)

The (obverse) legends read

Η.ΕΝΩΣΙΣ ΚΑΣΤΕΛΛΟΡΙΖΙΑΚΗ ΑΔΕΛΦΩΤΗΣ/ΠΕΡΘΗ/Ω.Α./1914

which transliterate as (but see comments on the corrected Greek below)

THE UNION, KASTELLORIZIO BROTHERHOOD/PERTH/W.A./1914

The design shows the Greek and Australian flags, with two hands joined in friendship underneath. The Greek flag is a revolutionary pre-WWII version and refers to the uprising of 14<sup>th</sup> March 1913 (see the next paragraph) to form a union between Kastellorizo and Greece. The clasped hands were an early symbol of the Kastellorizian Brotherhood of Western Australia as indicated in the Association's seal described below. The medalet is 25.7mm in diameter and made from bronze. On the blank reverse there are traces of solder between 12 and 1 o'clock indicating that this had been made into a pin; it could have been sold as an appeal badge or, alternatively, it could have been a membership pin for the Brotherhood.



Greek flag of the revolution <sup>[6][7]</sup>

In 1911, Italy declared war on the Ottoman Empire and in 1912 conquered Rhodes. It also occupied the Southern Sporades (which it renamed the Dodecanese) except for Kastellorizo. In 1912, during the Libyan war between Italy and the Ottoman Empire, the Kastellorizians asked Giovanni Battista Ameglio, chief of the Italian occupation forces in Rhodes, for their island to be annexed to Italy. This was refused, and on 14<sup>th</sup> March 1913 the local population imprisoned the governor and his Ottoman garrison and proclaimed a provisional government. In July 1913, the Treaty of Lausanne recognised Italy's possession of the Dodecanese, but in August 1913, the Greek government sent a provisional governor supported by gendarmes from Samos. However, in early 1914 in Florence it was decided to return the island to the Ottoman Empire; the provisional governor left in October 1915.<sup>[20]</sup> This meant that the link with Greece established by the uprising was quite brief, but it did encompass the period when the medalet was designed and issued.

There does not seem to be any mention of this medalet in the Western Australian newspapers, or of any related appeal, although the Kastellorizian Associations around

the world did send funds to support the uprising.<sup>[9]</sup> So it could easily have been an appeal pin.

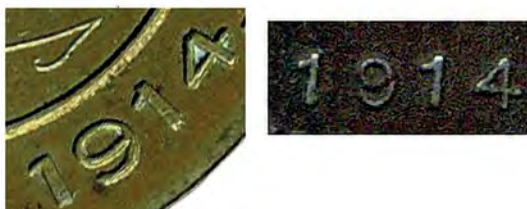
It is not clear who struck the medalet, but the only plausible local candidate was Richard Stanley Cumpston. The other main badge manufacturer Sheridan's (initially Austral Engraving Co) did not commence operation until 1915 and there were no other makers in Perth capable of producing such a piece other than the Perth Mint which demonstrated much finer die sinking skills. The contract could have been sent interstate or even overseas as was done quite often in the early part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century with the striking of both dog registration discs and the many medallions circulating in the State (the firm Stokes & Sons, Melbourne was regularly used for the latter). However, it is unlikely that this would have happened during the start of WWI and organised relatively quickly after news of the uprising reached Australia.

The next step is to look for similarities in the die work with other Cumpston products of that year. The closest candidate seems to be:




(23.43mm, not to scale)

and comparing the date fields:



there are certain similarities in style, especially the '914'. The same could be said about the shapes of the various letters used in the legends, but this brief analysis is far from conclusive. The fabrics of the medallions are quite similar.

It is apparent that the die sinker did not have any Greek letter punches as various Greek letters have been constructed from English letters or other symbols, for example TT rather than Π and the peculiar Θ (theta) in ΠΕΡ  H. Also, the 'dot' after the article H (the) at the beginning of the obverse legend makes no sense. These failings suggest a non-specialist die sinker in Perth rather than an item prepared elsewhere. Even using W.A. rather than Δ.Α. (Δυτική Αυστραλία is Greek for Western Australia) is inconsistent. Note that ΑΔΕΛΦΩΤΗΣ is incorrectly spelled; it should be ΑΔΕΛΦΟΤΗΣ, which indicates that the person who gave the text to the die sinker was not fully literate in the written Greek language.

## The Greeks in Western Australia

Greek settlement in Australia has been well documented in a range of publications, including the two-volume work by Hugh Gilchrist,<sup>[9]</sup> and the 2011 *Sydney Journal* article by Panayiotis Diamadis.<sup>[10]</sup> The latter contains an interesting overview of Greek settlement in Australia with mention of seven young Greek men, who had been convicted of piracy, arriving in Port Jackson aboard *Norfolk* on 27<sup>th</sup> August 1829; the Greek Orthodox Community of New South Wales (GOC), Sydney's oldest Hellenic organisation established in 1898; the first Orthodox Church in the southern hemisphere: Agia Triada (Holy Trinity), in Bourke Street, Surrey Hills; and the steady flow of migrants, mostly from Kastellorizo, Kythera and other islands of the Aegean and Ionian seas, who arrived in Sydney but largely scattered to rural centres around New South Wales and Queensland.

A listing of Greek organisations in Australia <sup>[11]</sup> from the Hellenic Resources Network (HRN) in Boston shows over 170 associations in the country, but by its very nature (it is kept up to date by volunteers relying on information provided by other sources) the list is not complete. For Western Australia HRN shows just nine organisations:

AHEPA-Archimedes Chapter No 10 (<http://www.ahepa.org.au/lodges-and-chapters/>)  
Council of Hellenic Associations of WA  
Floreat Athena Soccer Club (Inc) (<https://floreatathenafc.com.au/>)  
Greek Parents and Citizens Association  
Greek-Australian Professional & Business Association of WA (<https://www.hacciwa.com.au/>)  
Hellenic Association of Western Australia (Inc) (<http://hellenicclubwa.com.au/about-us/>)  
Hellenic Institute of Students Society Curtin University  
Hellenic Youth Association of WA (Inc)  
Olympic Kingsway Sports Club (Inc) (<https://olympic-kingsway.com.au/>)

and those listed without website URLs appear no longer to exist. There are also long-established organisations missing from the list including the Kastellorizian Association

of Western Australia (Inc) (Est 1912), and the Hellenic Community of WA (Inc) which was founded in 1923 and incorporated the following year; both are to this day very active. There are many more not listed, but this is not the point here. What is surprising is that with likely well over 200 such organisations across the country, relatively few Australian badges and medallions are known with a Greek connection.

### From Megisti to Perth

The island of Kastellorizo (Καστελλόριζο), officially Megisti (Μεγίστη) lies in the Dodecanese in



Image courtesy of <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kastellorizo>

the Eastern Mediterranean approximately halfway between the cities of Rhodes and Antalya (in Turkey). The Greek islands spread over the Mediterranean have their individual charm and beauty, but Kastellorizo is of particular interest in that a large portion of its 10,000 strong population at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century ended up in Australia, predominately in Perth and Sydney. For an overview see reference [2], and for more details reference [1].

One of the difficulties researching the various Greek names is the range of spellings and nicknames assigned. The first is in part due to different transliterations, the second arising either from settling into a new society and/or assigned by workmates and friends; many of these differences appear also in official documentation. This holds true for Athanasios Avgoustis, one of the key Greek settlers in the West, and his wife and children, where sources include reference [1] and reference [3] together with

- a. various issues of the (Western Australian) *Megisti Newsletter* (MN)
- b. Western Australia's Birth, Deaths and Marriages  
[https://bdm.justice.wa.gov.au/\\_apps/pioneersindex/default.aspx](https://bdm.justice.wa.gov.au/_apps/pioneersindex/default.aspx)
- c. Perth Metropolitan Cemeteries Board  
<https://portal.mcb.wa.gov.au/name-search>
- d. Ancestry <https://www.ancestry.com.au/family-tree/person/tree/156938401/person/212086461172>.

The Museum of Perth provides a detailed biography where he is listed as Athanase Auguste.<sup>[14]</sup>

Athanasios Avgoustis (Athanasius Auguste, Athanases [George] Auguste also known as Peter Angelo <sup>[4]</sup>) was born 14<sup>th</sup> January 1870 and emigrated from Kastellorizo in 1886 (MN 21) when the former was still under Turkish rule. He landed in Fremantle, travelled to Broome where he worked in the pearl industry, and subsequently cultivated oysters and served them in restaurants that he opened in Adelaide and Fremantle. This encouraged later immigrants from Kastellorizo to be involved in the fishing and fish restaurant industries. Avgoustis settled in Perth in 1896 and became a leading figure for the Kastellorizian community in Western Australia, or the *Kazzies* as they were known. He died 26<sup>th</sup> May 1932 (MN 4).

John Yiannakis has written:<sup>[4]</sup>

*Until recently it was accepted that the first Greek to arrive in W.A. was a Castellorizian - Arthur Auguste or Athanasios Augoustis. Augustis had stepped ashore at Broome sometime in 1890 or 1891 from Egypt. He spent a short while there before moving onto South Australia and then returned to the West in 1896. He soon sponsored his two cousins, the Manolas brothers, who followed him half way around the globe. This action began a classic process of chain migration from Castellorizo - Greece's eastern most island possession - to Western Australia. Other Castellorizians soon ventured from Europe and North Africa to Australia: brothers, cousins, wives, friends and eventually entire families made the journey across the world. The process, which Auguste had initiated, continued until well after World War II, by which time the island of Castellorizo had been depopulated.*

Peter Angelo was listed in the 1907 Western Australian Post Office Directory as having an Oyster Saloon at 157 Barrack St, Perth; the following image shows Athanasios Avgoustis with his family outside this very address in 1915.<sup>[15]</sup>





Clockwise from left: Dorothy (Dorothea), Athanasios, George (1<sup>st</sup> row), Mary (Maria), Eve (Evthokia), Anthony (Antonis), Denny (Demetrios) (2<sup>nd</sup> row) with Panaula (née Panayoula Komninou) sitting behind.

A 1925 advertisement <sup>[16]</sup> in the *West Australian* shows A. Auguste's Fish Supply at 372 - 376 Wellington St. In the early 1900s Peter Angelo was reported from time to time as being on the wrong side of the law, but a few years later Athanasios Avgoustis was a pillar of the Greek community.

An obituary of Athanases (which is the spelling used in the Metropolitan Cemeteries Index [Perth]) Auguste was published in the *West Australian* in 1932<sup>[17]</sup> and MN 4. Later, when various of his children were engaged his name was shown as Athanase.

### **Castellorizian Brotherhood of Western Australia**

The Castellorizian Association (Brotherhood) of Western Australia was established in 1912 with Avgoustis as its first President (1912-1925, 1928-1932). The Brotherhood, as it was called then, was the first Greek regional association established anywhere in Australia. Of the 139 Greeks residing in Perth at the time, approximately 100 were Kastellorizian. Its objective was to keep Kastellorizian culture and heritage alive, strong and relevant for the Greek diaspora in Western Australia.<sup>[5]</sup> Application for incorporation of the Association was made in 1918:<sup>[18]</sup>

*I, ATHANASIOS AUGUSTE, of Fremantle, in the State of Western Australia, one of the Trustees of THE CASTELLORIZIAN ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA, do hereby GIVE NOTICE that I am desirous that such Association should be incorporated under the provisions of The Associations Incorporation Act, 1895.*

*A. AUGUSTE.*

*The following is a copy of the memorial intended to be filed in the Supreme Court under the provisions of the said Act: Memorial of the Castellorizian Association of Western Australia, filed in pursuance of the Associations Incorporation Act. 1885.*

- 1. Name of the Institution: The Castellorizian Association of Western Australia.*
  - 2. Object or Purpose of the Institution: To provide a suitable place of resort for Castellorizians residing in Western Australia for the purpose of promoting and encouraging religion, benevolence, literature and education among the members of the Association.*
  - 3. Where Situated or Established: On premises situate at 122 William-street. Perth.*
  - 4. Name or Names of Trustee or Trustees: Michael Michelides, Athanasios Auguste, Kyriakor George Manolas.*
  - 5. In Whom the Management of the Institution is Vested and by What Means (whether by Deed, Settlement or Otherwise): In an executive council and committee elected by the members.*
- DURSTON and ACKLAND, Solicitors,  
Weld Chambers, St. George's-terrace.  
Perth.*

and the Association was the first to be incorporated (A0190001Z) in 1919 with its seal.





Image supplied by Stephanie Meagher

The clasped hands as a symbol of friendship have been used as far back as Ancient Rome, the symbol has appeared on coins, medallions and badges throughout the ages.



Balbinus antoninianus



Birmingham penny token



GUILD OF HELPING HAND

*Obv:* IMP CAES D CAEL BALBINVS AVG

*Rev:* CONCORDIA

Image supplied by John McDonald

Strangely, the Association is listed as having been incorporated 3<sup>rd</sup> January 1919 but was not listed in the Western Australian Government Gazette of that date (nor in any other Gazette as far as can be ascertained). As an aside, in the following month the 1919 Western Australian Government Gazette (p.249) listed the incorporation of the Hellenic Association of Western Australia on 21<sup>st</sup> February 1919.

Personal communication from Dr John Yiannakis advises that there is a photograph suggesting that the Castellorizian Brotherhood medalet could have been a membership pin; see reference [3], p.84. However, membership badges are usually dated (for larger organisations), but undated for smaller associations and clubs. Moreover, they are mostly numbered, which this one is not. If it were a membership pin, it seems strange that no other example has surfaced given that these would have been struck in greater numbers to cover a range of years and an expected increase in membership.

The Greek newspapers and newsletters in Western Australia do not help here as they were published much later:

*The Voice of Freedom* (=) *Η φωνή της ελευθερίας* (Perth, WA: 1956 - 1957)

*Hellenic Echo* (=) *Η ελληνική ηχώ* (Perth, WA: 1967 - 1968)

*Hellenism* (=) *Ελληνισμός* (for the first five years, *Mediterranean Voice*) (Perth, WA: Year 1, No. 1 (Dec. 1971) - Jan. 1980)

*Mejisti Messenger* (=) *Ο αγγελιοφόρος της Μεγίστης* (Mt Hawthorne, WA: 2008 – 2019)

### **Other Western Australian Greek numismatica**

#### **A planned commemorative medallion: 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the consecration of the Cathedral of Saints Constantine and Helene**

The Cathedral of Saints Constantine and Helene was erected in 1937 in Northbridge, an inner suburb of Perth and consecrated 18<sup>th</sup> April of that year. It maintained its Cathedral status until the late-1990s when a decision was made that the only Australian cathedral would be in Sydney.



*The church's architectural design was curated by Oldham, Boas and Ednie-Brown after they agreed with the Greek community to construct a church based on the design of the Saint Constantine Cathedral of Kastellorizo. The majority of the original iconography was painted by Kastellorizo-born*

*artist, Vlase Vanalis, with Greek artist, J. Krafilakis being commissioned to complete the interior iconography such as the ceiling and wall frescos.* <sup>[11]</sup>

There is reference to a George Krafilakis who painted frescos in the Catholic Chapel of St Michael the Archangel (West Leederville) in April 1952.<sup>[24]</sup> Personal communication from John Yiannikis details that the artist in both cases was in fact Antoni Karafyllakis during 1951-1952 with help from his brother Yianni; they returned to Greece around 1952.

The minutes of the Hellenic Community of WA held Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February 1987 referred to a gold medallion:

*The Secretary reported that he had contacted the Perth Mint and whilst the final product would be outstanding, the cost involved in minting a commemorative medallion with a gold content were (sic) prohibitive. Furthermore Chris Gogos was approached. Using a cast wax casting (sic) technique and (sic) acceptable gold medallion could be produced for about \$220 each. The committee whilst enthusiastic decided that other jewellers should be approached to obtain quotes before approval is given for the project.*

Curiously, the next mention of a gold medallion was just two weeks later, this time with reference to Sheridan's Engraving Company. The minutes of the Hellenic Community of WA held Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 1987 detailed a quote from Sheridan's for medallions celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the cathedral. Costs were as follows:

<i>Gold plated sterling silver</i>	<i>50 at \$17.85 each, 100 at \$13.50 each</i>
<i>9ct gold</i>	<i>50 at \$118.75 each, 100 at \$114.90 each</i>
<i>18ct gold</i>	<i>50 at \$296.10 each, 100 at \$292.20 each</i>

*Die and tooling costs are included, with prices exclusive of sales tax.*

*The size of the medallion would be that of a 10c piece. Dr Lekias suggested that approval be given to the secretary to produce the artwork for the medallion. The secretary reported that Mr Evan Nicholas would kindly donate his services for the artwork. Dr Lekias further suggested that the medallions be produced on a subscription basis so that people indicate how many and of what type they want and pay for it in advance so that the community does not have to out lay (sic) the costs of getting the medallions made. The secretary is to have the appropriate artwork ready by*

*the next meeting and suggested that selling prices would be \$420 for the 18ct and \$220 for the 9ct.*

Note that the proposed selling price for the 9ct medallion is the same as that quoted from jeweller Chris Gogos. The Dr Lekias mentioned here was Dr Michael Lekias, who died 26<sup>th</sup> December 2021 during the writing of this paper.

The following die was found in the Sheridan's archives:



The obverse die is scored, and the struck medallion diameter would have been 25.3mm.

50 ΕΤΗ ΕΠΙΕΤΕΙΟΣ ΕΓΚΑΙΝΙΩΝ 1937-1987 (=) 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONSECRATION 1937-1987

(The correct Greek version would be 50η ΕΠΙΕΤΕΙΟΣ ΕΓΚΑΙΝΙΩΝ 1937-1987)

ΝΑΟΣ ΑΓΙΩΝ ΚΩΝΣΤΑΝΤΙΝΟΥ ΚΑΙ ΕΛΕΝΗΣ (=) CHURCH OF SAINTS CONSTANTINE AND HELENE

(The correct Greek version would be ΙΕΡΟΣ ΝΑΟΣ ΑΓΙΩΝ ΚΩΝΣΤΑΝΤΙΝΟΥ ΚΑΙ ΕΛΕΝΗΣ)

ΠΕΡΘ Δ.Α. (=) Perth W.A.

(The correct Greek version would be ΠΕΡΘΗ Δ.Α.)

The minutes of 24<sup>th</sup> March 1987 showed:

*3. The Secretary circulated a mock up (sic) of the coin (sic) to be produced. It was decided that the Angels (sic) St. Constantine & Helene are to be depicted on the coin (sic). Furthermore enquiries are to be made to copyright the design and eventually*



*obtain the die. Also 18ct coins (sic) are to be hall marked (sic) and the approximate weight of gold is to be found out. Also an example of Sheridan's work is to be made available at the next meeting.*

*4. A plaque is to be placed on the Church commemorating the 50 years.*

The next mention of the medallion appeared in the minutes of 2<sup>nd</sup> April 1987:

*Mr Samiotis put the motion that all lettering on the commemorative medallions is to be done in Greek. Mr Doropolous seconded the motion. The motion was carried.*

Then in the minutes of 22<sup>nd</sup> September 1987:

*28.8.87 E. Staras, A. Panayotou, J. Anastasakis, L. Pitsikas, Mr and Mrs. Samiotis, C. Gupanis, A. Ventouras re: thank and return of their cheques for the 50th Anniversary gold medallions*

There is no mention of when between these last two dates a decision was made about not proceeding with the gold medallion. However one of the surviving members from the above committee, Gregory Doucas, has advised (personal communication to John Yianakakis) that the whole process ceased when it was discovered how expensive it would be. This explains the scoring of the die. So, what would the finished product have looked like? The die scoring has been done to render it useless, but reconstruction of the image using Photoshop gives a good indication:



Reconstructed image courtesy Katja Lambert

The minutes above also refer to a 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary plaque, but there is no sign of such a plaque in the church, nor any memory of it by the older members of the community.

Later in 2012, a 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary brooch (gilded) was struck by CT (company unknown to the author)



1937-2012/Saints/Constantine/&/Helene/Founder/HCWA//CT

### Cathedral plaques

The external wall of the Cathedral shows the following plaque referring to the land as having been donated by THE CASTELLORIZAN ASSOCIATION INC OF WA (this should of course read THE CASTELLORIZAN ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC). It is likely that the land purchase involved the wider Greek community rather than just the CAWA.



Engraved on marble

In the front garden there is another plaque by Wilson Engraver 31 James St, engraved on brass.



ΤΟ ΚΙΤΚΑΙΔΩΜΑ ΤΟΥΤΟ ΑΝΕΓΕΡΘΗ ΔΑΠΑΝΗ ΤΟΥ ΣΥΛΛΟΓΟΥ ΕΛΛΗΝΙΔΩΝ Δ. Α. (=) THE COST OF THIS RAILING WAS PAID BY THE HELLENIC ASSOCIATION OF GREEK WOMEN W.A.

Charles Richard Wilson was born 8<sup>th</sup> February 1886 in Newcastle-on-Tyne and emigrated to Perth with his wife Sarah in 1912 where he worked for a local engraver. He started up his own engraving company in 1921, and the first mention of this in *TROVE* was on 22 October 1928, which has Wilson's Engraving Works in 26 King St, Perth, and on 13 April 1935 the premises is listed at 31 James St. The above plaque was engraved two years later. By 6<sup>th</sup> June 1939 the company had moved to larger premises at 3 Queen's Place next to the Metro Theatre in William St. The principal, Mr. Charles Richard Wilson, died aged 55 on 31<sup>st</sup> July 1940. The company continued to advertise through to Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June 1949. <sup>[23]</sup>

### Hellenic Community of Western Australia 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary medallion

In 2012 the Perth Mint produced a 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary piece for the HCWA using a stock gilded medallion laser engraved:





### **Hellenic Community of Western Australia membership badge**



H.C.W.A./Sheridan's, (08) 93286855

In 2001 Sheridan's produced 300 membership clutch badges for the Community. Notice that of all the medallions and badges listed in this article, the HCWA membership badge is the only one showing the traditional orthodox cross.

### **Hellenic Community of Western Australia 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary brooch**

In 1973 Sheridan's struck a brooch for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of HCWA.



THE HELLENIC COMMUNITY OF W.A. (INC.)/50<sup>th</sup>./ANNIVERSARY/1923 – 1973/SHERIDAN

This was followed by a pendant badge/brooch for the 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2018.





ΣΥΝΔΕΣΜΟΣ ΑΠΑΝΤΑΧΟΥ ΚΑΣΤΕΛΛΟΡΙΖΙΩΝ /85 Χρόνια/17  
ΑΠΡΙΛΙΟΥ 1922 – 17. ΑΠΡΙΛΙΟΥ 2007  
8 AUG 2008/*Presented to*/K. Pitsikas

This piece shows the patriarchal cross, and has been awarded to Kiriakis Pitsikas, the very same Jack Pitsikas referred to in the acknowledgements below.

### **Castellorizian Association of Western Australia anniversary clutch badge**

In 2012 a so-far-unidentified company produced a clutch badge commemorating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the CAWA.



Stylised archer, cross and heart

There is also a smaller pin version for wearing in the lapel.

### **RSL Geraldton – Hellenic Sub-branch**

It is curious that there is a Hellenic Sub-branch of the RSL in the small regional city of Geraldton, but they are still active and have left a legacy in the community with the following plaque on the Geraldton War Memorial Wall:



<https://monumentaustalia.org.au/themes/conflict/multiple/display/107387-geraldton-memorial-wall->

The Sub-branch has a special badge, but unfortunately no image is available to the author.

### **John S Lekias Memorial Lecture in the Clinical Neurosciences**

In the 1990s Sheridan's struck a medallion for a memorial lecture in the Clinical Neurosciences commemorating Dr John Sion Lekias (1921 - 1983).

*John Lekias was born in Northam the son of Sios and Despina Lekias. He received his early education at Christian Brothers College (Perth WA) and later the University of Queensland. He joined the Royal Perth Hospital as a Resident Medical Officer in 1946. After undertaking further studies in the United Kingdom, he returned to the Hospital in 1954 as Clinical Assistant Neurosurgeon. In 1974 he was appointed Senior Neurosurgeon...John Lekias was the President of the AMA (WA Branch) 1976-77 and a member of the Federal Council at that time. John retired in 1983 when, in recognition of 30 years outstanding service to the hospital, he was appointed Emeritus Consultant Neurosurgeon.<sup>[25]</sup>*



Image courtesy Jess Green

JOHN S. LEKIAS/•MEMORIAL LECTURE IN THE CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCES/1921 \_\_\_\_  
(bust facing half right \_\_\_\_ 1983  
(ornate bordered rectangle)/PERTH/WESTERN AUSTRALIA

There is scant mention of the Memorial Lecture anywhere much less details of the medallion. Dr Nicholas T Zervas gave the John S Lekias Memorial Lecture in 1997 <sup>[28]</sup>, and Associate Professor Shelly Weiss, a paediatric neurologist at Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children and past president of the Canadian Sleep Society, was brought to Perth by the Australian Medical Association WA and gave the John S Lekias Memorial Lecture at the University of Western Australia on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2014 <sup>[29]</sup>.

## Australian medallions and badges with Greek themes

### Medallions

Carlisle 1962/11 (Maker AMOR, Sydney)

NO IMAGE AVAILABLE

(GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH WOLLONGONG)

Size 31mm

Metal Aluminium

Mintage 2,000

Carlisle 1968/12 (Maker K G Luke, Melbourne)

NO IMAGE AVAILABLE

ΕΛΛΗΝΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΟΣ ΙΕΡΟΣ ΝΑΟΣ ΑΓΙΟΥ ΙΩΑΝΝΟΥ (=) ST JOHN'S GREEK  
ORTHODOX CHURCH

Size 48mm

Metal Gilded

Mintage 300

Carlisle 1976/12 (Maker AMOR, Sydney)



ST. ANDREW (=ΑΓΙΟΣ ΑΝΔΡΕΑΣ)/ΟΙΚΟΥΜΕΝΙΚΟΝ ΠΑΤΡΙΑΡΧΕΙΟΝ (=) ECUMENICAL  
PATRIARCHATE

(50<sup>th</sup> ΕΠΕΤΕΙΟΣ/ΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΗ) ΠΕΝΤΗΚΟΝΤΑ ΕΤΗΡΙΣ/ΙΕΡΑ ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΗ ΑΥΣΤΡΑΛΙΑΣ (=) 50<sup>TH</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY/ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AUSTRALIA /SEP.1976/1924 - 1974

Carlisle <sup>[26]</sup> lists both the sterling silver version (mintage 500) and the brass version (mintage 10,000), the latter for distribution to parishioners around the country. The medallion (diameter 31mm) shows the cross of St Andrew.

Carlisle 1979/38 (Maker A J Parkes Brisbane)



GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF ST. GEORGE/BRISBANE (=) ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΗ  
ΚΟΙΝΟΤΗΤΑ ΑΓΙΟΥ ΓΕΩΡΓΙΟΥ - ΒΡΙΣΒΑΝΗΣ

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY (= ΧΡΥΣΗ ΕΠΕΤΕΙΟΣ)/1929-1979

Size 38mm Metal Bronze, Gilded Mintage 80 - n/k

Carlisle 1987/19 (Maker A J Parkes Brisbane)



TO/COMMEMORATE/ THE UNVEILING OF THE/ STATUE OF/ THEMIS./ THE GREEK GODDESS OF JUSTICE/ AT THE LAW COURTS IN BRISBANE/ DONATED TO/ THE PEOPLE OF QUEENSLAND/ BY/ ANGELO A. EFSTATHIS CBE./ 19th February 1987  
Size 51mm Metal Gilded Mintage n/k

Carlisle 1988/11 (Maker AMOR Sydney)



GREEK ORTHODOX/ARCHDIOCESE OF/1848\_\_\_1988/CATHEDRAL THE ANNUNCIATION/ OF OUR LADY -REDFERN-  
ON THE OCCASION/OF THE OPENING OF/ THE CATHEDRAL/ AS A/ BICENTENNIAL PROJECT/11-9-88  
Size 49x49mm Metal Silvered – Gilded (blank reverse) Mintage 100 - 500

Carlisle G/7 (Maker AMOR Sydney c 1970s)





ΣΧΟΛΙΚΟΝ ΚΤΗΡΙΟΝ ΚΟΙΝΟΤΗΤΟΣ BRUNSWICK ΚΑΙ COBURG (=) SCHOOL COMMUNITY  
BUILDING OF BRUNSWICK AND COBURG  
(The correct Greek version would be ΚΤΙΡΙΟ ΚΟΙΝΟΤΙΚΟΥ ΣΧΟΛΕΙΟΥ BRUNSWICK ΚΑΙ COBURG)  
GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF BRUNSWICK AND COBURG  
Size 32mm Metal Gilded Mintage 2,000

## Badges

### 1922 - End of the Greek-Turkish war

This was a year of turmoil in Greece with its defeat by Turkey in the war in Western Anatolia. The highlight events surrounding this were:

Greco-Turkish war 15<sup>th</sup> May 1919 – 11<sup>th</sup> October 1922

Revolution in Greece 11<sup>th</sup> September 1922

Greece-Turkey population exchange

Treaty of Lausanne

The following pendant badge might have represented a show of solidarity by the Greek Orthodox Community in Sydney or served as an Appeal badge for the raising of funds for the war refugees:



1922 pendant badge (Maker SIMES, Sydney)



Naval ensign (1863–1924 and 1935 – 1973) <sup>[6]</sup>

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΟΣ ΚΟΙΝΟΤΗΣ ΕΝ ΣΥΔΝΕΥ (=) GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY IN SYDNEY

(The correct Greek version would be ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΗ ΚΟΙΝΟΤΗΤΑ ΣΥΔΝΕΥ.)

This badge most likely marks the end of the Greek-Turkish War in October 1922.

## 1929 Near and Far

The news column NEAR AND FAR first appeared in the Sydney Morning Herald in 1914, but as a column for women, it appears its first appearance was in 1916 (<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article15669628>) with its first specific designation as a Women's Column in 1918 (<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article15796549>).

On 5<sup>th</sup> August 1929 NEAR AND FAR the Hellenic Ball was in support of the Greek Cathedral Fund and the Royal Hospital for Women in Sydney (<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article16548484>):

*Mrs. John Garlick presided at a meeting at the Australia on Wednesday, when a committee was formed to organise the Hellenic Ball at the Ambassadors on August 5, for the joint benefit of the Greek Cathedral fund and the Royal Hospital for Women. Lady de Chair has given her patronage to the ball. A thousand numbered celluloid buttons showing the Greek flag will be sold to assist the funds, and prizes will be awarded to the holders of the winning numbers.*

NEAR AND FAR. (1929, May 1). *The Sydney Morning Herald* (NSW: 1842 - 1954), p. 10. Retrieved December 10, 2021, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article16563035>



Image courtesy Ronald Allan Heathcote

While the above is indeed a numbered (926) celluloid button, it shows the Greek cross rather than the advertised Greek flag.

## Late 1940 to 1945

With the Italian invasion of Greece on 28<sup>th</sup> October 1940, Greek Ex-Servicemen's Associations were formed around the world, with that of South Australia incorporated in 1946.

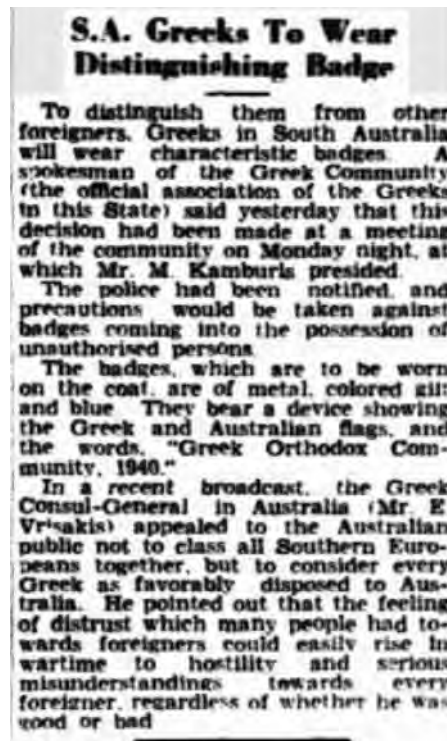


Image courtesy Ed Hunter



Image courtesy Rob Goddard

The Adelaide Advertiser published the following article in 1940 <sup>[30]</sup>.



The badge in question is the first shown above. The second celebrates Ohi Day or Oxi Day (Επέτειος του Όχι (=) 'Anniversary of the No') also in 1940. Ohi Day is celebrated throughout Greece and the Greek communities around the world on 28<sup>th</sup> October each year. It commemorates the rejection by Greek Prime Minister Ioannis Metaxas of the ultimatum made by Italian dictator Benito Mussolini on 28th October 1940, and the Hellenic counterattack against the invading Italian forces at the mountains of Pindus during the Greek-Italian War.<sup>[27]</sup>



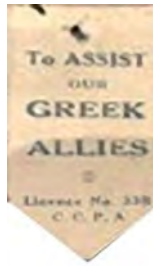


Image courtesy Nick Van

Various Greek relief fund appeals commenced in 1941 to provide comforts to Greek soldiers fighting in Albania.

GREEK DAY APPEAL. (1941, February 27). *The West Australian* (Perth, WA: 1879 - 1954), p. 10. Retrieved December 10, 2021, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article47310810>, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article44912311>

**GREEK DAY APPEAL.**

**Arrangements for Tomorrow.**

The "Greek Day" appeal to raise funds to provide comforts for the Greek soldiers fighting in Albania, will be conducted throughout the State tomorrow. The appeal is being organised by the Lord Mayor's Fighting Greeks Fund committee, and the W.A. Sportsmen's Council, assisted by the Returned Soldiers' League and members of the Greek community in Perth.

A special programme for the appeal will be broadcast tonight from national station SWF. The programme will commence at 8.30 o'clock and will include a relay of an appeal by the Duchess of Kent at 8.30, followed by talks by the Minister for the Navy (Mr. Hughes), the Premier (Mr. Wilcock), and the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Latham). At 10 p.m. the secretary of the Hellenic community (Mr. I. C. Mandalis) will broadcast from station 6ML, and this will be followed by a programme of Greek music.

Collectors to assist with the appeal tomorrow are needed, and women willing to help are asked to report to the office of the fund in London Court.

**Worthiness of the Appeal.**

The Mayor of Fremantle (Mr. F. E. Gibson) said yesterday that he commended to the people of the Fremantle district the worthiness of the appeal. "We are all aware of the heroic struggle which these people have been putting up against the common enemy and in face of fearful odds," he said. "This is the first occasion on which any appeal has been made on their behalf and I am confident that the response will be commensurate with our admiration of the courageous fight which is going on, and their dire necessity. Empire forces are fighting side by side with the Greeks and any help given to them is strengthening the hands of our forces."

**Donations to Fund.**

A donation of 10/ from "Old Bill" increased the Lord Mayor's fund to £1,878/9/3 yesterday. Contributions will be received by the City Treasurer (Mr. H. W. Taylor) at the municipal offices, Murray-street, Perth.



These badges will be sold in aid of the Greeks to-day. The top one will be sold for £1, those below it at 10/ (for the one on the left), and 2/ and the buttons at 1/ (for the large one) and 6d.



Greek Day 20/- 1941



Greek Day 10s 1941

Images courtesy David Anderson



GREEK DAY/1941//2/- ANGUS &  
COOTE/SYDNEY



GREEK DAY 19\_\_41,1/- and 6<sup>D</sup>



Images courtesy David Anderson



Of the two immediately above, the first is a pin-back button, the second a celluloid card with pin <sup>[31]</sup>. South Australian coastal settlements like Thevenard near Ceduna were a popular destination for interwar Greek islander migrants. The card was manufactured by Sharples Printery in Adelaide. <sup>[32]</sup>

### 1953 Greek earthquake relief fund

The 1953 Ionian earthquake (also known as the Great Kefalonia earthquake) struck the southern Ionian Islands in Greece on 12<sup>th</sup> August 1953. In mid-August there were over 113 recorded earthquakes in the region between Kefalonia and Zakynthos, with the most destructive being the 12<sup>th</sup> of August earthquake.



Images courtesy David Anderson



<https://collection.maas.museum/object/92419>

### Other pins (unattributed)



2/- /GREEK DAY OF CHARITY  
Image courtesy David Anderson



AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY (NSW) GREEK BRANCH  
A.S. Patrick, Summer Hill      A. W. Patrick, N. Fitzroy

The above listing is not meant to be exhaustive; it just gives an idea of the range of Greek-Australian numismatic items.

## Conclusion

Greek migration has played a significant role in Australia for more than 150 years with sizeable communities in all the country's main cities. However, except for the main funds appeals for Greek victims of World War II and the 1953 earthquake disaster, there have been only a small number of Australian badges and medallions with a Greek connection, with most of the latter celebrating anniversaries of Greek churches. This seems to be the pattern with many of the immigrant communities in Australia, whose ties to their homeland remain strong notwithstanding their absorption into their new country.

It is remarkable that Western Australia would see the first known Greek-Australian numismatic item dating as far back as 1914, the next known Greek-Australian piece being the Sydney pendant badge of 1922. The author expects more Greek-Australian numismatic items to come to light, hopefully because of this paper.

## Acknowledgments

I am grateful to Dr John Yiannakis for extensive conversations on the Kastellorizian migration to Western Australia, to Dr Patricia Koromvokis and Fr. Athanasias Giatsios for correcting my deficient use of the Greek language and providing translations, and to Associate Professor Gillan Davis for helping with transliterating the Greek and editing the manuscript. I am also very appreciative of the opportunity to talk with Nina and Jack (Kiriakis) Ptsikas who were generous with their time in discussing local Greek badges and medallions and allowing me to photograph theirs. Other images sent to me from interstate are acknowledged in the text, as is the image reconstruction of the unissued Cathedral medallion by graphics designer Katja Lambert.

## About the author

*Walter Bloom is Emeritus Professor of Mathematics at Murdoch University and Honorary Curator (Numismatics) at the Western Australian Museum. Professor Bloom is President of both the Numismatic Association of Australia and the Perth Numismatic Society. He is a regular contributor to the Perth Numismatic Journal and the Journal of the Numismatic Association of Australia and has recently co-authored a book (Hesperian Press) with Alf Campbell titled Dog registration discs in Western Australia. Professor Bloom is currently working on a book Camel and goat registration discs in Western Australia as part of his ongoing research into Western Australian numismatica.*

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# *Journal of the Numismatic Association of Australia Inc (JNAA)*

## **Guidelines for authors**

Submitted articles can be on any worthwhile numismatic topic, keeping the following guidelines in mind:

*Subject matter:* should offer new information or throw new light on any area of numismatics, ancient through modern, though preference is given to Australian and New Zealand related material.

*Submitted articles:* should be as much as possible the result of **original research**. Articles must not have been published previously or be under consideration for publication elsewhere.

### **All submitted articles are refereed before being accepted for publication**

#### ***Submissions:***

*Articles:* should be sent as an email attachment as an MS Word file, .doc or .rtf format following the layout in the last volume.

*Images and tables:* submit article images and tables individually and separately to the text document in high resolution JPEGs or TIFFs for images, or a separate MS Word or MS Excel document for tables. DO NOT supply images and tables only within the body of your document.

*Author statement:* supply a brief numismatic biographical statement which will be appended to the published article with full name and email address.

#### ***Article format details:***

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