

THE “*CONDER*” TOKEN

COLLECTOR’S JOURNAL

THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONDER TOKEN COLLECTOR’S CLUB

Winter 2017 Consecutive Issue #73

A Novel Approach to Taking Pictures of Edges



19th Century Tokens



The First British Tokens?



Token Congress 2016 --- You should have been there!

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New Members

A warm welcome to our newest members:

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Mr. Andrey Filimonov,

Moscow, Russia

More thoughts on the passing of John Whitmore

The token collecting community was shocked to hear of the passing of John Whitmore just a short time before the 2016 Token Congress. John was one of the pillars of the British numismatic scene, wearing many different hats in some of the organizations he belonged to, especially with the British Numismatic Trade Association. His knowledge of coins, medals and especially tokens was abundantly clear in the sheer volume of price lists that he issued (these will take up several linear feet on any collector's bookshelf!). In his advertisements he would apologize for the length of his lists -- but no apology was needed. Every one of his customers was thrilled when one showed up in their mailbox, and immediately an hour two would be set aside to go through them and hurriedly e-mailing John in order to reserve pieces they needed (and those of us in the former colonies usually missing out since the mail was slower in getting here than it was to people in the UK!). John's lists were a throwback to lists of the previous decade, including those of S&B Coins and Coins of Beeston. That meant that while there were huge quantities of tokens, there was also great variety -- if you collected 17th, 18th or 19th century there would be something for you. If you liked pub checks, dairy tokens, telephone tokens, engraved coins, transportation tokens or just about any other field chances are there would be something on that list -- and if not, certainly on the next one! Collectors will remember the bizarre methods used in those lists -- one would not order a token by saying "I want the Middlesex 203" but instead would have to give a 5 or 6 digit code of letters and numbers; I had always wondered how John kept his things organized, but his method certainly worked for him as he would be able to quickly get back to you and let you know if something was already sold. For us American collectors -- a nation bad at geography to begin with, and especially so when it concerns other countries -- his lists would also be something of a learning experience, because instead of listing tokens by county as in D&H they would be listed by town -- so if you didn't know that Sleaford was in Lincolnshire, you had something to learn -- and resorting to Google in some instances meant looking at web sites for those towns and thinking "wow, that is lovely - -I really must visit there!" I finally met John in person 4 or 5 years ago at the Token Congress, and found him to be EXACTLY as I had expected. Sincere, honest, always eager to learn new things -- and even more eager to share what he knew. His enthusiasm was contagious and his absence will be felt.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE FEBRUARY 2017

Dear Friends,

It seems that old man Winter is hard at it, good time to sit and review your token collection. This is going to be an interesting year, we Americans have a new president, for better or for worse, and everyone has an opinion. I find it best to not say what I think, in any direction. Oh well, put politics aside, let's keep our token friends.

There is news from the UK, those of you who follow the auction scene will find it changed---Baldwin's name has been purchased again---The buyer, I understand, is Steven Fenton, and he has launched a new firm, "Baldwin's of St. James" Auction house. ---thus the Baldwin name will march on, under the leadership of Fenton, who runs Knightsbridge Coins, and St. James Auction. For our token interest, it is hard to know where it is going to go. Fenton seems to have Baldwin's mailing list, and I am sure we will soon know more. I understand the Baldwin coin sales department still exists, with new numismatists and new management under Neil Paisley.

I for one miss the friendly surroundings of 11 Adelphi Terrace that Baldwins had for many years. A very relaxed place, it had a nice group of numismatists, gentlemen and ladies all, a nice place to sit and look at tokens. I was blessed with the ability to go into the medals room and look through the general stock, pick out what I might want, and take it to the counter. Try that in an American firm!!

As to the auction at Baldwins this last October, I was again quite successful, and if you bid, I hope you were too. This sale had many singles, as in BB-I and BB-II, but BB-III also had many group lots. Some of the group lots were amazingly nice, overall, and some had rarities not seen in a while. I bought quite a few groups as well as a good number of single tokens, so came away happy.

New events -- there will, I am sure, be an auction at DNW, probably sometime in October, (4th?) and the Token Congress will be in Warwick at the Hilton, 6, 7, 8, October. Not sure of the price, but around 190 pounds, I think, for the two nights, five meals, and the talks, and the bourse!! Come if you can, I will help you make arrangements if you wish. Coinex has been moved to being earlier in the year, Sept 22 and 23 --- which makes the timing less than optimal relative to the Congress.

Lastly, the CTCC has finally managed to get all the back Journals scanned, this with a big thanks to **ED MOORE**---and they are now on the CTCC's Web Site, with a thanks to **JON LUSK** and **ERIC HOLCOMB**!! I did nothing, as usual, but am happy it has happened, we have been working toward it for years. If you are a member you now have a password you can use to get into the back issues. A wonderful present!!

I will be retiring as President of the CTCC, so everyone, please think about running for office!!

Happy collecting,

