



# BATHURST STAMP, COIN, COLLECTABLES & LAPIDARY CLUB INC

# NEWSLETTER

## Issue 225

MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE FIRST MONDAY EACH MONTH - EXCEPT JANUARY.  
**AT THE CLUBHOUSE (OLD EGLINTON FIRE SHED), PARK STREET, EGLINTON.**  
Meetings commence at 7.30pm. Enquires 63315404 AH or write P.O. Box 9156, Bathurst 2795  
Editor [amcrae@lisp.com.au](mailto:amcrae@lisp.com.au) [www.philas.org.au/bathurst](http://www.philas.org.au/bathurst)

### SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2020 - UPCOMING PROGRAM

7th September **Monday - Monthly Meeting - 7.30pm** – Remember your ‘Latest Acquisition’. The extension arrives about now so the workshop is closed from 8th September until the work is completed.

**NOTE – Any Holiday Workshops will be dependant on whether the extension is completed enough.**

8th - 9th October **If possible - Thursday – Friday - Student School Holiday Lapidary Workshops - Workshop #05-20** –Presented by the Bathurst Stamp, Coin, Collectables & Lapidary Club Inc. Lapidary is the cutting and polishing of minerals, gemstones and rocks to be used for jewellery or display. Learn the skills of cutting and polishing minerals and rocks in a two day workshop, with the possibility to set polished stones - all materials and instruction provided. Venue: Old Fire Shed – Park Street, Eglinton (next to Tennis Courts), Minimum Age - 7 years old. Cost - \$30.00 – includes Junior membership of the Club (\$5) and \$25 to cover materials etc. Times - Starts 9.00 am – finish approx. 3.00 pm on each day. Bring your own lunch, morning tea provided. Wear enclosed shoes (joggers). Numbers limited - 6 per workshop for safety reasons, so get your name down early! Pre-payment required for registration to be confirmed. CONTACT: Paul Martenz 63321017 or 0427 896 945 or email [martenz.paul@gmail.com](mailto:martenz.paul@gmail.com) for Registration and Payment details. Book in NOW!

12th October **Monday - Monthly Meeting - 7.30pm** – Remember your ‘Latest Acquisition’. Note - meeting is being held a week later due to the long weekend.

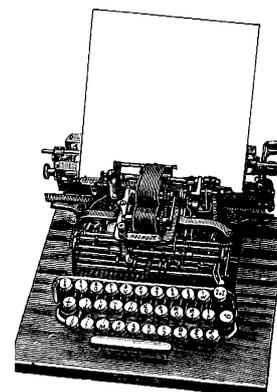
2nd November **Monday – Annual General Meeting & Monthly Meeting** - at the club Rooms at the special time of 7pm before the ordinary meeting at 7.30pm. Nomination forms, Club positions and position descriptions documents have been sent out. Please have a look at them and nominate a person for a position if you wish. Completed Nomination Forms must be submitted by 28th October (bring to Club rooms on 27th October if you need signatures, or post or email). No nominations will be taken from the floor if Nomination Forms for a particular position have been submitted prior to the meeting. Nominations from the floor will be accepted for other positions. Don’t forget your exhibit for the Club Competition – ‘A display to show the type of items you collect.’ Also remember your ‘Latest Acquisition.’

### PRESIDENT’S REPORT

I hope you are all managing during this pandemic that is prevalent all over the world. We have been faring quite well in the Bathurst area, but I feel it is only luck and that we have bigger open spaces. I hope you are enjoying this unpredictable weather from snow and very windy days, though the last few days have been very pleasant. It has been nice up here, so keep yourself warm and healthy.

Our Club Rooms will be closed from Tuesday the 8th September which is the anticipated arrival of the shed extension. Construction will commence soon after. Please be sure to keep an eye on your emails for when the rooms will be open for business after the construction has been completed.

Try to attend our next monthly meeting which is taking place on Monday 7th September, starting at 7.30 pm at the Club Rooms. It will be held under Covid-19 conditions. Feel free to wear a face mask if you wish.







The Colony of Victoria was founded in July 1851 and at the same time it was announced that gold had been discovered by Louis Michel, a publican, and his partner William Habberlin at Anderson's Creek, Warrandyte, near Melbourne. Ironically, small bags of gold had been being secretly sent to Melbourne for assaying as early as January 1849 and were being sold to jewellers. It soon became evident that the Victorian goldfields contained immense wealth. Soon men took up their Californian cradles, picks and shovels to head to inland Victoria. Finds had been found at Buninyong and Ballarat. Soon a canvas town grew up as the numbers of hopeful diggers steadily increased. Before the discovery of gold in Victoria it had a population of some 77,000 and within ten years it had grown to 500,000. Bendigo also has its origins from the 'diggings' but Ballarat was to prove the world's richest goldfield.

Evan Rowlands must be considered a pioneer in this country for his contribution to the aerated water and cordial industry. He was born in August 1826, in the small town of Corris, Merionethshire in North Wales. As a lad he worked for a cordial manufacturer who also sold mineral waters. Obviously he heard about the discovery of gold in 1852 and saw an opportunity in a new land so he immigrated to Melbourne. He first tried his luck around Melbourne to find gold. In 1854 he headed to Ballarat to try his luck and was to form a partnership with Robert Lewis, another miner in another venture.

They set up their aerated cordial business firstly in a canvas tent on the edge of Yuilles Swamp (now called Lake Wendouree) where the local miners obtained their water. The two men were fortunate to find a fresh supply of water which was clear and limpid. "Rowlands & Lewis" commenced their business. The miners were a ready market but there were also more than a dozen other similar businesses with the same product. The two men needed an edge and this was to come in the form of a new bottling machine - a Taylor's No 1, which was imported from England. With their range of mineral and aerated drinks they also produced liquors and bitters. From this time, it seems, they were not to look back.

Rowlands was a believer in 'mineral waters' and the two partners read all they could about the product from overseas, especially Europe. He strongly believed that it would also exist in Victoria so he paid two experts to attempt to find it. They were successful at Mount Warrenheip with the water from this natural spring being very clear. This water contained sufficient mineral properties so as not to require any additional salts or other minerals. It was also remarkably free of any trace of organic matter. When the supply was analysed it was found to have been similar to the celebrated mineral waters of the famous European supplies. The 'new water' proved popular not only with the miners but also for the sick and invalid. Their mineral water was used in the local 'hospital' and was also being sent to Melbourne. Their Seltzer water was transported to the site. They soon began to have supply problems - they could not produce large enough quantities of their now popular flavoured aerated waters, fast enough. The growth saw the two men build a new large, spacious factory. At this factory, on the corner of Dawson and Sturt Streets in Ballarat, they installed steam power to drive the new bottling machines which they had imported at a cost of around £1,000.



By the early 1870s the business was experiencing problems supplying Melbourne, so the partners, in 1873, established another new business at 116 - 118 Collins Street in Melbourne. In 1876, due to poor health, Robert Lewis decided to retire from the business and Evan Rowlands took over on his own and Rowlands Pty Ltd came into being. It was around this time that Rowlands heard about an Englishman, Hiram Codd, who had come up with the idea, designed and developed a bottle with an internal stopper which would not impede the flow of the contents when it was being poured out. Codd's bottle had projecting ridges (called dimples) along the inside of the neck, usually one on either side to hold the glass (and occasionally ceramic) marble which constituted the stopper. By turning the bottle at the right angle when pouring, the marble stayed out of the opening. The method of trapping the stopper is unique to the Codd bottle. Rowlands obviously wrote to Codd about his new bottle.

Evan Rowlands must have been impressed as he bought the sole rights to use Codd's patented bottles and bottling system in Australia in 1876. Large quantities of the 'four way' Codd marble bottles (left) were soon imported along with the necessary equipment.

Rowland's earlier supplies of marble bottles were imported from England but later Australian bottle manufacturing companies, such as Vance and Ross, Alexander's Bottle Works in Sydney and the Melbourne Glass Works also began to make the marble bottles. As there was no deposit payable on empty bottles in the early days Rowland's new marble bottle became a favourite with children who constantly smashed them to get

out the marble to play with or add to their collection. So great was the problem that it sent many aerated cordial manufacturers broke, fortunately Rowlands was not one of them.

With the number of requests for his drinks in Sydney, Evan Rowland decided to look at the situation there. He was aware that his beverages were already being sent to Sydney by ship from Melbourne. At first only a warehouse was used to store drinks that had been sent from Melbourne but two years later in 1886 a factory was built at the corner of Burns Street and Hay Street at Darling Harbour at a cost of £5,000. Two elaborate buildings in English style were constructed on the site, both two storey. Sign writers put signage around the top of the main building – “E ROWLAND’S AERATED & MINERAL WATER WORKS.” Both buildings were unusually shaped as they followed the street lines and again the



establishment had the latest machinery available. Not long after Rowlands began to market their “Ye Olde English Ginger Beer” in champagne shaped two tone stone bottles. These were ink stamped with ‘Ballarat, Sydney & Melbourne.’ One of Rowland’s main competitors was John Starkey who had taken over the business started by his father William Starkey in 1838. Starkey’s was a household name in Sydney and had a high reputation, especially with brewed ginger beer.

**Left** - An amber coloured blob top soda of Rowlands - Ballarat, Melbourne and Sydney. The death of Hiram Codd on Monday, 18th February, 1887, aged 50 years, must have been a shock to Rowlands, however he continued to use the marble bottles. Suitable springs were finally located at Katoomba in the Blue Mountains west of Sydney and a lease was drawn up with the New South Wales Government. The New South Wales Government Railways received the contract to cart the water from Katoomba to the Sydney factory but it soon became obvious that this arrangement would not be satisfactory so a new factory was constructed at Katoomba. A large sign was later erected telling patrons that Rowland’s “Table Waters, Cordials, Liquors & C were by appointment to Vice Royalty.” Rowlands had new Codd bottles made which featured the ‘four dimples’, only this time the names of Ballarat, Melbourne, Katoomba and Sydney were embossed on it. The new Melbourne factory began construction at this time also.

A new depot was established at Newcastle in New South Wales in 1890 with supplies being sent from the Sydney factory by boat. Some eight years later there was a mishap with a shipment and it failed to arrive. In 1898 the news that the vessel ‘Maitland’, along with its cargo, had been wrecked was sent back to Sydney by telegraph to be greeted by disbelief and horror. The ‘Maitland’ was an iron paddle steamer and held a romantic place in the hearts of many along the New South Wales coast where it had spent twenty eight years on the Newcastle-Sydney run. The 880 ton steamer belonged to the Newcastle and Hunter River Steam Ship Company and was used to carry passengers and freight from Newcastle to Sydney and back again. The paddle steamer



had been built in 1870 in Glasgow and sailed out to Australia.

It was the 5th May, 1898, and gentle rain had begun to fall in the afternoon as the loading of the ‘Maitland’ was completed. A south-easterly wind began to blow during the evening and the “old salts” felt that it was an ominous sign after the dry spell. The ‘Maitland’ left Sydney at around 11pm in the evening and proceeded down the harbour. On board was a heavy cargo and over fifty passengers with Captain Skinner in charge. One consignment on board was a number of crates of Rowland’s cordials, in Codd bottles, bound for the Rowlands depot in Newcastle. As the night went on the wind gathered more force, in fact so strong was the wind that verandas, roofes and trees throughout Sydney came tumbling down. Boats tugged at their

moorings in the harbour, many broke away, and it added to an ominous warning.

So too, the ‘Maitland’, out on the harbour, was finding the going rough as even before leaving Sydney Harbour huge seas hit it, smashing her fanlights and extinguishing all lights in the saloon. It soon became evident to both the crew and passengers that the journey would be very unpleasant but as the vessel had been through many storms before the crew were not worried.

About 1am when the 'Maitland' was well out to sea the waves began to "play havoc with the deckhouses on the starboard side." Temporary repairs were attempted and as this was being done part of the deck cargo of machinery broke loose and stove holes near the paddle wheels allowing water in. The captain soon realised that they needed to lighten the load so it was all spare hands to work to throw the cargo over the sides. The heavy seas continued to break over the vessel and it was rapidly taking on more water. The pumps were unable to cope. In the darkness Captain Skinner was unable to judge the steamer's position, in fact it was so dark that they could not even see the lights of the Barrenjoey lighthouse. The captain changed course to make for Broken Bay as buckets tied to ropes were being lowered into the holds in a vain attempt to try to get more water out of the vessel.

The boilers were also becoming a problem as they too were being affected by the water. Wood and kerosene were "liberally used" but the fires were extinguished and the engines lost steam and ceased to function - the vessel was now completely helpless. The 'Maitland' was about two miles off the coast being blown towards the rocks and nothing could be done. Lifebelts were handed out and passengers were reassured by the crew but told that the steamer may not stay afloat too long. Finally, around 5.45am, the 'Maitland' hit the rocks with the heavy seas breaking over the steamer. Then, with tremendous force, the ocean seemed to pick up the vessel and swung it around, breaking it amidships between the funnels. The chief officer was washed out of the rigging and a number of steerage passengers were washed into the surging surf as the fore section rolled over and over. Two unsuccessful attempts were made to get a line ashore before a passenger was successful and a thick rope was tied to a boulder on shore. Many passengers and crew then proceeded to hand over hand to safety until the rope broke and three souls were swept into the boiling surf, never to be seen again. Six people stayed on board, the captain, three firemen, the boatswain Carl Johansen and a baby girl, until low tide when another line was run to the wreck and these remaining survivors crossed to shore on the rope.



Reports that the steamer 'Maitland' had run ashore caused even more excitement in Sydney. To add to the confusion many telegraph and phone lines had been damaged and broken in the gale force winds so information on the fate of the steamer was at first, scarce. Finally came a report from the Barrenjoey lighthouse that "an object that looks like a steamer ashore about four and a half miles from Barrenjoey, one and a half miles from Cape Three Points. The sea is apparently breaking over her. Weather too thick to see her distinctly. Supposed to be the 'Maitland'. By the following Saturday the tragic news was being reported in the Sydney Morning Herald. The 'Maitland' had been blown off course in the raging seas that had been whipped up by the gale force winds. Fortunately the vessel had crashed upon the rocks but not with the total loss of life as first feared. Of the sixty three passengers and crew, twenty four vanished. Many of the survivors had been injured as they were dashed against the rocks. **Left** – A codd bottle from the 'Maitland' wreck. The insurer, the South British Insurance Office, launched an investigation into the tragedy as did the New South Wales Government. In 1957 two fishermen recovered the 'Maitland's' bell which was incorporated into a memorial nearby. They also recovered several complete Rowland's codd bottles with the town names - Ballarat, Melbourne and Sydney. The Rowland's Katoomba plant was quite well situated to serve the central west of New South Wales as well as Sydney. They were able to send wooden crates of aerated waters by rail to places west such as Lithgow, Bathurst and Orange. One Bathurst aerated cordial manufacturer at the time, Mr. A.B. James, was rather put out by the products that Rowlands was sending to Bathurst. James need not have been too concerned as Rowland's products were unable to get a good foothold on the local trade.

Rowlands died in 1894 and his estate supervised the business until 1906 when the new company, E. Rowlands Pty Ltd, was formed with the head office in Melbourne. They were one of the earliest businesses to introduce the 'new open air' trucks to make their deliveries around Sydney and Melbourne. These 35 horsepower trucks could carry four to five times as much as the horse-drawn carts. **AKM**

## LATVIA AND LATVIA REPUBLIC WARTIME STAMP AND BANKNOTE WORRIES

Many people would be unaware that the small nation of Latvia produced both some unusual emergency paper money and postage stamps (see top of next page) during the chaotic days after the Great War when normal trade routes and supply systems were disrupted and many things were in short supply in the new republic. Latvia is a small country on the Baltic Sea between Lithuania and Estonia. Its capital is Riga and the scene of a good deal of fighting during the Great War. Prior to the first war this country was a part of the Russian Empire. When war was declared many of the male population were mobilised for war production or to fight. Food was requisitioned as was clothing, horses, vehicles and fuel. Soon most of their citizens were committed to the war effort. This nation has, over the centuries, suffered the invasion and suppression of

other countries. For some 700 years Latvia, along with Estonia to the north and Lithuania to the south - the three, known as the 'Baltic countries', have endured the rule of Sweden, Germany, Poland and Russia.



In 1915 the Imperial Russian Army asked for volunteers to form some Latvian Rifleman Battalions. The newly-formed units were sent to the Eastern Front to fight against the German 8th Army and other Austro-Hungarian forces. The Russian Army retreated from Latvia in 1915 and later there was a mass evacuation to Central Russia of Latvian inhabitants during the spring and summer with some 800,000 citizens leaving Latvia as refugees. Factories and equipment were also loaded onto trains and moved to avoid German occupying forces.

Various battles took place around the country with the Christmas battles commencing two days before Christmas in 1916. Although the Germans were caught by surprise and the Russian 12th Army, comprising 184 battalions, had a numerical advantage, things did not go the Russians and Latvians way. Due to the Russian Army not sending promised reinforcements some 45,000 died. The fighting took place in temperatures which hovered between minus 25 C and minus 38 C. By October 1917 the German forces had gained control over the capital Riga. In February-March 1918 a further German offensive saw the occupiers take over much of the rest of Latvia.



Finally, an avenue to Latvian independence was initiated in early March 1918 when the Brest Peace Treaty was signed between the Germans and the Russians whereby Russia arranged to pull out their forces from Latvia and other territories and proclaim their independence.

The war had certainly disrupted their production of postage stamps and banknotes and the occupation by the Russian and German forces didn't help. Issues of stamps were printed on the back of unfinished banknotes, old maps and vice versa with banknotes printed on sheets of stamps. There were numbers of stamps that were overprinted for special purposes as well as revaluing stamp denominations as they had used up certain values (left).



After the proclamation of the Republic of Latvia in 1918, there were a numerous diversity of currencies circulating in the country. There were German banknotes, ostrubles, ostmarks and Russian rubles and kopecks. To confuse things promissory notes were distributed by a number of town municipalities.

Banknotes issued in Germany and the Baltic States were subjected to hyperinflation, especially in the early 1920s.



Bottom of this page - Left and Right – these two images show the postage stamps that were used to post letters, documents and parcels and part of the sheet of 10 mark banknotes they were printed on. The stamps can be found with different banknote designs on them. Latvian postal authorities cleverly made use of any suitable paper left behind by retreating Germans and the Bolshevik Russians, including both uncut banknote sheets and discarded military maps, the latter including sixty five different German military maps as well. Today, full sheets of these banknote stamps command a reasonable price.

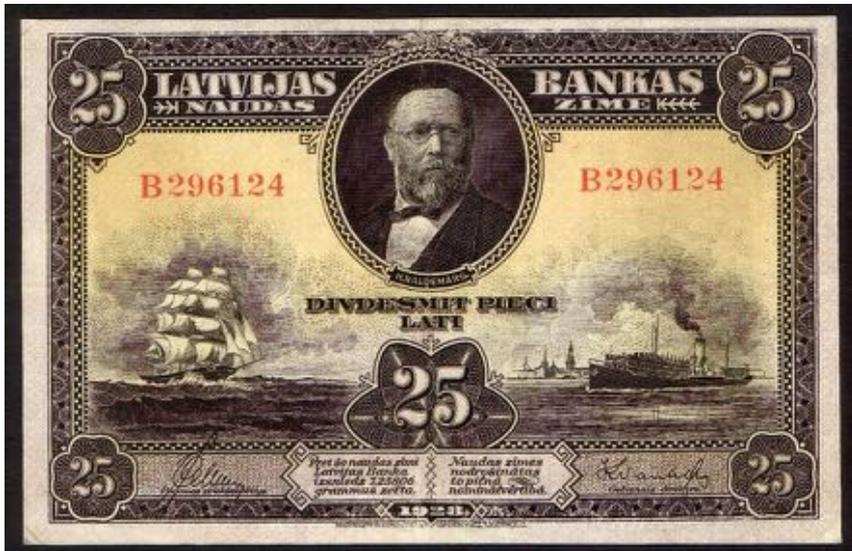


**Left and right** – A Latvian Republic Government Currency Note with the value of 10 Rubli. This is a very basic design and was issued in 1919.

In February 1919 Latvia's Provisional Government issued their first currency notes which were authorised



by the Minister of Finance. They were Treasury notes with their denominations in rublis. Until September 1922 currency notes were printed in denominations of 5, 10, 25 and 50 kapeiku and 1, 2, 5, 10, 25, 50, 100 and 500 rubh.



**Left** - The obverse of the brown on yellow 1928 issue of the 25 latu note featuring an old sailing ship to the left and modern steam ship to the right. The image of Krisjanis Valdemars is featured within an ornate oval at the top. Krisjanis was born on 2nd December, 1825, at "Vecjunkuri" homestead in Courland in Latvia. The son of a Lutheran curate he graduated from his local parish school and then worked as a teacher, later going to university. He became the spiritual leader of The First Latvian National Awakening and the most prominent member of the Young Latvians movement. He died in December 1891 in Moscow in Russia.

As a means of making Latvians rich he assisted in establishing the first Latvian Naval School in the country in 1864. Within a few years numbers of other Latvian Naval Schools were instituted in various coastal towns of Latvia. This enabled hundreds of Latvian peasant sons to obtain a free education and become captains or seamen. Shipbuilding commenced in coastal towns and villages leading to the first Latvian national merchant fleet.

**Right** - The reverse of the 1928 issue 25 latu note, which was printed by Waterloo & Sons, banknote printers in England. Bradbury, Wilkinson and Company also printed notes for the country. By 1934 Thomas De La Rue had the printing contract.



Democracy was not to last as the country became a dictatorship in the 1930s. Latvia was occupied again by the Soviet Union in 1940 under their agreement with Germany and, ironically, when German forces invaded Latvia during World War Two they located a number of sheets of 'banknote stamps' in the Riga museum. In 1944 the country was retaken by Russia and established as a member republic of the Soviet Union.

## SMOKEY QUARTZ

Smokey quartz holds a certain fascination for many rock hounds and fasceters alike. The Bathurst and Oberon district turn up some very nice smokey quartz specimens from time to time, up to a couple of feet long in some cases.



Smokey quartz is a variety of quartz. It is a silicon dioxide mineral with the crystals ranging in colour from a light greyish brown, brown to yellowish brown to nearly black. This colour is the result of aluminium impurities and natural irradiation. Occasionally one can see crystals that are an amalgamation of what looks like amethyst and smoky quartz.

Smokey quartz can form as crystals, drusy or in a massive form and in spectacular fashion in some locations. It is almost always transparent to translucent through to nearly opaque.

Mineral collectors and gemmologists learnt about the term “Smokey Quartz” in 1837 when Mr. J.S. Dana likened the semi-precious stone with its colour associated to smoke within the stone.

This type of mineral has been known for thousands of years with Roman artisans using smokey quartz to fashion some of their intaglio seals with their incised carving – the design sunk below the surface. Cylinder seals, along with ring seals, were also engraved by

the Sumerians. Chinese craftsmen found that the smokey quartz was popular for ornaments and snuff boxes. The Germans carved the material into crucifixes to ward away bad luck and evil spirits. Carved smokey quartz was a popular material for signet rings more than a century ago.

Certain tribes of Australian aboriginals had medicine men who used smokey quartz and quartz crystals. They are considered sacred and are used in certain tribal ceremonies. It was also prized by the Indians of North America for their ceremonies as seen by the smokey quartz attached to the top of their ritual wands. The Cherokee Indians even traded the smokey quartz crystals.



Long before the Victorian era, intaglio seals came back into fashion again to be made into rings, pendants, fob seals, wax seals and spinner seals that incorporated designs of family crests, Coats of Arms and other symbolic or heraldic designs. Once completed, most were mounted into silver or gold mountings, or in some cases diamonds by a specialised jeweller.

There are places in the world where smokey quartz can have a special association such as ‘Cairngorm quartz’ which comes from just one region of Scotland in the Cairngorm Mountains. Down through Scottish ancestry this form of Scottish smokey quartz has embellished traditional Highland outfits, used especially to decorate kilt pins and the handgrip of the small, single-edged knife called a ‘sgian dubhs’. The Scottish mineral is distinguished by its amber-coloured smokey quartz.

‘Cairngorm quartz’ became so well known in the 1800s that this form of smokey quartz is now the National Gemstone of Scotland. As the national gem of Scotland it is well sought after and is referred to as a “cairngorm”, having taken its name from the area in

which it was found. Even earlier, in the sixteenth century, and before, the Druids believed that the cairngorm smokey quartz emanated special ‘spirits’ and was thus considered a sacred stone.

The Cairngorm Mountains can boast the most widespread area of elevated mountain terrain in Scotland. It is within this mountainous region that one finds where the granite occurs in cavities and veins or pockets of pegmatite which contain the gem famous minerals. Pieces, and even perfect specimens, can be found almost anywhere from the watercourses to the scree fields or within cavities. Whilst most specimens are not of any sizeable proportions some of the historic finds of large crystals, or groups of crystals some larger cairngorm crystals have weighed in excess of 50 pounds.

It became so popular in Queen Victoria's time that prospecting for cairngorm quartz for some was a small business, whilst it was a pastime for the local Scotsmen. Though it was definitely an attraction of Her Majesty Queen Victoria (right) and her husband, Prince Albert, who boosted the interest in the smokey gems from the Cairngorm Mountains. The Queen sought out fine specimens which can be seen today in Balmoral Castle. When Queen Victoria's Scottish Cairngorm brooch was acquired it created a good deal of attention. As interest grew more 'prospectors' arrived along with mineral dealers seeking the 'Cairngorm precious stones'.



Scottish lapidaries in the mid 1800s sought out the famous smokey quartz to facet and polish to create eye-catching cabochons to make pieces of jewellery. At one time the greyish brown smokey quartz specimens were sought after by Scottish seal engravers. Looking at early Scottish newspapers one finds evidence that Edinburgh and Aberdeen had several lapidary businesses, as did Perth and Inverness.

AKM

## “THE MESOZOIC SEA DRAGONS”



With the amount of work going on in China constructing massive roadworks these days it is probably not unusual that special 'finds' are being made. From ancient pottery objects, weapons, coins, farm tools, old settlements, bones and grave objects, even fossils are being discovered.

This *Keichousaurus youngi* primitive water reptile fossil was dug up in a mountainous province in southwest China. Their name is derived from Kweichow, now known as Guizhou Province, the area where they were found in China. It was here in Xingyi that the first fossilised specimen was discovered in 1957 after living between 251 million and 199 million years ago in the Triassic Period.

These small marine reptiles became extinct during the Triassic-Jurassic mass extinction occurrence. By this time they had highly adjusted to their aquatic environment. They flourished in large schools wallowing in the warm shallow waters.

Chengzhi Hu, who found the first example, wrote a description of what he had found. His report basically said that the reptiles had a long tail and neck with elongated, five-toed feet with longish digits. The forelimbs were flattened to assist with swimming. Its pointed head and short snout had very sharp teeth allowing it to catch fish in the open water or where they were hiding amongst rocks.

Some palaeontologists feel that towards the end they may have lived in the marshes and swamps. They walked on land, going back to the water to catch food such as small amphibians, invertebrates and small fish.

Specimens of the *Keichousaurus* genus ranged in length from 15 cm to 30 cm, while other types of genus ranged up to 2.7 metres in length. The smaller reptiles were commonly referred to as 'Pocket Dinosaurs' by the Chinese. Triassic marine reptiles, such as this one, gave birth to live young rather than laying eggs, made possible by their mobile pelvis. Several pregnant specimens have since been found and researchers feel they gave birth in the water.

All the various fossilised extinct aquatic reptiles of the group Sauropterygia are known as Sauropterygians and were quite common. The name sauropterygian means 'lizard flippers' and were good examples to fossilise. All Sauropterygians were carnivorous fish eaters and all had four paddle-like limbs. It has been found that they are distantly related to the dinosaurs. The fossil remains are quite often located in a fine preserved condition. Occasionally small fossil fish can be found on the fossil plates. Many genuine fossils have been damaged on extraction and repaired later. However, worst of all is the number of fakes around which has happened after the Chinese Government stopped all exports of vertebrate fossils. These small *Keichousaurus* reptiles have only been found in China to date.

AKM

## HAIR DECORATIONS – COMBS, HAIR DAGGERS, HAIR ORNAMENTS & HAIR PINS

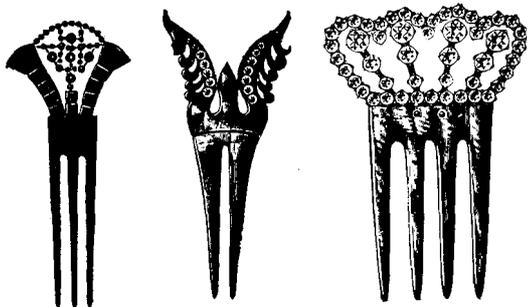
The drawings of the hair decorations within this article are from a company catalogue from the early 1900s. There were 16 pages of illustrations on the subject and could be ordered through the postal system. There is a long history of mankind using decorative combs in their hair. Collectors seek these antique items today for their collections.

Men and women have been managing and decorating their hair in some form since the Stone Age. Crude combs made of boxwood have been found in ancient graves, some dating to over 22,000 B.C. Gold hair rings have been discovered by archaeologists that date back to around 9,000 B.C., though they would have been rich owners. Items used to accessorise the hair also dates back to prehistoric times, commencing with a piece of stick crudely made into a one-pronged stick. These were made from whatever natural materials they could find wherever they were living at the time. Designs and shapes obviously differed with the various ancient cultures around the world. It seems that it was the Mesopotamian women who used headbands to hold back their hair around 3,500 B.C.

During the Bronze Age in Ancient Europe from around 3000 BC – 1200 BC hair bands and rings were made from clay, solid gold or lead which had been plated with gold by craftsmen. From around 700 BC to 500 AD the ancient Greeks and Romans, which were centred on the Mediterranean Sea, saw their women set their hair with tortoiseshell combs. Amongst wealthier women crowns decorated with flowers and leafy foliage were particularly popular. The Egyptians had their hair rings made from pottery or stone, the two most popular stones being jasper and alabaster or jasper. The more elaborate the design the higher the woman's social status especially if it incorporated precious gems and other stones embedded into their hair rings. Ancient Chinese women used combs that they wore as a hair accessory to reflect their social status.

Most ancient Africans, and many traditional Africans today, use seashells and stone and shell beads to accessorise their hair. They would make combs of ivory, bone and wood. The natives in America traditionally incorporated bones from all sorts of native animals, including feathers, to adorn their headdresses. Other natives used items from deceased birds, namely bones, beak and head and feathers to make a hair decoration which was hung from the back of the head on the bride's wedding day. American Indian men from the Chippewa Tribe would attach a bird skin to their headdress when going off to fight another tribe or war with the white man.

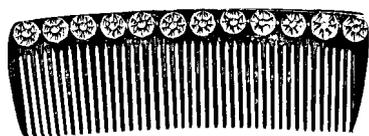
The French in the 1600s saw men wearing hair pins, called 'bobbing pins', just as much as women. This allowed the men to have their wigs sitting more neatly on their heads. The common bobby pins of the 1920s was to change many things for ladies hair. Company catalogues contained pages of line drawings featuring the various decorated hair combs and clips and their prices. The Sears, Roebuck & Company catalogue was very popular in America in the 1890s and early 1900s.



Left - Hair daggers, 'sticks', hairpins and combs which really have the appearance of a fork, were principally to hold a young lady's long hair in place. The two-pronged dagger varied in length but around 5 to 6 inches was common in 1900.

Imitation tortoise shell and native tortoise shell were popular though the original tortoise shell was more expensive. A basic design imitation shell cost 2 shillings and sixpence as compared to a more elaborate design which could cost you up to 7 shillings. Real tortoise shell combs measuring 4½ inches wide and 3½ inches high could set one back about £3 and it too was very ornately designed. Then one could purchase one decorated with paste stones for an extra cost. Some 'sticks' could incorporate some very elaborate and beautiful designs.

**Right** – A curved side hair comb with paste settings made from genuine tortoise shell. Bamboo, wood, bone and ivory were used to make combs in the 1880s and later. Some types of combs were made of brass wire, however from around 1910 many of these combs would be moulded from a polymeric plastic which was manufactured from phenol and formaldehyde.



The material was named 'Bakelite' with this synthetic product transforming lives from this time. By the 1930s Bakelite was being used everywhere in everyday products.

**Left** – A straight side hair comb with paste decorations was particularly popular during the 18th century. At that time the most universally used material for paste was lead glass, a very transparent flint glass with an abnormally high lead content that reproduced the fire and shine of gemstones. As the demand for jewellery increased various experimenters attempted to produce suitable fake gems. From very early times the imitation of gems was experimented with. Over time the numbers of imitations gradually increased until 1758 when a colourless glass paste appeared.

A Viennese goldsmith, Joseph Strasser, had succeeded with his discovery being able to be cut to shape as well as in all appearances showed off the glistening of an authentic diamond. Strasser's discovery was known as 'strass stones'.



**Outer Left and Right** - Paste hair ornaments came in numerous assorted designs.



The Romans in particular were very skillful in the production of coloured glass pastes, which copied especially emeralds and lapis lazuli. Most people today and antique dealers consider paste stones as little more than costume jewellery or imitation stones but there are collectors of these early pieces.



**Inner Left and Right** - Celluloid hair pins with paste mounts. These were sold in large quantities and in dozens of different designs. They often became gifts for younger girls as well being handed over on special occasions such as christenings and confirmations, as well as Good Friday or Easter Sunday.

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**FIRST SILVER COINS OF ANCIENT INDIA AND MAGADHA EMPIRE**



This unusual uniface punchmarked silver karshapana (drachm) is from the Magadha Empire in Ancient India and was issued from 345 - 320 BC. They were less than an old copper Australian penny in size.

Magadha was an ancient Indian kingdom in southern Bihar towards the north of India. The kingdom was considered as one of the sixteen Mahajanapadas or 'Great Countries' of the ancient Indian world. Magadha played a significant role in the development of Jainism and Buddhism as well as two of India's celebrated empires, the Maurya Empire and Gupta Empire, with both being inaugurated in Magadha between the 6th century BC and the 8th century AD.

Magadha was also important due to its strategic position in the Ganges (Ganga) River valley allowing it to control communications and trade on the river. The river was also linked to the rich ports in the Ganges delta region.

Five lots of symbols including an elephant on the right, appear on the coin which started out in the 'mint' as an irregular flat silver plachet. The sun mark appears on many of this family's issues and all up over two hundred years of various issuers over 500 symbols were

employed. These silver pieces were initially issued by local bankers and influential merchants rather than the state.

These particular coins were issued by Mahapadma Nanda and his eight sons and are the earliest silver Indian coins. These coins weighed around 3.20 grams and no two coins were exactly the same. They can be found with minute marks testifying their legitimacy.

The silver wasn't that pure but usually an alloy of 11 parts silver, 4 parts copper and 1 part of any other metal was used. During the time some gold punchmarked coins were produced, these being known as 'Suvarṇa'.

At its height Magadha was an ancient kingdom in India and one of the four main kingdoms of India at the time of Buddha. The core of the kingdom was that portion of Bihar lying south of the Ganges River, with its capital at Rajagriha (modern Rajgir). Magadha then began expanding into much of Bengal and up into the Ganges valley annexing Kosala and Kashi.

It seems that Indian merchants who traded overland and by sea traded with the East Africans, Arabia and middle-east people. Where there was any dispute as to the value the ancient Indian system of weights was brought out to weigh them. Even though these unusual silver punch-marked coins came to an end and ceased to be minted sometime in the second century BC they were continually traded for some 500 years to come.

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