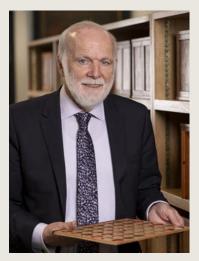
The Royal Mint Museum Review 2021–22







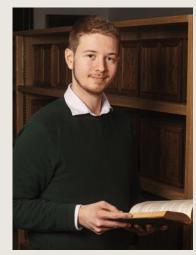
Dr Kevin Clancy Museum Director



Graham Dyer OBE Senior Research Curator



Chris Barker Information and Research Manager



David Mason Public Engagement and Information Officer



Abigail Kenvyn Exhibitions Manager



Virginia Porter Museum Office Manager



Susan Sandford
Digital Engagement and Collections
Access Officer



Sarah Tyley Collections Manager



Amy Williams Education and Learning Manager



Bethan James Project Coordinator

Introduction

The Museum has had a busy year in the lead up to the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations. The Jubilee has been the focus of a number of Museum projects, including the national short story competition and the reminiscence box project. Both built on the successes of the previous year and we have had a superb response to both.

A temporary exhibition covering the theme of jubilees was installed in the Royal Mint Experience. Happily most Covid-19 restrictions had been lifted in time for the exhibition's opening, so visitors were able to have full access to the exhibition.

The Museum welcomed two new Trustees this year, Dafydd James and Swarti Dhingra. Dafydd is Head of Digital Experience and Services at Public Health Wales and was previously Head of Digital Media and Technical Services at Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales. Swarti is Associate Professor in Economics at the London School of Economics, and an Associate of the Centre for Economic Performance. Both new Trustees have already been very active in working with the Museum team and the Board as a whole looks forward to continuing our work with the staff of the Museum.

The Museum also welcomed David Mason as the new Public Engagement and Information Officer. David responds to Museum enquiries, writes content for the Museum's online platforms, and assists with historical coin authentications.

The Collection Manager recently oversaw the restoration of the large Heaton coining press at the centre of the Royal Mint site that forms part of the War Memorial. It was removed from site in a delicate operation and restored by Penybryn Engineering. As planned it was returned to site in time for the annual ceremony of Remembrance in November.

The collection has been made more accessible through a new online library. Digitised copies of the Royal Mint's Annual Report, from 1870 to 1976, and the Waterloo Medal Roll are now fully searchable for numismatic and family history research. In the coming year the Museum plans to digitise the minutes for the Royal Mint Advisory Committee from its first meeting in 1922. The Trustees and I are delighted to see the Museum taking on ever more ambitious projects, and we look forward to further success over the next few years.

Dr Andrew Burnett CBE

Chairman, Royal Mint Museum Trustees



Above: The large Heaton coining press was restored by Penybryn Engineering and reinstalled at the centre of the Royal Mint's War Memorial in time for the annual ceremony of Remembrance.

Cover: Installing some of the souvenirs from past Jubilees in the temporary exhibition Happy and Glorious, a celebration of Royal Jubilees.

Collections and Conservation

This year the Museum has acquired an interesting range of objects for the collection in addition to the regular samples of coins and medals produced by the Royal Mint.

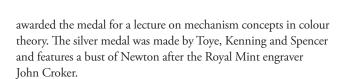
At the start of the year the Museum was able to acquire several lots from the sale of the Richard Margolis International Numismatic Library to enhance its own library. These included biographies of figures from the Mint's history, volumes and framed plates featuring machinery and coin manufacturing processes.

Amongst the most rare and fascinating coins in the collection are those relating to the brief reign of Edward VIII. During the year we were lucky enough to acquire a plaster model of Edward VIII and, at the same time, we were also able to secure two portrait models of George V.

The association of the Wyon family of engravers with the Royal Mint extends back over 200 years and in the last twelve months we acquired a silver gilt medal by Allan Gairdner Wyon depicting another important collecting theme for the Museum - St George and the dragon.

The Museum regularly looks for material relating to figures from the Royal Mint's history, perhaps the most famous of whom is Sir Isaac Newton who was Warden of the Mint from 1696 to 1699 and then Master from 1699 to his death in 1727. The Colour Group, an interdisciplinary society that draws together people interested in all aspects of colour, awards its Newton Medal to a distinguished worker in the field of colour science, on the occasion of his or her delivery of The Newton Lecture. In 1967 Dr W S Stiles OBE FRS was





A medal for the Royal Mint Visit of the Dragons School in 1936 was also acquired this year and is an early example of a school visit, something which we now run on a regular basis through workshops in the Royal Mint Experience.

The following medals were acquired to pursue the theme of Britannia.

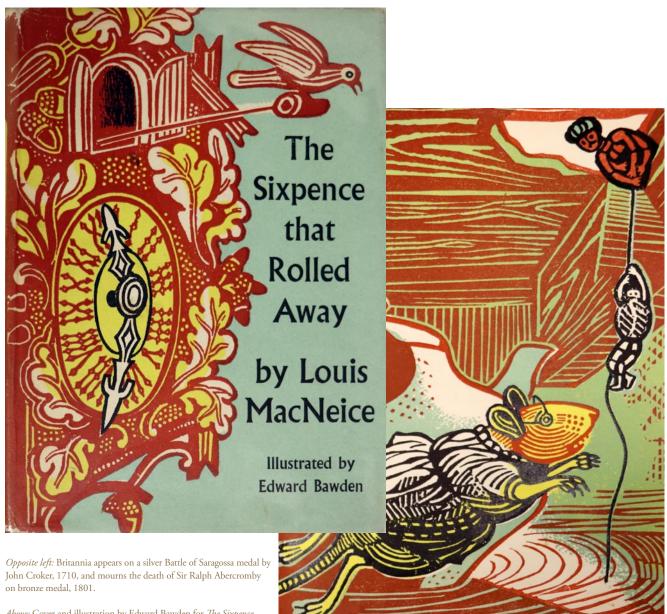
Silver Queen Anne Battle of Saragossa medal by John Croker,
 1710. Britannia welcomes the figure of Victory, who presents



captured Spanish standards to the seated figure of Queen Anne. The edge of the medal illustrates an interesting example of a technical process that we would like to explore in the future.

- Britannia mourns the death of Sir Ralph Abercromby bronze medal, 1801.
- Britannia celebrates the abdication of Napoleon, silver medal, 1814.
- Britannia 'England's Perseverance', Bethnal Green Vols, silver medal, 1814.

Another key collecting theme is to acquire medals that illustrate minting processes. To this end, two bronze medals were purchased.



- Nicolaus De Launay, Mint Director Paris 1719, featuring a fly-press in operation.
- Pierre Joseph Tiolier (1763-1819) Mint engraver,
 by N. Pierre Tiolier, with engraving tools below inscription.

The poet Louis MacNeice (1907-63) is not a figure readily associated with the world of coins and medals but in 1956 he wrote a children's book, *The Sixpence that Rolled Away*. He was a respected figure in the pre-war literary world, collaborating with W. H. Auden and he went on to be a prolific script writer for BBC radio. The book tells the story of Mr and Mrs McQuid and their much-loved three children, Bob (a shilling), Dinah (a half-crown) and Tanner (the sixpence) who all lived happily in a money box on the mantlepiece. The drama of the story, as the title reveals, lies in the baby Tanner going missing and the adventures of his two siblings in trying to track him down. MacNeice was not known as a writer of stories for children but the narrative is beautifully pitched and he has an ear for dialogue no doubt honed in his years of experience working for the BBC.

The Royal Mint Museum recently acquired a first edition copy of the book but not just because of the charm and theme of the story. It was illustrated, and this copy is signed, by Edward Bawden who has a connection to the coinage through artwork he submitted for decimalisation. He prepared elegantly drawn emblematic reverses, and also portraits of the Queen for the decimal coins, and his work advanced a good distance down the track of the selection process. The page from the book illustrated here shows Dinah, the half-crown, talking to the Cuckoo in the Cuckoo-Clock about her lost brother and it reveals that, some years before Bawden considered the prospect of designing a coinage portrait of the Queen professionally, he flirted with the idea in his wonderful illustrations for this book.

Above: Cover and illustration by Edward Bawden for *The Sixpence that Rolled Away* by Louis MacNeice, 1956.



Information and Research

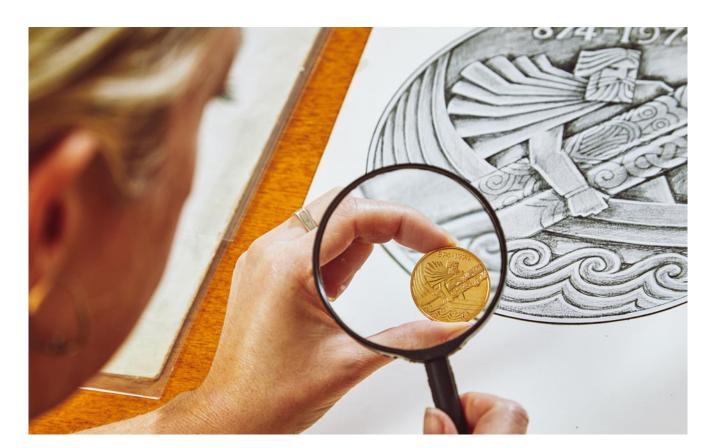
Opposite: The library at the Royal Mint Museum.

Below: Research at the Royal Mint Museum.

In the last year, the Royal Mint Museum has assisted with a suite of enquiries requesting full production profiles for several historic Royal Mint country customers.

The Museum archive contains over a century of production and sales information, covering the international export work of the Royal Mint for countries around the world. Requests were submitted from external institutions, including museums across Europe, foreign governmental departments, and the Currency department of the Royal Mint. They covered topics ranging from post-war Latvia and post-independence Qatar, to the full circulating and commemorative coinages of Kuwait and Croatia. The Information team carefully examined the scanned registered files of the Royal Mint, reviewed production records and carried out research in our Library, compiling full production reports for each relevant country. This research has gone on to help inform the work of the Currency team of the Royal Mint and has contributed widely to historic and numismatic exhibitions around the world.

The Museum continues to examine coins submitted by specialist numismatic researchers and the general public through online enquiries and physical submissions. The last year has seen the analysis of a selection of historical coins, including counterfeit half sovereigns, production trials for international coinages and a piece potentially struck as part of the privileges enjoyed by former Chief Engraver William Wyon who was able independently to use the presses to produce examples of his work. The Information team examined a 1932 Iraqi Riyal which featured unusual and unexpected edge milling, an 1845 crown which lacked the expected edge milling and a Victorian penny comprised of a surprisingly large amount of arsenic.



Of particular interest was a 1933 'experimental die' labelled DIE MAUR in ink, submitted as a piece that might have a connection to the exceedingly rare 1933 penny, the resolution to which required a full examination of all Royal Mint production records for that year. While research revealed that the piece was ultimately unconnected with the 1933 penny, it did grant a detailed insight into the trials taking place at the same time. Work had been

undertaken in 1933 into the possibility of enhancing the security measures on the edge of coins; it was decided that the 1934 coinage of Mauritius, in preparation concurrently with this experimentation, might offer an opportunity for active testing. The result was a 1933 'experimental die', labelled MAUR for Mauritius, that had many years later found its way into the hands of a curious enquirer.

Reminiscence sessions

December 2021. In total 580 loans of boxes were made to care homes across the length and breadth of the United Kingdom, creating an opportunity for interaction for 26,000 residents (based on an average of 44 residents per care home). Feedback was provided on 340 occasions and 5600 interactions were specifically recorded.

In August 2021, the Museum team benefited from a donation of 50 Panasonic Toughbooks. A presentation was held attended by representatives of the Panasonic Toughbook scheme. The items were kindly donated so that the Museum can add an audio-visual component to reminiscence boxes, allowing the incorporation of video and song, and the creation of activities that were suggested by feedback received in connection with the decimalisation boxes. Initially, care homes in South Wales were invited to participate.

As the decimalisation project drew to an end, the attention of the team turned to the Platinum Jubilee and arrangements were made to increase the reminiscence box numbers from 45 to 70. The box team commissioned 70 replica Golden Jubilee medals, sourced die-cast Red Arrows planes and Platinum Jubilee souvenirs, amongst other objects, through which the story of the Jubilees of Her Majesty The Queen could be told and reminiscences cultivated. The Panasonic Toughbooks were populated with music, imagery and films relating to past Jubilees, and 50 of the reminiscence boxes would include the loan of a Toughbook, in addition to the box itself.

"Thank you so much. The reminiscence box was a huge hit. It really transported our residents back. They were so enthusiastic and took us on a journey down memory lane with them just as much as the box took them. 'It was like I was back there, back in time not sat here looking at you with a mask on! In the nicest possible way dear!', commented one of our residents."

The Manor House at St Hilary, Vale of Glamorgan

Right: Reminiscence sessions in care homes using Platinum Jubilee 'Museum in a Box'.

Opposite page: Assembling the additional Platinum Jubilee 'Museum in a Box' ready for despatch.









Education and Learning

This year happily saw the re-opening of the Royal Mint Experience and with it the return of school visits to the site.

RME - 700 PUPILS

This year happily saw the re-opening of the Royal Mint Experience and with it the return of school visits to the site.

It was a tentative return for schools at first but we were happy to welcome over 700 pupils to our museum workshops from September 2021. This was largely made up of primary school visits but we did have a number of secondary school groups too.

SIXTH FORM PROJECT WITH STEM CYMRU

The Museums was proud to have worked with the education charity, STEM Cymru, on their Engineering Sixth form project. We were teamed up with a group of sixth formers from St John College, Cardiff, and were asked to set them an engineering challenge. The students spent six months researching a historical mystery to explore how the first edge lettering was applied to coins. They produced a full technical report and a working prototype of their design.

The students' project work was entered into the Crest Awards, an award scheme run every year by the British Science Association to champion STEM in schools. The students were presented with a Gold Crest award for their hard work.

Left: The Museum teamed up with sixth formers from St John College, Cardiff, who received a Gold Crest award.



STORY COMPETITION

After the success of the Wales-wide Decimalisation short story competition, we decided to run a bigger one to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee by opening it up to the whole of the United Kingdom. This time we had a panel of judges including children's authors Joseph Coelho, Caroline Clough and Alex T. Smith, children's Laureate Wales Connor Allen, and illustrator Sarah Edmunds.

The competition attracted over 550 entries from children aged between eight and eleven from all over the country. The winning story will be professionally illustrated and a prize of £5000 will be awarded to the author's school to invest in the school library.

Top: The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Short Story competition was open to the whole of the United Kingdom.

MEDAL COMPETITION

In August 2021 the Royal Mint Museum team held a presentation to the winner of the decimalisation medal design competition that was run in the previous reporting year. The winner was textile graduate of Norwich University of the Arts, Laura Barnwell, who received a cheque for £750 and a struck version of her medal.

'We are thrilled with the success of our first annual medal design competition and it has been a pleasure to see the range of wonderful deigns submitted. Laura's entry stood out to us because it captured beautifully the changeover to decimal currency and conveyed a sense of early 1970s Britain. Building on this success, we intend to run another medal design competition in the coming months. We very much hope it will capture the imagination of students throughout the country and go from strength-to-strength.'

Dr Kevin Clancy, Director, Royal Mint Museum.

Exhibitions

Much of the reporting year was spent researching the historic occasion of Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Although the extended bank holiday celebrations for the Jubilee would be held in summer of 2022, much of the Museum's focus was centred around the accession day of the Queen which fell earlier in the year, on 6 February.

In recognition of Her Majesty's historic milestone, a temporary exhibition was installed in the Royal Mint Experience (RME). As many of the Covid-19 restrictions had been lifted and the RME was again operating at usual capacity, the temporary exhibition space could be used to its full potential. The previous year it had been reduced in size due to the uncertainty caused by the pandemic.

The exhibition *Happy and Glorious, a celebration of Royal Jubilees* took a wider view of Jubilees past and present through a variety of objects, images and media. Due to the Queen's unprecedented reign Jubilees are, today, a relatively common occurrence but historically this was certainly not the case. The exhibition began with the first meaningful Royal Jubilee celebrations which occurred in 1809 during the reign of George III. Familiar means of celebration featured, such as a church service, crowded streets, decorated shops, military processions and the firing of cannons, in addition to the distribution of gifts to the poor in the form of roast beef, plum puddings, beer, bread, candles and money.





These festivities flourished with the long reign of Queen Victoria and many are echoed to this day, such as street processions and local parties, not to mention the production of specially struck coins and medals by the Royal Mint.

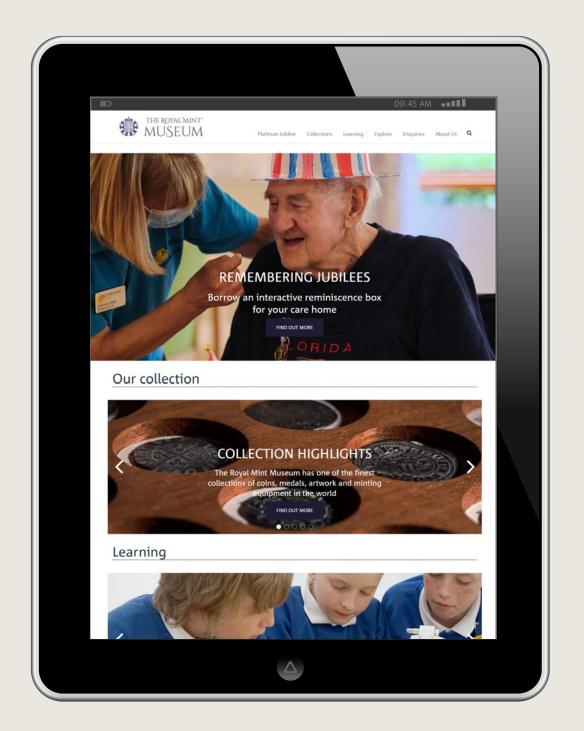
As part of the display in the RME an animated light projection was installed, revealing the hidden meaning and symbolism of the intricately designed, and extremely popular, 1977 Silver Jubilee crown. With more than 37 million issued to members of the public, it is by far the most popular crown piece and therefore familiar to many visitors, a number of whom would have been given one at school.

Due to the popularity of the animation, all the Jubilee crown pieces issued by the Royal Mint over the years will be included as light projections in time for June when the RME will host further celebrations for the special Platinum Jubilee Bank Holiday weekend.

Left: Obverse and reverse of the 1977 Silver Jubilee crown.

Opposite: The temporary exhibition Happy and Glorious, a celebration of Royal Jubilees.











THE ROYAL MINT MUSEUM REVIEW | 2020-21

Digital

Opposite & right: The past year has been one of continuous improvement for the digital aspects of the Royal Mint Museum.

The past year has been one of continuous improvement for the digital aspects of the Royal Mint Museum. One of the most significant developments is that of the PastView system which allows the public to explore more of our archives online than ever before. Scanned documents so far uploaded to the Museum website include the Waterloo Medal Roll and Royal Mint Annual Reports from 1870 to 1976 which have received over 70,000 page views by 6,000 users.

The Museum website, which welcomed over 36,000 visitors during the year, has been improved with a new design and enhanced functionality, as well as plenty of new content. Additional guest articles have included contributions from the Postal Museum and the Sir John Soane Museum. The site has also benefited from articles written by visiting researchers to encouraging more people to discover and use the Museum archives.

The learning section of the website has been redeveloped with new resources, including downloadable activity sheets produced in collaboration with Blackbird Publishing. Aimed at a family audience, activities include designing coins and medals, making a moneybox, assembling free standing characters and making a pantograph to demonstrate how reducing machines work.

The digital exhibition section of the website now includes several interactive 360° exhibitions scanned from the Royal Mint Experience. In future every temporary exhibition will be scanned and uploaded to the website to maximise access to the Museum collections and act as a permanent record of previous displays. The *Currency Undercover* exhibition, which closed in February

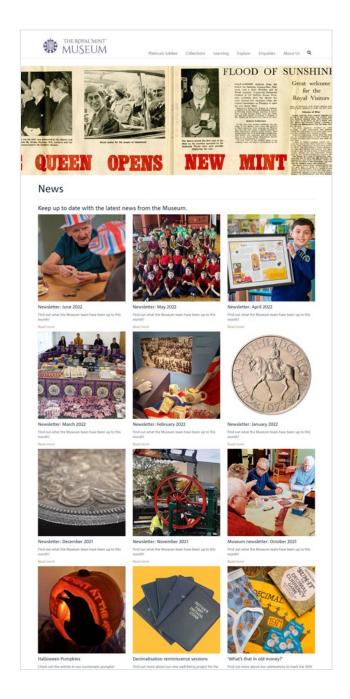
2021, was uploaded at the beginning of the year and the *Decimalisation* exhibition was uploaded after it closed in February 2022.

A new Museum Newsletter was first published on the website in October 2021 and has since been issued at the end of each calendar month. Covering a wide range of topics such as visits, media appearances, collections updates, conservation and community engagement activities the Newsletter is designed to provide an update about all aspects of the Museum's work.

In recent months the Museum team took part in filming video shorts for the website, social media and YouTube channels. These 60 second *Museum in a Minute* films each focus on a different object from the collection. They have been well received by online audiences and have now been viewed over 700 times.

A different approach was taken regarding the Museum's social media presence this year. It has involved including more links to richer content on the website and more 'Behind the Scenes' photographs depicting the team at work. This approach has been particularly popular with social media followers prompting high levels of engagement.

The build up towards the Platinum Jubilee celebrations saw several successful social media campaigns on to promote the Museum's short story and medal design competitions, with videos and photographs seen by over 60,000 users. In addition, content was published on the Museum website to promote and support various aspects of the project, including resources for the hugely successful reminiscence boxes.



Governance

The Royal Mint Museum was established as a company limited by guarantee in December 2009 and was granted charitable status in November 2010. Its sole member is HM Treasury. The Museum wholly owns a subsidiary company, Royal Mint Museum Services Limited, also established in December 2009 and these accounts represent the consolidated financial statements for the period.

The heritage assets of the Royal Mint Trading Fund were vested into the Royal Mint Museum on 31 December 2009. The agreements made at vesting with the Royal Mint Limited were refreshed for a further five-year period commencing 1 January 2018. These relate to funding arrangements, services provided to the Museum, historical services provided to the Royal Mint Limited, and secondment of staff to the Museum. These agreements continue in substantively the same form as before.

The Museum as a charitable company is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association, which provide for the appointment and reappointment of Trustees. The creation of an independent Museum was initiated to give long-term security to the collection, to establish a clear educational and charitable remit, and to enable the Museum to expand the services it offers through external funding.

Between 2021 and 2022 the Trustees met on four occasions online. They have the authority to appoint new Trustees and to direct the use of the Museum's financial and other resources. Trustees are appointed for an initial term of three years,

renewable for a maximum of two further three-year terms. New Trustees undergo an induction to brief them on their legal obligations under charity and company law, the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and inform them of the content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the committee and decision-making processes, the business plan and recent financial performance of the charity. Meetings of the Trustees are attended by members of the Museum's management team, in particular the Director of the Royal Mint Museum, and members of the financial support team, who present papers on their areas of responsibility.

The Trustees exercise oversight and supervision of all the Museum's main functional areas, including: finance, fund-raising, acquisition and disposal, education and publication programmes, exhibitions, collections management, conservation and the activities of the Museum Services company.

The Trustees decide on the strategy for the Museum. The implementation of the strategy and the operational management is delegated to the Director of the Royal Mint Museum and his colleagues.





Above: Golden Jubilee medal.

Trustees and Company Directors 2021-22



Mr Crispin Wright Trustee. Appointed December 2013

Crispin Wright is an investment banker, having worked for over 30 years for, successively, Morgan Grenfell and Rothschild.



Dr Andrew Burnett CBE Chairman. Appointed March 2015

Trustees at the Royal Armouries in 2014.

Dr Andrew Burnett retired in 2013 from the role of Deputy Director of the British Museum. Prior to that, he worked in the Museum's Department of Coins and Medals (1974–2003) and his books include *Coinage in the Roman World* and the first three volumes of *Roman Provincial Coinage*. He was appointed Honorary Professor at University College London in 2013 and took up a post on the Board of



Lord Macpherson of Earl's Court CGB Trustee. Appointed 2015

Nick Macpherson is Chairman of Hoare's Bank, a Director of the Scottish American Investment Trust and a Visiting Professor at King's College, London. He trained as an economist at Oxford University and University College, London before joining the Treasury in 1985. He was Permanent Secretary for over ten years, and was Principal Private Secretary to Ken Clarke and Gordon Brown in the mid-1990s.



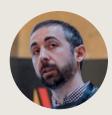
Anna Brennand Trustee. Appointed March 2018

Anna Brennand is Chief Executive at the Cabrach Trust in Scotland. As former Chief Executive of the Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust, a World Heritage Site in Shropshire, she has a wealth of experience in multi-million pound redevelopment projects and her efforts have won several awards. A qualified accountant, Anna worked for a FTSE 100 company and also in the leisure hospitality industry and central government.



Anne Jessopp Trustee Representative of the Royal Mint Limited. Appointed February 2018

Since joining the Royal Mint in 2008, Anne has carried out a number of roles leading Business Services in the organisation before becoming Director of Consumer in 2015. She was proud to be part of the team that launched the Royal Mint Experience in May 2016. Anne has led the strategic diversification of the business, resulting in significant growth. Anne was appointed Chief Executive in February 2018.



Dafydd James Trustee. Appointed February 2022

Dafydd is Head of Digital Experience and Services at Public Health Wales. He was previously Head of Digital Media and Technical Services at Amgueddfa Cymru - National Museum Wales, where he oversaw the conception and delivery of digital strategies for seven museums and chaired the technology group for People's Collection Wales. Dafydd has co-authored research examining the state of digital maturity of cultural organisations across the globe, and has presented research papers on mobile technology, digital transformation and digital ethics at conferences worldwide.



Swati Dhingra Trustee. Appointed February 2022

Swati is Associate Professor in Economics at LSE, and an Associate of the Centre for Economic Performance. She was recently a member of the UK's Trade Modelling Review Expert Panel and the LSE's Economic Diplomacy Commission. She is Research Fellow at CEPR, and on the editorial boards of Journal of International Economics and Review of Economic Studies. Her research is in international economics and industrial policy. She has published in academic journals including American Economic Review and Journal of Political Economy.

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2022

INCOMING RESOURCES	2022 (£)	2021 (£)
Voluntary income:		
Donations (items for the collection)	356,846	390,225
Income from charitable activities	17,254	193,965
Income from trading subsidiaries	420,493	389,821
Other income	1,527	3,322
Total incoming resources	796,120	977,333
Resources expended		
Cost of generating funds:		
Commercial trading operations	189,103	179,840
Charitable activities:		
Education	280,410	221,343
Collection preservation	58,522	46,819
Exhibitions	28,204	12,394
Governance costs	19,174	12,016
Total resources expended	575,413	472,412
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources for the year	220,707	504,921
Funds brought forward	3,616,065	3,111,144
Total funds carried forward (see below)	3,836,772	3,616,065
Funds made up as follows:		
Available Funds (note 1)	726,124	842,263
Designated funds:	, ,	
Collection reserve (note 2)	149,711	180,181
Collection items acquired since vesting	2,960,937	2,593,621
	3,836,772	3,616,065

These summarised accounts are extracted from the Trustees' Report and Financial Statements for year ended 31 March 2022, which received an unqualified auditor's report.

These summarised accounts may not contain sufficient information to allow for a full understanding of the financial affairs of the charity.

A complete set of the report and accounts are available from the Royal Mint Museum website www.royalmintmuseum.org.uk

Dr Andrew Burnett

Chairman, Royal Mint Museum Trustees

Notes

The accounts have been compiled in accordance with the latest SORP.

- 1 Funds available for Museum operations and projects.
- 2 The Collection reserve can only be used to purchase items for the collection.

Collection Items acquired since vesting includes the samples received from The Royal Mint Limited.

Opposite: A medal for the Royal Mint Visit of the Dragons School in 1936 was also acquired this year and is an early example of a school visit, something which we now run on a regular basis through workshops in the Royal Mint Experience.







The Royal Mint Museum Review 2021-22

The Royal Mint Museum, Llantrisant, Pontyclun CF72 8YT email enquiries@royalmintmuseum.org.uk www.royalmintmuseum.org.uk



Company registration number 07105875 | Charity number 1138877

