Lockdales' Auction #201 Report: Coins, Militaria & Paper Collectables: 9, 10, 11 July 2021

Total prices realised: £442,436 (including premium)

With our valuation teams on the road again we are sourcing good material straight from the public. This was a sale which benefitted from an influx of sleeper lots and 'unremaindered' estates. The hammer price significantly exceeded the top estimate overall, and with a success rate of over 85% we see how strong the demand is for collectables. With much of the infrastructure of the collecting world still not up-and-running, we have been told our auctions are an oasis for our clients, and we send a big thank you to all those who have taken part. We are excited for Lockdales' future auctions in 2021, which are filling up rapidly!

In terms of which sections are strong, the answer is "all of them". Estate stamp collections were more than doubling their estimates, for example Lot 134: Jamaica, top est. £700, hammer £1700. Rare cigarette-card sets were going for up to £2500; with a notable example being Lot 482: Themans War Portraits, top est. £850, hammer £1600 (featuring a young Winston Churchill). Practically all English coins are pushing or even exceeding book prices. Royal Mint sets are breaking new ground, with £1100 paid for a 2012 Proof Sovereign, and the Kew Gardens craze continues. Maundy coin values must surely be upgraded in the standard guide, judging by prices being reached. The scramble for bulk coins continues due to demand from online sellers. The Ancient & Hammered Coins section attracted a lot of attention thanks to some lovely estate collections including a series of Carausius Ants and Radiates. Choice weapons such as Commando daggers were fiercely contested. The Medals & Militaria over both days produced a strong sales rate and many surprises. It helps that we source so much fresh from estates since it brings new stories to light, with all the research potential to excite collectors. A good example being Lot 2095 (top est £500) a WWI RNAS flying accident casualty plaque and trio which achieved £1250.

All over the world portable valuables are being sought-after since economic uncertainty is endemic. The prices realised over this past weekend must send a clear message - sell sell! If you are looking for an outlet for your collectables, we offer the complete package.

Our Banknote Sale is coming up on 31 July-1 August. A Fine Sale will take place 1-2 September (consignment until 24 July). The next auction for Coins, Medals & Militaria will be 25-26 September, with consignment until 13 August. For Paper Collectables see our specialist sale 20-21 October which will also include Toys & Models (this accepting lots until 10 September).



The 'Brian John' Collection of Maundy Coins fetched £14,685 hammer (top est. £9670)