

Online Auction #189 Report: Coins, Medals & Militaria, 14-15 November 2020

Total sales of £356,600 – an amazing result for this 2006 lot sale. Despite the fact public viewing was cancelled due to lockdown, there was no shortage of interest in this auction. The collectables market genuinely seems stronger than ever before. Coins, especially English gold and Royal Mint sets are incredibly sought-after. Prices included £1200 hammer for a 1989 proof Sovereign, £320 for a Kew Gardens 50p 2009 BU set, and £380 for the similar proof edition (base metal!). The Ancient & Hammered Coins section saw prices up to £6000 for the Edward the Martyr penny of Ipswich, £1500 for the William II of Thetford, and many interesting Roman coins successfully sold. A scramble for bulk lots ensued as people stock up for online selling. Some bulk lots were withdrawn due to cancellation of public viewing, but these will be offered in January. The last section in the coin room was the Exonumia (tokens & medallions). This saw good results for horseracing passes, Masonic jewels, and some spectacular Olympic memorabilia. The pieces relating to the London 1908 games sold many times above estimate. The wonderful historic medals of Lieut. John Conrad Cherry, a star rower for Oxford, and participant in the 1936 Olympics, was battled over by telephone lines and internet bidders.

Room 2 began with weapons and proceeded with medals and militaria over two days. Demand was remarkable, with the sessions going on even longer than the coins by a considerable margin, due to constant internet bidding interest throughout. Prices for weapons included £1800 hammer for a Zulu War service revolver. WWI gallantry groups sold included £1900 for the Military Cross group to 2.Lieut E.E.N. Burney, R. Berks. R. who stormed the "Ducks Bill" June 1915 whilst wounded (a sportsman, horse and motor-cycle rider who later was tragically killed in a motoring accident on route to an Aldershot race meeting, March 1931). £2100 was paid for the Military Medal group to Corporal Air Mechanic Phillip Harrow Marshall of the Royal Flying Corps and RAF, sold along with his toolbox of precision instruments.

Our next auction will be The Banknote Sale on 28th November, followed by The Fine Sale 8-9 December. We are accepting consignments until the end of November for the 23-24 January 2021 Coins, Medals & Militaria Sale, and we urge you to make the most of the extraordinary strength in the collectables market.



Lot 920: The rowing medals of Lieut. John Conrad Cherry, HMS Welshman (KIA 1-2-1943), including Berlin Olympics 1936 participation medal, sold for £2200 hammer.