In making the presentation, the President said:

The Council Prize is a triennial award that may be made every third year to a younger scholar, not necessarily a member of the British Numismatic Society, who your Council deems is making a significant contribution to the study of those areas of numismatics that fall within our ambit. The list of previous recipients does not want for distinction and tonight it gives me the greatest personal pleasure to present the Prize for 2002 to Dr Kevin Clancy.

Dr Clancy, Assistant Curator at the Royal Mint for the past ten years, is well known to you all. He has been a member of our Society since 1993, has served on our Council and is currently our Director. His commitment to British numismatics has been demonstrated by his enthusiastic support of organizations such as the British Association of Numismatic Societies and by the lectures he has given not only to us but also to many other societies, lectures always marked by punctilious preparation and scholarship. For Dr Clancy is no mean scholar. He graduated from the University of Leeds with a First Class Honours degree in history and, while at the Mint, in tandem with the demands of his professional responsibilities he has recently completed a Ph.D. thesis on ‘The Recoinage and Exchange of 1816–17’. This, I am told by those best placed to know, was an excellent piece of work which found ready favour with his examiners. Dr. Clancy is now revising his text for a volume in the Society’s Special Publications series to be published in the next year or so. In the meantime he has contributed a paper – ‘The Reducing Machine and the Last Coinage of George III’ – to the last volume of the Journal, while a further article – ‘The Ricardo Ingot: Experimental Dies in the Royal Mint Collection’ – is already in the press for Volume 71.

I am delighted to be able to hand Dr Clancy the Council Prize for 2002, a token of Council’s recognition of his numismatic achievement and of its assurance that his commitment to our discipline will be productive of much to come.