All meetings during the year were held at the Warburg Institute and the President, Dr M.A.S. Blackburn, was in the chair throughout.

(For Officers and Council for 2006, see Volume 76)

24 JANUARY 2006. Messrs Francis William Briddick, David Phillip Carr (Australia), Graham Fallowes, Francis Edward Jennings and Randy Weir (Canada) were elected by Council to Ordinary Membership. The President announced the deaths of Professor Philip Grierson on 15 January 2006, and of Mr G. Somerville in December 2005. Professor Grierson had been a towering figure in numismatics both in the United Kingdom and worldwide. He had joined the Society in 1947, and had been an honorary member since 1980; in 1997 he had received a special award of the John Sanford Saltus Medal. A minute’s silence was held in his memory. Thomas Sargent and Francois Velde then read a paper entitled The big problem of small change.

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28 FEBRUARY 2006. Messrs Richard John Ambrose, Alan Michael Dawson, David Guest and Duncan Russell were elected by Council to Ordinary Membership, and Abhishek Pujal to Student Membership. The President announced the death of Andrew Morrison, a surgeon and a member of the society since 1963, on 6 January. Dr Philip de Jersey then read a paper entitled Some experiments in Iron Age coin production.

28 MARCH 2006. Messrs Brian Brighouse, Edward Comerford (Ireland), George Manz (Canada), Robert Edward Gerald Ronus (USA) and Anthony John Spicer were elected by Council to Ordinary Membership. Dr David Griffiths then read a paper entitled Chester, Meols and Irish Sea trade in the Viking Age.

25 APRIL 2006. Messrs David Eric Darrington, Clifford William Donnelly, Rupert John Everitt, Christopher Downing Leather and Professors Ronald Bude and David Drabold were elected by Council to Ordinary Membership, and Lucinda Emily Orr to Student Membership. Dr John Maddicott then read a paper entitled Sources of bullion for Anglo-Saxon coinage: some suggestions.

23 MAY 2006. Megan Gooch, Messrs David Edge, Albert Paul Adrian Nicholl and Matthew Rich and Prof. Larry D. Mitchell (USA) were elected by Council to Ordinary Membership. Dr Roger Bland read a paper entitled Single finds of Roman gold coins from Britain. The President, Dr Blackburn, presented the John Sanford Saltus gold medal for 2005 to Mr Peter Woodhead (see below, p. 359–60).

27 JUNE 2006. Drs Stephen Cedric Dexter Bemrose and Kenneth Malcolm Mackay (New Zealand) were elected by Council to Ordinary Membership. The President announced that the Society had received a generous donation of £10,000 from Mr Jeffrey North (£12,800 with Gift Aid). Council had decided to establish a North Book Prize with part of the income from the North Fund (see below). Dr Janet Snowman then read a paper entitled The coronation medals of George III.

26 SEPTEMBER 2006. The Numismatic Library of Oslo University and Museum was elected by Council to Institutional Membership. Dr Nick Holmes then read a paper entitled Moneta argentea in barbarico: the denarius hoards from Birnie, Moray.

24 OCTOBER 2006. The 50th anniversary of the election of Mr Michael Anderson was acknowledged by the President. Dr Patricia Jane Bruce (Canada) and Messrs David Charles Bianchi II (USA), Edward Thomas Colgan, John Lewis Furness and Revd Richard John Wyber were elected by Council to Ordinary Membership. Dr Robin Eaglen then read a paper entitled Sarah Sophia Banks and her English hammered coins.

28 NOVEMBER 2006. Caroline Louisa Holmes and Susan Tungate, Prof. James Simpson Simpson (Spain), Messrs Stuart Allen, Steven Beatty, George Marchant Edmond (Australia), Harold Kendrick Fears, Jr (USA), Robert Neville Handebo, Raymond Stewart Hilton, Raymond William Jenkins, Aloysius Galloway Meredith, Emerent Patal, Michael Gerald Whitty and Victor Lionel Winstanley were elected to Ordinary Membership. The President announced the award of the inaugural North Book Prize for 2006 to Dr M.R. Allen for The Durham Mint (2003), BNS Special Publication 4. The following Officers and Council were elected for 2007:

President: M.A.S. Blackburn
Director: K. Clancy
Treasurer: P.H. Mernick
Librarian: J.E. Roberts-Lewis
Secretary: Elina M. Screen
Membership Secretary: R.L.N. Hewson
Council's proposal that the subscription should remain unchanged at £32 for Ordinary Members and £15 for members under age 21 or in full-time education was approved. The President, Dr M.A.S. Blackburn, then delivered his third Presidential Address, *Currency under the Vikings: 3. Ireland, Wales and Scotland in the 9th and 10th centuries* and was thanked, on behalf of the membership, by Dr C.S.S. Lyon. Members present then attended a champagne party sponsored by Dr Lyon in celebration of his 60 years of membership.

**EXHIBITIONS**

March:
By P.H. Mernick.
Silver counter box with Edward VI shillings mounted on the lid and base, probably of the late 16th or early 17th century.

May:
By R.H. Thompson.
Photographs of a previously unpublished find of an aureus of Augustus (*RIC* i. 302, 7.755g), found before 23 February 1943 by Mr F.A. Geater at 63 Herbert Road, Rainham, Kent.

**SUMMER MEETING**

The Summer Meeting of the Society, *Politics, Power and the Coinage*, was held jointly with the Royal Numismatic Society at Bedern Hall in York on Saturday 8 July 2006, with the President in the chair. During the morning session, papers were read by Mr Hugh Pagan, *Kingship and coinage management in Anglo-Saxon England*; Professor Ian Roots, *Images of power in an age of conflict, 1603–1660*; and Dr Vesta Sarkhosh Curtis, *Kingship, religion and propaganda: coins of the Sasanian kings of Iran*.

In the afternoon, papers were read by Dr Barrie Cook, *Links across the Channel: royal monetary policy in the later middle ages*; Dr Eurydice Georganteli, *Pay and display: currencies and political ideology in the medieval eastern Mediterranean and the Black Sea*; and Professor Nick Mayhew, *Follow the Yellow Brick Road*: gold and politics from 1797 to 1931.

**THE NORTH BOOK PRIZE REGULATIONS**

The following Regulations were made by Council on 27 June 2006:

1. The North Book Prize was established in 2006 with a generous donation by Jeffrey North.

2. The prize shall normally be awarded every two years to the author or authors of the book which in the opinion of Council has made the best contribution to British Numismatics.

3. Eligible books shall be those that have been published during current or three preceding calendar years, copies of which have been received by the joint library of the British Numismatic Society and the Royal Numismatic Society for review.

4. Council may appoint an advisory committee to assist it in determining the award. A Member of Council may be considered for the Prize as author or co-author of an eligible book, provided that he/she is not a member of the advisory committee and is absent from that part of any Council Meeting at which it is considered.

5. The recipient shall receive a cash sum the value of which shall be determined by Council from time to time.

6. The first award shall be made in 2006 and be of £500.
In presenting the Sanford Saltus Medal to Peter Woodhead on 23 May 2006, the President, Dr Mark Blackburn, said:

Peter Woodhead, much of your numismatic work has concerned the silver coinages of the 13th and 14th centuries, and your first paper, read to the Society in April 1959, was on an aspect of Edward I's sterlings. Four years later in 1963 you gave a paper to the Society on 'The halfpence and farthings of Edward I-III', work which led to a series of articles in Seaby's Coin & Medal Bulletin for 1964–66, on later medieval halfpence and farthings, written in collaboration with Eric Harris and Frank Purvey. From 1966 onwards you contributed reports to BNJ on a number of seminal sterling hoards – Renfrew, Loch Doon, Montrose, Abadour – which have provided modern scholars with a wealth of reliable data. A key to the success of this work was often the collaborations you formed with others, including Lord Stewartby, George Tatler and Chris Wood. Your work on 13th century silver coinages culminated in a fundamental reappraisal of the early coinages of Edward III, particularly the star-marked halfpence and farthings, published as a chapter in Jeffrey North's Sylloge in 1989.

An acknowledged authority on the English series, your expertise also extends widely across continental Europe, and you have been a long-standing member of the Société Française de Numismatique, contributing articles to their Bulletin.

In retirement many people wind down, but for you it was an opportunity to devote more time to numismatics than your business career had permitted. You turned to a new project, the publication of the superlative collection of gold coins formed by the late Herbert Schneider. In depth and quality the collection is unsurpassed in private hands, and it was a daunting task to produce a catalogue that would do it justice. The two large Sylloge volumes you published in 1996 and 2002 of Mr Schneider's English gold coins from 1257 to the 20th century succeed superbly in presenting the collection – described in immense detail and classified to the highest standards of numismatic scholarship. But you were not content to produce a mere catalogue, for you were determined to use the opportunity to provide, in an extended Introduction, a fresh survey of English gold coinage, laying out the evidence of surviving mint documents alongside the numismatics. The result is a major work of scholarship; two books that the SCBI Committee regard as flagship volumes of which we are very proud.
Even now, you are not resting on your laurels: for the last three years you have been hard at work preparing the third and final volume, covering the Anglo-Gallic gold coins and those of Flanders and Brabant.

The Society has long recognised your qualities both as a numismatist and as a man of sound judgement. It elected you as President in 1976–1980, a period of grave financial crisis, and during your time in office, with a firm hand on the ruder, you steered the Society back from the brink – something for which we have always been grateful. For the last 25 years you have served as a Vice-President, offering support and advice. In 1999, around your 70th birthday, you were elected an Honorary Member. Now, the final accolade the Society can bestow, and purely for your scholarly contributions to British numismatics, by the vote of the Members, Peter Woodhead you have been awarded the John Sanford Saltus Medal for the year 2005.

_In reply Mr Woodhead said:_

Thank you, Mr President, for your kind words and for this very special medal, which I feel very honoured to receive.

And thank you, Fellow Members, for doing me the very great honour of choosing me to receive it. Looking at the other candidates I can see you had a difficult choice, and I am tremendously complimented that you chose me.

I was introduced as a member in 1952 by Francis Elmore Jones and Albert Baldwin and in the course of 54 years of membership I have always received unfailing friendship, guidance, support, and encouragement from the Society and its members. Amongst them these included Christopher Blunt, Michael Dolley, John Brand, Philip Grierson and many, many others, too numerous to name and who are still amongst us. I am particularly grateful, too, to the Schneider family who made it possible for me to prepare Sylloges of the wonderful collection of gold coins assembled by Herbert Schneider in the years between the 1930s and the 1980s; there is another volume of this to come, of course.

Indeed, I can say without exaggeration that almost all I know about numismatics has come to me through the Society and its members. It is this quality that represents the very heart and spirit of the British Numismatic Society – encouragement of individual research, a forum for discussion and exchange of knowledge, and at the end of the process, the means of publication in our Journal. I benefited greatly from the encouragement of older members when I was a young man. This is something which, I feel, our Society has always done well. I urge you to continue in this way so that we may be able to go on awarding the Sanford Saltus medal for many years to come!