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September 18, 2021, 02:39:52 PM

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World of Coins » Modern European coins except the euro » UK and Ireland » Special circulating decimal coins (Moderator: Alan71) » UK text-heavy 50 pence and 2 pound designs

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 **Author**


Topic: UK text-heavy 50 pence and 2 pound designs (Read 2914)

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 **<k>**


Moderator
Honorary Member





Posts: 24 362



 **Re: UK text-heavy 50 pence and 2 pound designs**

« Reply #30 on: September 14, 2019, 04:00:33 PM **»**

Quote

Quote from: Alan71 on September 14, 2019, 03:37:30 PM

On the other extreme...

Back in the day, some UK commemoratives weren't wordy enough. The most common one of all - the 1973 EEC 50p - had no text on it at all. For decades, I thought the design was just an alternative to Britannia, but with the one date.



And here it is, to illustrate your point. It never occurred to me that some people did not know the meaning of the design. Years pass, I suppose, and these things get lost in the mists of time.

Quote

These days, of course, information is at our fingertips every second of the day (well, perhaps not so much in <k>'s case if he doesn't have a smartphone...)

What a cheek! 😏 When I'm out, I use the time to process my genius thoughts and plan topics such as this, which has attracted oodles of page views in just a few short months. 🙄 I probably spend 2 to 3 hours per day browsing the internet on my desktop in the comfort of my home, and I daresay I know a lot more than you do about global warming and our multi-dimensional multiverse. But then I do have a lot more spare time than you, trapped in the rat race, as you are. 😊

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Alan71

Moderator
Honorary Member



Posts: 1 181



Re: UK text-heavy 50 pence and 2 pound designs

Quote

« **Reply #31 on:** September 14, 2019, 06:59:04 PM »

I was only a little over a year old or so when that coin was released though (if it entered circulation in January 1973 - I'm assuming it did, as we joined the EEC then). I'd therefore always known that coin in circulation, and as it was quite common (89 million issued), I had no idea it was a commemorative or what it was for.

One of the numismatic downsides of Brexit is that we shall never see that - or either of the other two EC/EU 50p coins - issued again. This year's sets of 10 older designs tactfully didn't include any.

My phone now is just pay-as-you-go. I put £10 on it in April last year and I still have nearly £4 left on it. No monthly charge, and I only use WiFi on it, never data. Helps to restrict the

Derby, UK



Moderator
Honorary Member



Posts: 24 362



amount of time I spend on my phone.

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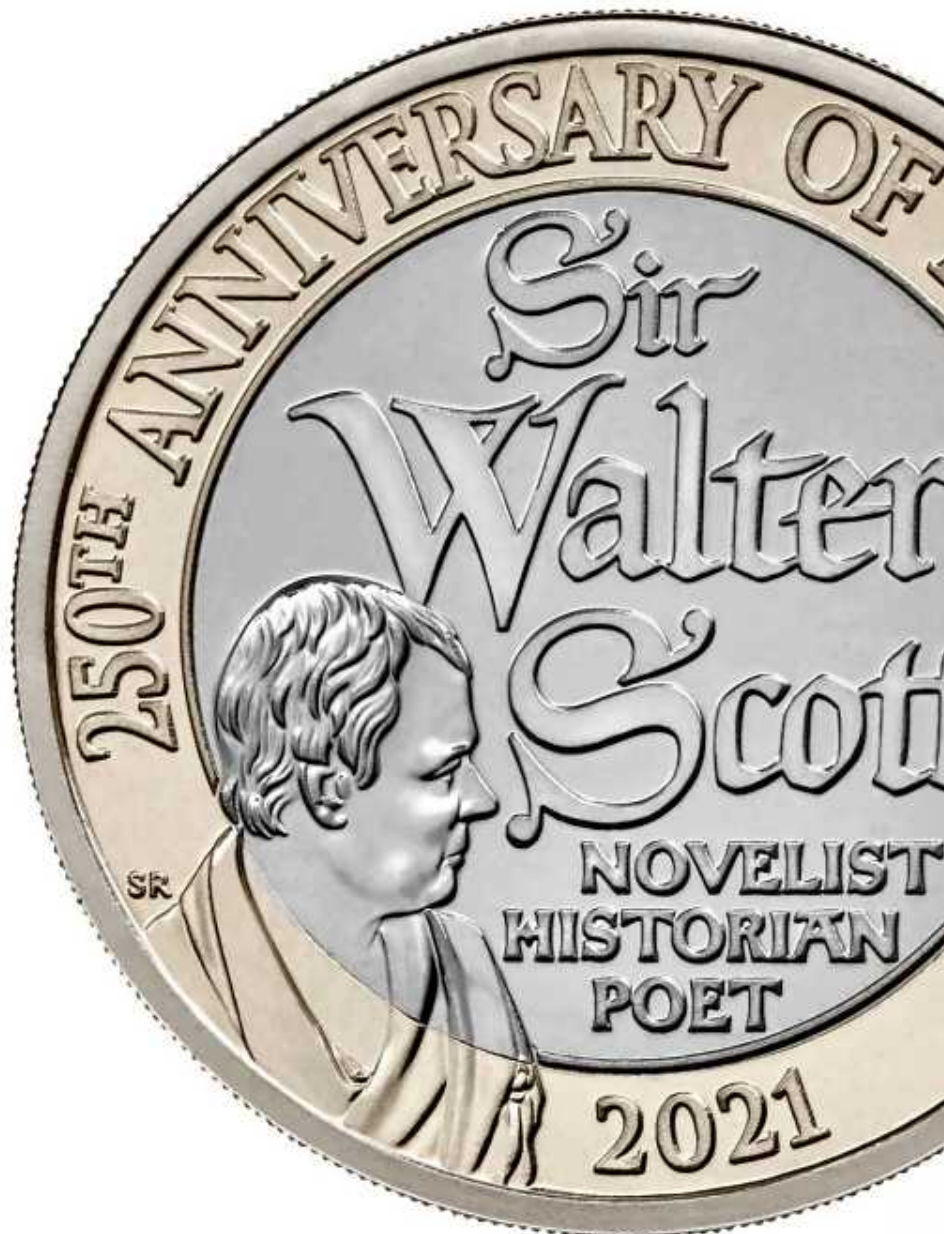
Re: UK text-heavy 50 pence and 2 pound designs

[Quote](#)

« **Reply #32 on:** September 16, 2021, 07:46:45 PM »

This is an example of a 2 pound coin that is text-heavy. The text is given far more space than the portrait of Sir Walter Scott.

Still, I think it is a stylish design, even though I have never liked Scott's works. Is the portrait particularly recognisable, though? What do you think?



[UK 2 pounds 2021.jpg](#) (62.59 kB, 675x675 - viewed 66 times.)

« Last Edit: September 17, 2021, 12:10:09 PM by <k> »

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☐ <k>

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Posts: 24 362

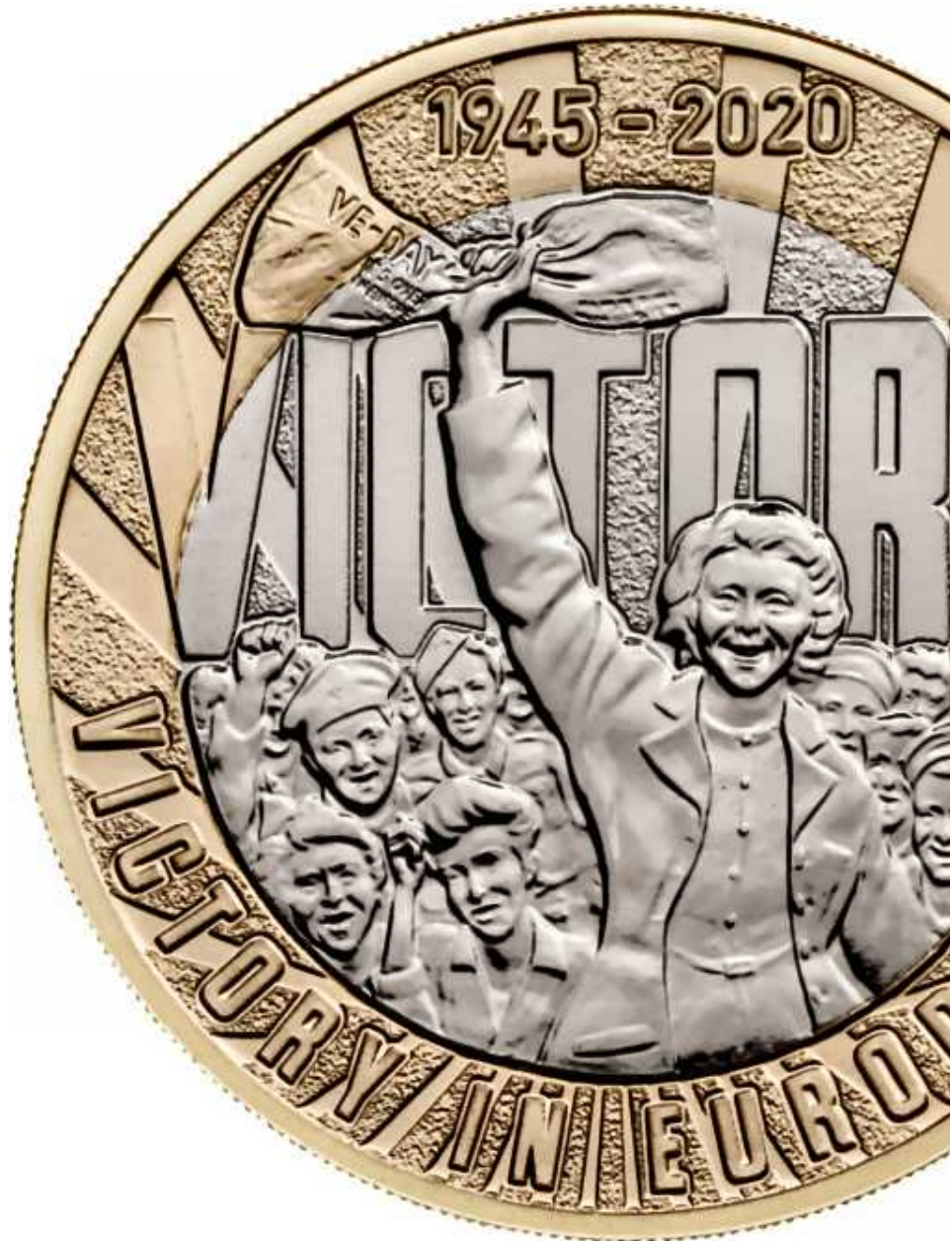


Re: UK text-heavy 50 pence and 2
pound designs

Quote

« **Reply #33 on:** September 16, 2021, 07:52:22
PM »

Another text-heavy 2 pound coin. "VICTORY".



UK 2 pounds 2020.jpg (75.36 kB, 675x671 - viewed 67 times.)

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☐ chrisild

Re: UK text-heavy 50 pence and 2 pound

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Posts: 9 018

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designs

Quote

« **Reply #34 on:** September 16, 2021,
09:18:44 PM »

Quote from: <k> on September 16, 2021, 07:46:45 PM

The text is given far more space than the portrait of Sir Walter Scott.

Using a relatively small portrait is fine with me, but there is too much explanatory text in my opinion. I would have assumed that most people know who Sir Walter Scott was. 😊 So the good old "name plus years" (1771–1832) could have been fine. [Here](#) is an example, not from the UK though, of such a combo with a small portrait. Did they fill the empty space with what his "jobs" were? Nah. Then again, some of the designs elements of the Scott coin may have been added due to what the Royal Mint requested, see [this page](#).

As for the font(s) used, the designer says, "I wanted to reference some of the Scott lettering I had come across in Abbotsford" – now that I found interesting. Have not found any photos, but I came across this Scotsman [article](#). Quote: "On the canvas of a £2 coin, the words Sir Walter Scott and Novelist, Historian and Poet are inscribed in the same calligraphy seen at Abbotsford's grand entrance and chapel." Cool. 😊

Christian

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☐ **chrisild**

Moderator
Honorary Member



Posts: 9 018

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**Re: UK text-heavy 50 pence and 2
pound designs**

Quote

« **Reply #35 on:** September 16, 2021, 09:31:40
PM »

Quote from: <k> on September 16, 2021, 07:52:22 PM

Another text-heavy 2 pound coin. "VICTORY".

In this case, there is not too much text, I think, but parts of the text and the pictorial design overlap. Especially the text at the bottom (Victory in Europe Day) and the light beam pattern "interfere" in a strange way. Would have left that line out – you would still have had the big VICTORY and the small VE DAY references. Fortunately the central part of the design is people, and they are even in the foreground. 😊

Christian

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☐ **<k>**

Moderator
Honorary Member



Posts: 24 362



**Re: UK text-heavy 50 pence and 2
pound designs**

Quote

« **Reply #36 on:** September 16, 2021, 11:06:03
PM »

Insightful observations, chrisild. It's strange that big text seems to have become a bit of a trend in recent years on UK and related coins.

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 **radars_teddy**

Member



Posts: 90



☐ **chrisild**

Moderator

Honorary Member



Posts: 9 018

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☐ **Figleaf**

Administrator

Honorary Member



Posts: 32 926



☐ **chrisild**

Moderator

Honorary Member



Re: UK text-heavy 50 pence and 2 pound designs

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« **Reply #37 on:** September 17, 2021, 02:13:31

AM »

Quote from: chrisild on September 16, 2021, 09:31:40 PM

In this case, there is not too much text, I think, but parts of the text and the pictorial design overlap. Especially the text at the bottom (Victory in Europe Day) and the light beam pattern "interfere" in a strange way. Would have left that line out – you would still have had the big VICTORY and the small VE DAY references. Fortunately the central part of the design is people, and they are even in the foreground. 😊

Christian

I think the problem with that design is that the image doesn't depict anything understandable to the topic of the coin (or anything else). Without the text, you are completely baffled as to the meaning and the purpose of the coin.

[Report to moderator](#)  166.84.1.3



Re: UK text-heavy 50 pence and 2 pound designs

[Quote](#)

« **Reply #38 on:** September 17, 2021, 11:02:27

AM »

Right, such "abstract" themes are always harder to visualize than somebody's birth or death anniversary, and in this case the cheering people need at least one piece of explanatory text. 😊 Interestingly, a £5 coin issued in the same year, commemorating the end of WW2, has a "text only" reverse, [see here](#).

Christian

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Re: UK text-heavy 50 pence and 2 pound designs

[Quote](#)

« **Reply #39 on:** September 17, 2021, 02:52:26

PM »

The paper in the cheerleading lady's hand provides the explanation: VE day. War over in Europe. In that sense, the prominent text VICTORY is odd. The crowd could be leaving a stadium. The concept celebrated here should not have been victory, reducing years of war to a soccer game result, but PEACE IN EUROPE. If that's considered too long, just peace would have passed also.

Peter

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An unidentified coin is a piece of metal. An identified coin is a piece of history.



Re: UK text-heavy 50 pence and 2 pound designs

[Quote](#)

« **Reply #40 on:** September 17, 2021, 03:18:02

PM »

Well, war and peace was the topic of that (IMO not very nicely designed) £5 coin. 😊 But we know that the absence of war is not the same as peace ...



Posts: 9 018

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 **radars_teddy**

Member



Posts: 90



 **agoodall**

New Member



Posts: 44



 **radars_teddy**

Member



Posts: 90



 **pk72**

Member

Actually I do believe that the notion of "victory" was the more important one. Peace can also be the result of some armistice or similar agreement. (OK, difficult in the case of Nazi Germany, but in general ...) Victory implies that the enemy/aggressor has been beaten – with the immediate result of "no more war", and then peace.

Christian

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Re: UK text-heavy 50 pence and 2 pound designs

[Quote](#)

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« **Reply #41 on: Today** at 12:30:32 AM »

if it was soldiers cheering it would make more sense

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Re: UK text-heavy 50 pence and 2 pound designs

[Quote](#)

« **Reply #42 on: Today** at 01:23:58 AM »

The image represents the crowds that came out in celebration all over the country, which are the abiding images of VE Day. Without the dates and text at the top and bottom the design wouldn't make much sense but the two together do. I read the large VICTORY as an exclamation of the feelings of the crowd. I think this is one of the better designs the Royal Mint has come up with recently and I'm glad it depicts the joy of the civilian population rather than more military images or plain text like the war and peace £5.

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Re: UK text-heavy 50 pence and 2 pound designs

[Quote](#)

[Modify](#)

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« **Reply #43 on: Today** at 03:06:22 AM »

Quote from: agoodall on Today at 01:23:58 AM

I'm glad it depicts the joy of the civilian population rather than more military images or plain text like the war and peace £5.

But it doesn't do that. It just shows a crowd. It is just not iconic enough. Showing soldiers cheering, BTW, is not military images like Tanks rolling over dead bodies.

[Report to moderator](#)  166.84.1.3



Re: UK text-heavy 50 pence and 2 pound designs

[Quote](#)



Posts: 51

Happy Hunting



« **Reply #44 on: Today** at 08:32:56 AM »

Are these text heavy coins in circulation (in UK)? I asked my friend who was in London for a year, to keep aside for me some of these coins that passed through his hands. Well, he came back empty handed 🙄

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