



THE
PERTH MINT
AUSTRALIA

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MEDIA RELEASE

THE BUDGERIGAR HAS LANDED ON PERTH MINT COIN

The beloved Budgerigar is the subject of the second release from The Perth Mint's magnificent *Birds of Australia* coin series.

This tiny green and yellow parrot is said to be the most popular of all pet birds; but in the wild, away from the confines of a cage, it lives in vast open spaces of inland Australia.

Budgerigars are currently in breeding season, and Australia is experiencing a boom period with reports of flocks of up to 15,000 at waterholes from Alice Springs to Barrow Creek. Viewed from a distance, these thriving budgies look like a swarm of insects.

"Well-known around the world as an intelligent companion, the charming Budgerigar was a natural choice for our stunning *Birds of Australia* coin program," said Ron Currie, Perth Mint Sales and Marketing Director.

"Judging by the popularity of the first release, the Red-tailed Black Cockatoo, we anticipate that our follow-up design will be well received by coin distributors and bird enthusiasts alike."

Social animals, Budgerigars require stimulation in the shape of toys and interaction with humans or other budgerigars. Some birds can even be taught to speak and whistle a tune.

Capturing the energy of the Budgerigar, the reverse of The Perth Mint coin portrays the beautiful creature in vibrant colour, perched on a log among impressions of native flora.

The future releases that comprise the *Birds of Australia* collector coin series will showcase colourful designs of the Regent Bowerbird, Rainbow Lorikeet and Splendid Fairy-wren. Each coin will be struck from 1/2oz of 99.9% pure silver in outstanding proof quality.

Issued as Australian legal tender, the obverse of the individual coins will depict the Ian Rank-Broadley effigy of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, the 2013 year-date and the monetary denomination.

Presented in a classic display box within an illustrated shipper, and accompanied by a numbered Certificate of Authenticity, every coin is priced at an affordable \$67.50.

Only 10,000 of each design will be released for sale worldwide, with an exclusive subscription offer available from The Perth Mint located at 310 Hay Street in East Perth. Orders can also be placed by telephoning toll free 1800 098 817 (Australia), +61 8 9421 7218 (International), or by visiting www.perthmint.com.au The *Birds of Australia* coins are also available from leading coin dealers and Australia Post.

Learn about more of The Perth Mint's popular collector coins on <http://blog.perthmint.com.au/> or follow The Perth Mint on Twitter @perthmint

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