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MEDIA RELEASE

PERTH MINT MAPS OUT FAMOUS AUSTRALIAN JOURNEY

The Perth Mint celebrates 200 years since the birth of famed explorer Ludwig Leichhardt with the release of a stunning new silver commemorative.

Depicting a portrait of Leichhardt and a map of his most famous expedition, the coin was unveiled in the pioneer's homeland of Germany at the Australian Embassy. A direct descendant of the voyager, named after his famous ancestor, joined the Australian Ambassador, Peter Tesch, and the Australian Foreign Minister, Senator Bob Carr, for the occasion.

Admired in his day as a national hero, Ludwig Leichhardt's scientific contribution continues to be recognised around the world. "Leichhardt's impact on Australian exploratory history is remarkable, and we're delighted to be releasing a commemorative coin in his honour," said Perth Mint Sales and Marketing Director, Ron Currie.

Considered to be one of the best-trained natural scientists of the 19th century, the German explorer, Ludwig Leichhardt immigrated to Australia in 1842 to study the continent's native wildlife and geological specimens.

In 1844, he commenced a 3,000 mile expedition from the Darling Downs in southern Queensland to Port Essington in Australia's Northern Territory, trekking across land previously unexplored by Europeans. Long considered to have perished, he and his party caused a sensation when they returned from their journey in December 1845.

Following this incredible passage, which made him famous, Leichhardt and his team set out on another expedition in 1848 bound for Western Australia's Swan River settlement. Shortly after, the entire party vanished with barely a trace, and for more than 160 years the disappearance of Leichhardt and his men has remained unsolved.

Struck from 2oz of 99.9% pure silver in outstanding quality, the 2013 Ludwig Leichhardt anniversary coin is priced at an affordable \$199.00.

Issued as Australian legal tender, the Ian Rank-Broadley effigy of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, the 2013 year-date and the monetary denomination are shown on the coin's obverse.

Presented in a classic display box within an illustrated shipper, and accompanied by a numbered Certificate of Authenticity, only 2,013 Leichhardt anniversary coins will be released for sale worldwide.

Orders can be placed by telephoning The Perth Mint on toll free 1800 098 817 (Australia), +61 8 9421 7218 (International), or by visiting www.perthmint.com.au Purchasers can also check availability of the release with their local Australia Post outlet or coin dealer.

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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