

MINT CONDITION

Classic Cars & Coins

Collectibles converge in Australia's Holden Heritage Series.

➤ THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN MINT joined Australian automaker GM Holden, Ltd. to celebrate the latter's 160th anniversary. In August the mint launched the Holden Heritage Coin Collection to mark the manufacturer's milestone. The Heritage series recognizes the instrumental role Holden cars have played in the country's history.



Holden opened its doors in 1856 as a saddlery, moving into the auto industry in the early 1900s. Its cars are an Australian institution and have mirrored the changes in national culture through the years.

Eleven classic Holden automobiles are featured on the colorized 31.51mm copper-nickel coins. The entire series, including a twelfth specimen and a collection tin, has sold out. However, the mint will offer a small quantity at Bathurst 1000, an annual car race held October 6-9 in New South Wales.



Individual coins are still available from the mint for AU\$15 (US\$11.40) if purchased domestically; the international price is AU\$13.60 (US\$10.23).

In conjunction with the release of this unique series, on August 20 Holden and the mint collaborated on "Mint Condition," the first-ever car show held at the coining facility. The event showcased classic Holden cars from the 1950s to the 1990s and displayed several of the vehicles featured in the coin series. To purchase, or to request more information, visit www.ramint.gov.au.



PHOTOS: ROYAL AUSTRALIAN MINT

▲ Car enthusiasts and coin collectors congregated at the Royal Australian Mint for a drive down memory lane. The "Mint Condition" car show was the first of its kind to be held at the facility.