

not of the medallions. Separate catalogues of the exhibits were available at the Exhibition and have appeared in other published works since.

2. Laurence Brown, *British Historical Medals Vol 2*, pp.207-8 (B A Seaby Ltd 1987). A list of the medallions known at the time of compilation.

3. Leslie Lewis Allen, *The World's Show – Crystal Palace Medals & Tokens 1851-1936*, pp.187-195, 272 (Coincraft of London 2000). A list of medallions seen by the author in his work at Coincraft, with some information about the Exhibition and with line drawings from the Illustrated London News.

4. John Harvey Pinches, *Medals by John Pinches – a Catalogue of Works Struck by the Company from 1840 to 1969* (Heraldry Today 1987).

Albert for an Albert – A Re-purposed Token.

Andrew Cunningham & Dave Smith



Fig. 1



Fig. 2

At first glance the item shown above (fig. 1) appears to be a souvenir, or similar, medalette. However, on closer inspection it can be seen to be a re-purposed public house token or check. A loop being added to a 1890s token of the Queen's Head public House of Cheltenham (fig 2). It has also very neatly been countermarked with the name Albert Dilley.

So why was it repurposed? The answer can only be supposition but perhaps the engraving provides a possible clue. Albert Dilley became landlord of the Queen's Head sometime after 1929, he was certainly there 1938-1953, several years after the token would have been produced and most probably no longer in use.

One possible theory is that Albert having taken over the licence discovered the token and chose to have it adapted for his own use. The engraving of his name is very neat, possibly machine produced, indicating a late date for its addition. Coupled with the addition of the loop, obviously intended to allow it to be hung, we can surmise that perhaps Albert had had the token adapted to hang on his watch chain (an Albert).

We will never know for sure, but one can well imagine the well-dressed Georgian gentleman sporting a suit and waistcoat, the pocket of which holds his watch, and from its chain hangs the token bearing both his name and that of the establishment he ran.