

# THE GRAND DUKE AND THE ROYAL BANK OF AVRAM

In Australia's smallest State (Tasmania) lives the Grand Duke of Avram who assisted in the formation of the Royal Bank of Avram which produces a series of "coin and notes" designated in Avrams and Ducals.

BORN IN KALGOORLIE, Western Australia, on March 12, 1944, (the name on his birth certificate is The Rt. Hon. The Earl of Enoch), he evolved to become much more than your "average" man, believing in the true meaning of Aristocracy (Aristos = best / Kratia = rule) – rule by the best or most qualified.

Prince John, the Most Noble Duke of Avram, appears in Who's Who between Elton John and Pope John Paul II and occupies twice as much space there as the Pope. Married with three children, he was Managing Director of Mary-Ellen Mines Pty Ltd, Tasmania (named after his first child) from 1969 to 1986 during which he excelled in a wide range of chosen fields and collected a multitude of hitherto dormant titles.

His academic qualifications began with a science degree, followed by a doctorate in litterarum in 1977 (with a thesis entitled "Bastardisation: the Basis of all Enterprise"), a doctorate in science and a master's in business administration. He worked for many years as a scientist in charge of laboratories. Later he received a doctorate in business administration

and civil law which was earned with a thesis examining the Australian banking system. He also obtained a Doctorate of Sacred Theology in 1978 and a Doctorate of Divinity in 1982 and was appointed the Cardinal, Archbishop of the Royal See of the Continent of Australia. In addition, he has received three honorary degrees, including one for engineering.

A book entitled "A Noble Title for Me?", available on computer disk, was issued by The Royal See. "Eminently" qualified to assist in writing such a book, His Grace the Duke has more acquired titles "than you can poke a stick at". Qabalistic Orders such as The Order of Avram, The Sacred Sword and Lance (1098), The Most Sacred Lamb, The Most Sacred Order of the Holy Wisdom etc. had foundations which were lost in antiquity (and there are many more). The book (considered a work of lexicography) has over 100 pages of detailed history on the creation of titles through the ages, tells how you can actually obtain similar titles and you are invited to apply through The Royal See. Even the British Government recently called for applications.

As well as his fiscal and educational enterprises he lays claim to having won various tennis titles after learning tennis from Harry Hopman, played Australian Rules football for the Carlton Club, was a member of the Tasmanian water polo team and was a club champion in lawn and indoor bowls.

After his father's death in 1974 he decided to reluctantly accept the following titles and armorial bearings and Letters Patent were issued in the following years. He was created Earl of Enoch in 1976, Duke of Avram, 1979, Marquis of Mathra, 1980, The Viscount Ulom, 1981, The Lord Rama, 1981, various forms of Knight – and again the list is even longer!

As his doctoral thesis for business administration was on "How to Form

and Operate Your Own Bank in Australia" it was a logical extension to create a bank, the Royal Bank of Avram, which later issued its own currency. A Royal charter dated October 1, 1980, was applied for and the bank was duly opened. It offered many of the services other banks provided, bank books, cheque accounts, bonds, term deposits, travellers' cheques, overdrafts and interest-bearing deposits.

In an interview conducted in 1981 for the (U.S.) Bank Note Reporter, The Duke (who signs his letters and paper currency as "Avram") advised "our bank was formed firstly to make it easier for my people to trade internationally, and secondly to finance my newest venture 'The Royal Australian Exchange', hopefully to become a world commodity exchange running on a 24-hour basis in several years' time".

The first branch was opened in Georgetown, Tasmania, in 1980. (A bank is not a building – it is a group of people who hold a common belief). A branch was initially opened in Strahan from 5.30 pm to 9.30 pm for the benefit of tourists, and because The Duke had a full-time job to hold down during normal hours. The building was also a craft and gift shop selling souvenirs and other items which were purchasable with the bank's currency in avrams or ducals. Accounts from Government instrumentalities were paid with bills of exchange (a form of cheque) on the Royal Bank of Avram and accepted, thus contributing legitimacy to their issue. Conversely, all cheques are bills of exchange.

Notes were issued with values of 1, 3, 5, 7 and 15 Avrams from 1 October, 1980, and a special commemorative 25 Avram note was issued on July 1, 1981, which offered best wishes to Prince Charles and Lady Di on their wedding day. Considering the tragic circumstances that followed with the death of Lady Di, they are now collectors' items in their own right because of those events.



THE ROYAL BANK OF AVRAM

This record of deposits and withdrawals should always be kept in a safe place, and if you think it is lost or stolen, notify the Bank immediately.

Name

STRAHAN, TAS.

BANK BOOK