

HRSA Auction – The Rare, the Early, and the Unusual. Radiofest 2014

Inspection from 8.30am Sat September 20th in University House Great Hall. Auction 10am.

The auction brings together a selected offering of top-drawer items from the core collections of eight long-term HRSA members. Chosen with great care, it represents a distilled assembly of the earliest, best and rarest in broadcast radio. A superb listing, offering a unique opportunity for buyers and great viewing for spectators.

NOTE ON VALUATION: Estimating value is difficult where an item or its clone has not changed hands for many years. Suggested figures are not necessarily reserves. They represent a rough guide to the low end of current value. Estimates allow for rarity, condition, valve value, provenant literature, and extras.

TESTING: All audio transformers have been tested, and all valves checked for filament continuity. Unless otherwise stated, they were good.

The catalogue offers only a brief description and one or two pictures for each lot. For further info and left bids, see terms, conditions and contact at end of listing.

1. Geco 'phone box: Mid-20s, w/2 heaphone sets, one good (GEC 4K ohms) \$90
2. United One: 1924-5, rare Udisco one valve, still branded United in '24-5. \$380
3. Tower Adventurer: 1926-7, Good metal, new cone by Buford Chidester. \$430
4. Grodan portable: 1926-7, 3 valve, Grose & Daniels (Sydney), concealed loop antenna, deep red bakelite panel, genuine early single earphone. \$400
5. Philips PCJJ Speaker: 1928, unusual russet mottled bakelite. \$300
6. BTH Bijou Xtal Set: 1925, all-original, neat semi-fixed detector model. \$325
7. Majestic Melody Cruiser: 1946, 110v model 921, novelty valve radio. Some tarnish to chrome sails, otherwise excellent. \$475
8. AWA AR19 Amplion: 1924-5, spectacular example, wooden petals are likely later replacements, unusual AWA branded Amplion display plate. \$340
9. Adler-Royal: 1924, 3 exposed valves slant-front. Rare bullet-head early UV199 valves for display only. \$275
10. Amplion Demonstrator: mid-20s, solid bakelite and finger-jointed cabinet. Vintage switching for in-store comparison of up to six early speakers. \$400
11. De Forest Reflex D-10: 1923. All-original, unique crystal detection plus four valves, rare full set of five plug-in coils, full spare set of De Forest isolantite triodes, all labels, instructions, literature. Perfect repro loop antenna. \$1100
12. Geco Horn: 1925. Spotless horn neck & bell. Some decal and plating loss to base. \$250
13. Western Electric Crystal Set: 1925. Marketed by Australian W/E in that year. With working W/E heaphones, perikon detector. Minor soldering needed. \$300
14. Spark coil: 1916-21 (?) Unbranded & handsome. Secondary coil open \$500
15. Atwater Kent Model 10C Plus +: 1924. Most perfect example seen. Five good brass-based/tipped 01As, cosmetically/electrically perfect. Plus neat A-K model H horn, literature, and superbly crafted display enclosure. \$2400.
16. Philips Neon Shop Display Sign: date unknown. A rare find in working condition. \$750

17. Radiola II AR-800: 1922. First commercial portable radio. Immaculate all-original, hard-to-source pioneer. Scarce pip-topped UV199s, good 'phones, literature, perfect mahogany cabinet. Rare & classy opportunity. \$1000
18. Brownie #3 Crystal set in display box: 1925-6. Not the common #2 model. Wave-change switch. Original box shows info on every surface. \$300
19. Ronette Microphone: from Holland. Excellent shape. \$200
20. Rothermel Microphone: from London. Spring mounted, good shape. \$220
21. Amperite Microphone: from USA. Again, excellent condition. \$210
22. Murdock loose coupler ++: 1919-21. Very early, superior solid bakelite Murdock parts for assembly as superb early breadboard Xtal receiver. \$550
23. CX 199s X 2: 1925-6 New in carton Cunningham UX199s. \$60 the pair
24. AWA novelty Xtal: date unknown. Radio set in repro AWA cig. Box. \$500
25. Cig box, brown: early 1930s. Original AWA promo bakelite cigarette box \$550
26. Cig box, grained ivory: 1930s. Another original promo box. Good shape. \$550
27. Beaver Baby Grand Midget Crystal Radio: 1925. Tiny set with a big reputation. Still in orig box, with intact direction sheet. \$375.
28. ESRVE Type RDN Crystal Radio: 1925-6. Also neat, rare & small. Made under license to Telefunken. Full translation of labelling & instructions. \$325
29. NU 199s X 2: 1926 National Union UX 199s new in carton. \$60 the pair.
30. Ediswan AT26: 1924. Rare, early, Europ base, evacuation tip. \$50
31. WeCo minis X 2: 1924. Hard to find W/Electric peanut triodes. \$65 the pair.
32. Marconi FE1: 1920. Very early screen grid valve from Marconi. Known then as a "space charge" valve. Extremely rare. \$500
33. Ferrocart Crystal Radio: late 1940s. NOT the later model sold with germanium diode. Grained green bakelite, open detector, marketed by Levenson's. \$280
34. Pandora Exposed 5 Valve: 1926. Its extreme rareness is a mystery in itself. 5 brass-based & tipped 01As (2 rainbow), superb orig. in every respect. \$650
35. Aust Radiola III: 1926. The Radiola that wasn't. Fascinating part of our history, with 2 beautiful repro WD11s (locally made). \$290 _
36. AWA C7/60 Radiola 4: 1925. A rare, signature set in Oz radio history. Orig. & complete, from superb smoker's cabinet to its smallest component. Literature and provenance, plus tiny p/supply run off small 12v battery. \$2100.
37. Sterling Cone Speaker: 1926. In orig packing, an early cone speaker as striking from the rear as the front. \$400.
38. Geco Jr Crystal Radio: 1925. Simplicity in a finger-jointed box from GEC. Good condition all round. \$160
39. Kodel Microphone Speaker: 1925. A clever folded horn speaker to imitate the most famous of Western Electric microphones. \$170.
40. Crosley Pup: 1924. Advertised as "The Skye Terrier", the single valve midget remains as sought-after 90 years on. Some small paintwork needed. That apart it is sound, with bottom label, spare WD12, T-shirt and extremely rare Crosley 'phones. \$375
41. Howe Promo Crystal Radio Midget Howe radio with bank promo money box \$120
42. Federal Jr Crystal Radio 1922. Classy double inductively tuned set. Beautiful decals/paint. Great shape for 92 year-old lady. With rare Fed. 'phones. \$375
43. Federal 59 1923. Imposing 4 valve set from Federal T & T. Every component superbly made by Federal. Orig. lid instructions, manual & provenance \$850
44. Federal 61: 1924. A year later Federal produced the 6-valve version. Manual, good working order. A most impressive centrepiece for any collection. \$1000

45. CAV Pyralin Tortoiseshell Pattern Horn: Few translucent petal horns survive. A lovely example of a unique attempt to make radio attractive. \$800
46. Concerton II by Stern & Stern: 1925. Swedish, 2 valve, first taken from factory packing by the present owner in 1990s. Unusual, very clean & original. \$400
47. Splitdorf Sparking Coil: No known date, likely early WW I vintage. Experimental laboratory equipment was a Splitdorf specialty. Working. \$260
48. Stromberg Carlson 5A Speaker: 1927 on elegant pedestal, new cone, fully restored. An ornament to any collection or living room. \$500
49. Westinghouse RC: 1921. Missing AFTS, which are mostly O/C anyway. O'wise great shape. Restorable early history for reasonable money. (The RC was arguably the first serious commercial broadcast receiver). \$300
50. Trench Set Mark III No. 789: 1914/18 survivor. From W.T. Factory, Soho, London. Rare opportunity for a premium piece of wireless history. Excellent unrestored condition, some minor cabinet flaws. \$3,300
51. Baldwin Type C Radio Head Set: 1924. Using new technology, N. Baldwin created the most sensitive phones ever. In original box and paper. \$90
52. Brunet 'Phones 1925. Beautiful 2K/side French headphones. Marketed here by Louis Cohen. New cord. \$40.
53. Geco 'Phone/Speaker Distribution box 1925. Another GEC accessory. Enabled switching between phones, or 2 sets to operate at once. \$50
54. V. Martin 4 valve TRF 1925-6. French set, unusually wired. Philips valves with European bases all marked 90%. Something quite different. \$275
55. RCA UZ 1320 Horn NOTE: This is *not* the common RCA model 1325. The model 1320 is earlier, rare, and far superior, with its heavy double milled-wheel diaphragm adjustment. In terrific original shape. Good sound. \$450
56. Set Pilot Super Wasp Coils 1928. Complete Antenna/Detector set boxed in lovely repro labels. \$450
57. AWA Headphones: 1924-5, by Ericcson, stamped BBC and AWA, 2k per side. Rarely found, in superb original shape. \$110

Terms & Conditions

If you are interested in any of this superb offering please read the following carefully:

1. This will not be a public auction. Our hope is for these pieces to be retained in Australian collections by people who understand their significance. Only HRSA members and affiliates can participate. Your membership number will be your bidding number, and must be registered as such prior to the auction.
2. There will be no buyer's premium – what you bid is what you pay.
3. Payment will be on the day. Cash preferred, cheques accepted. No credit card facilities available.
4. Any items passed in will NOT be available for general sale at the Sunday fair. This is a once-only opportunity. Reluctant vendors will gladly return unsold items to their collections.
5. The auctioneer will accept left bids prior to auction, or phone bids at auction, from HRSA members. If you want to bid by phone, you must have your member proxy on the floor on the day.
6. All buyers, present or absent, are responsible for safe carriage and removal of purchases – ie if absent, must have a proxy present at auction's end.

The catalogue offers only a brief description and one or two pictures for each lot. For further info, inquiry, and to leave prior bids, contact auctioneer well beforehand:

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