

Notes, Coins and Faces

Do you know who you're carrying around in your wallet
Faces on notes and coins in your pocket
Apart from kings or queens and Aussie animals, I mean
The famous people honoured in this way to be seen.

You won't get on a note unless long dead it seems
Or unless you are a king or a queen
That doesn't apply to postage stamps
Where sporting legends and others get a chance

There's no politicians shown on the notes
And for keeping that I'm sure we'd all vote
Our partisan politics means that for sure
There's none of them universally adored.

The queen has long been on the five dollar note
But since she died that don't seem quite right
King Charles you might think would replace her
But no, he won't be on the "fiver"

They've had a competition the design to replace
And it's not going to include any face
But a design to celebrate indigenous culture
There's probably some racists who this will abhor.

On the ten dollar note there's a bloke we call Banjo
Whose song Waltzing Matilda we all know
Mary Gilmour's face is on the reverse
She was a poet, and social activist.

The "Lobster" shows reverend doctor John Flynn
The flying doctor service he did begin
And Mary Reiby from early colonial years
A reformed horse thief who did good deeds.

The fifty buck note shows Edith Cowan
In Federal Parliament she was the first woman
Also shown is David Unaipon
A published indigenous author, the first one.

Dame Nellie the singer graces the one hundred note
With John Monash, soldier, engineer, top bloke
I don't see them often because you know
My finances need only the note with Banjo.

Kevin Davis
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