# Blue Peter 50p coin sells for £205 amid surge in rare coin auctions



In an intriguing moment for collectors, a rare 50 pence coin featured in a recent eBay auction sold for £205, significantly outstripping its original face value. This particular coin, known as the Blue Peter 50p, was released in 2009 in anticipation of the London 2012 Olympic Games. Designed by Florence Jackson, the winner of a Blue Peter competition, the coin depicts an athlete in mid-air during a high jump – a fitting tribute to the sporting event it commemorates.

Although around 20,000 units of this coin were minted, it never officially entered circulation; nevertheless, many of these coins found their way into everyday transactions. Originally priced at £1.09, the Blue Peter coin now commands much higher prices, with other recent eBay sales also indicating a robust collector interest—one instance even saw a coin sell for £286.

The phenomenon of valuable coins, particularly the 50 pence piece, has become increasingly pronounced in recent years. While the Blue Peter coin is noteworthy, it is part of a broader trend of 50p pieces that have captured the attention of collectors. For instance, the Kew Gardens 50p coin, released in the same year but with a much smaller mintage of just 210,000, is recognised as one of the most sought-after coins in the UK, often selling for over £200 in auctions. The Kew Gardens coin features the stunning design of the Chinese Pagoda, enhancing its appeal and market value.

What factors contribute to the desirability of these coins? Generally, rarity plays a pivotal role. The limited mintage of certain coins makes them particularly attractive to collectors, alongside their design and the condition in which they are found. Errors in design can also elevate a coin’s value, yielding substantial returns to astute collectors who can identify such anomalies. Collecting formats differ as well; many enthusiasts opt for online auctions like eBay, while others prefer traditional sales through reputable coin dealers for potentially higher appraisals.

The Royal Mint has cited the Kew Gardens coin as the cornerstone of its most valuable 50p list, alongside notable releases like the Olympic Goalball and Olympic Tennis coins from 2011. As collector interest continues to rise, examining the market closely can yield insights into which coins might hold significant future value. The 50p coin, particularly its most celebrated variants, thus remains a vibrant area of investment and enthusiasm, captivating the imaginations of a new generation of collectors.

As trends emerge and evolve within the numismatic community, it is clear that these small coins, rich in history and artistry, provide not only a connection to significant cultural events but also opportunities for both enjoyment and investment in the realm of collecting.

**Reference Map:**

1. Lead article
2. Related background on rare 50p coins
3. Specifics about the Kew Gardens coin
4. Importance of mintage and design in coin collecting
5. General collector trends and choices in the market

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.theargus.co.uk/news/25165184.royal-mint-rare-50p-coin-sold-200-ebay/?ref=rss> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.royalmint.com/stories/collect/the-rarest-50p-coins> - This article from The Royal Mint discusses the rarest 50p coins in circulation, including the Kew Gardens 2009 coin, which has a mintage of just 210,000 and is highly sought after by collectors. The article also mentions other rare coins such as the Olympic Goalball 2011 and Olympic Tennis 2011, highlighting their limited mintage and unique designs.
3. <https://www.royalmint.com/discover/the-50-year-anniversary-of-the-50-pence-piece/kew-gardens-50p//> - The Royal Mint's page on the Kew Gardens 50p coin details its design, featuring the Chinese Pagoda at Kew Gardens, and its rarity due to a mintage of only 210,000 coins. It emphasizes the coin's status as one of the most coveted 50p coins among collectors.
4. <https://www.royalmint.com/aboutus/press-centre/ahead-of-the-50th-anniversary-of-decimalisation-the-royal-mint-reveals-the-rarest-coins-in-circulation/> - In this press release, The Royal Mint reveals the rarest coins in circulation ahead of the 50th anniversary of decimalisation. The Kew Gardens 50p coin is highlighted as the most coveted, with a mintage of just 210,000, and other rare designs like the 2011 Olympic 50p coins and the Peter Rabbit 2018 coins are also mentioned.
5. <https://www.worcesternews.co.uk/news/24321518.royal-mint-kew-gardens-2009-rare-50p-sold-80-ebay/> - This article reports on a Kew Gardens 2009 rare 50p coin sold for £80 on eBay. It highlights the coin's rarity and desirability among collectors, noting that only 210,000 were minted, making it one of the most sought-after 50p coins.
6. <https://www.hamhigh.co.uk/news/23950949.royal-mints-rarest-50p-coin-sells-ebay-195/> - This article discusses the sale of The Royal Mint's rarest 50p coin, the Kew Gardens 2009 coin, on eBay for £195. It provides details about the coin's design, mintage of 210,000, and its status as the most coveted coin in circulation.
7. <https://www.bracknellnews.co.uk/news/national/uk-today/23972494.royal-mint-rare-50p-coin-sells-200-ebay/> - This article reports on a Kew Gardens 50p coin selling for over £200 on eBay. It highlights the coin's rarity, with only 210,000 minted, and its high value among collectors, noting that it is one of the UK's rarest and most valuable coins.