



This Month's ID

Recording Meteorites

Rare 1992 Ten Pence Coin

PAS Find of Note

Detecting Tips

Monthly Competition Winners

York Club Member Finds Iconographic Ring



UKDN Word Table of Contents

Click on title to go to page

Regulars

- 3 - The latest from Admin**
- 7 - PAS Find of Note**
- 16 - This month's identification**
- 31 - Detecting tip of the month
& machine settings**
- 17 - South Lanc's & Cheshire
Cartoon & UKDN Crossword**
- 21 - Did you see**
- 36 - About us**

Competition Results

- 9 - Coin of the Month**
- 11 - Artefact of the Month**
- 14 - UKDN fun DSLR camera
competition**
- 15 - UKDN fun point, press and
pray camera competition**

Features

- 18 - Rare 1992 ten pence coin**
- 22 - Out and about in the Red
Rocket**
- 28 - York member finds
Iconographic gold ring**
- 33 - Recording meteorites**

UKDN would like to thank Jorvik Andi for the cover page image
and members for their contributions

A Message from Admin

Greetings to you all from the UKDN Team, we have another great instalment for you this month for which we have to thank PhilD and the magazine team. There is a lot of hard work that goes into producing the magazine, so if you can help with any articles, no matter how big or small, then do contact PhilD he'd love to hear from you.

The weather has been glorious in recent weeks with the snow and ice now a distant memory. Now we seem to have jumped straight from winter into summer with most of the fields having been planted up and are growing well, although as hard as concrete in many parts of the country becoming very difficult to dig. Congratulations to those that have managed to get out and make some great finds this last month. Some great coins and objects have been shown on the forum and some great ID's made, as usual. We'd certainly like to thank all those who give their time in researching and identifying members finds, you add value to UKDN.

We will all just have to have some patience now until July or August for the harvest!

Whist we're on the subject of a 'long hot summer' this maybe a good time to remind our members of the good quality UKDN caps we have for sale, if you're interested in purchasing one then contact one of the team, all proceeds go toward the running costs of UKDN.

Don't forget to post all your fantastic finds up on the forum and in the 'Find of the Month' competitions, you never know you may just have found something special! We also have the photo of the month competitions, so if you're a happy snapper then we'd love to see your pictures, be they detecting related or not.

Brian & Mo' and the UKDN Team

Click below to go to the shop



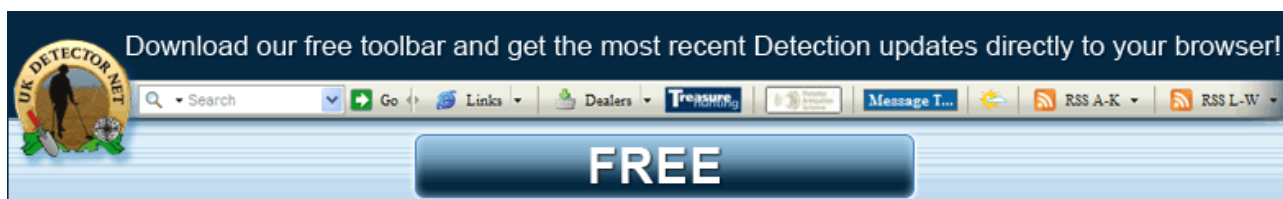
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Design is as the photo complete with your username. Cost is £7.50 including postage. If you require one then click the Paypal "Buy Now" button on the UKDN Shop page or send cheque/PO made out to UK DETECTOR NET, to Mr B Cross, 52 Stonehills Lane, Runcorn, Cheshire WA7 5UL

Badge creation is now very fast. Go to

[**UKDN Shop**](#)



UKDN Toolbar

UKDN have had for several years an add-on which makes an additional toolbar to your browser enabling many, many functions within and out of UKDN to be accessible at the touch of the mouse. Browser toolbars are nothing new, you can get them from most web-based businesses such as hotmail, yahoo and Microsoft.

Take a look at the page showing all the features of the UKDN toolbar and you'll be amazed at what it can enable you to do i.e flick to a dealers site instantly, go to UKDN Word magazines straight away, find tide information, beginners stuff, route planners etc, etc.

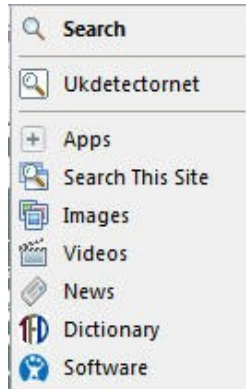
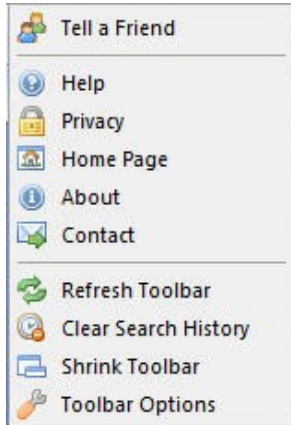
It comes as a simple download, doesn't use masses of resources and is constantly being updated to include more and more useful info.

Download it today, if you're not happy with it then it can be easily be uninstalled, we're sure you'll love it.

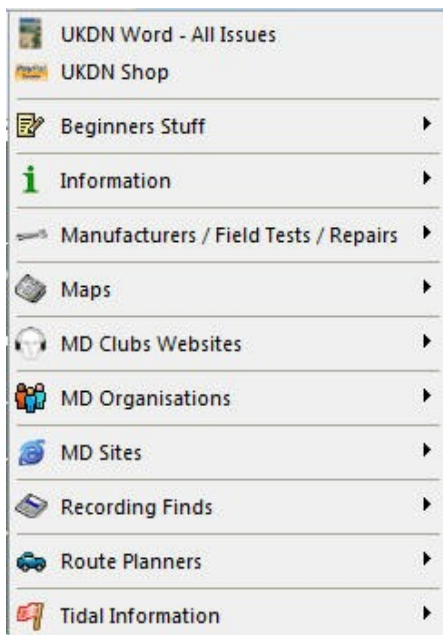
The UKDN Toolbar



The UKDN Toolbar is unique to the UKDN and no other metal detecting club or forum. Below are just a few samples of what our toolbar has on offer for our members. This is the toolbar options on the far left side where the UKDN logo is situated.



Immediately after the logo is a search box, the search engine used is Bing. There are various options to choose from or you may just type in what you wish to search for.



In the links section there are multiple menus and submenus. Loads of information is available at your fingertips with no need to search the net.

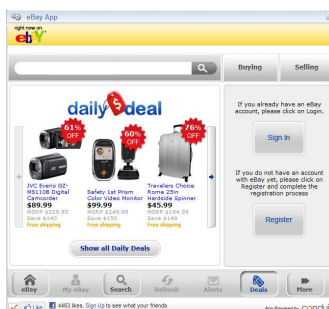


After the links is our dealers section. In this section you'll have links to various supplies, hartburgers, coin cases etc



Our next two icons are links to the TH Magazine and the PAS. After the PAS icon is a news ticker.

Other icons in sequence are: weather, PAS RSS feeds which will provide you with real time finds updates. There's an E-bay app, Iplayer & tv links, The Free Dictionary, Social Networking Sites, and last but not least a large selection of online flash games to play.



All items are subject to change which will automatically update your toolbar.

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[***Link to UKDN Shop***](#)

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1000 small bags - £12.00 inc. postage

100 medium bags - £2.80 inc. postage

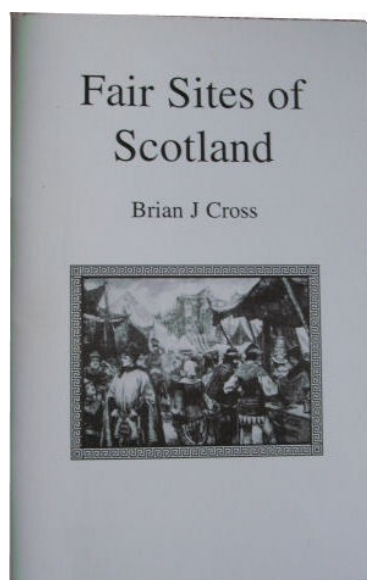
500 medium bags - £8.50 inc. postage

1000 medium bags - £13.50 inc. postage

100 large bags - £3.99 inc. postage

500 large bags - £13.50 inc. postage

1000 large bags - £22.00 inc. postage



Fair Sites of Scotland by Brian Cross

Written by UKDN Forum Founder Brian Cross this book researches all the Cattle, Sheep and Horse fair sites in Scotland. It is an excellent research tool for any detectorist intent on discovering some of these highly productive metal detecting sites.

Originally sold for £6.50 + postage Brian is offering these books to UK DETECTOR NET for a one-off price of £6.41 including postage and Paypal fees.

All the proceeds i.e. £5 from the sale of each book will go to the server costs of UK DETECTOR NET.

[***Buy it Here***](#)

PAS Find of Note of National Importance



Report generated by the Portable Antiquities Scheme's database



Report for : COIN
Unique ID: WMID-9A8817

[Click here for
PAS Record](#)

Object type certainty: Certain
Printed @ Sunday 27th March 2011

Permanent stable URL for this find: <http://www.finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/425736>

Description: A silver medieval Venetian soldino, probably of Francesco Foscari, doge from 1423 to 1457. The obverse depicts the Doge kneeling left and holding a banner, and reads FR[A.FOSCA]RI DVX, with the mint control KQ to the right. The reverse depicts the winged and nimbate lion of St Mark facing within a circle, holding book of gospels and reads [S.MARC]VS VENETI.

Notes: As the coin is somewhat worn and damaged, attribution to Doge Francesco Foscari is based on the only legible letters of the Doge's name, R and I. However, Foscari appears to be the only Doge whose name ends with these letters, making him the most likely candidate.

In Daubney's 2009 paper on the circulation of Venetian coinage in late Medieval England, Daubney records no known examples of Foscari's coinage from Britain (Daubney 2009, 187). Assuming that the attribution is correct, this coin is therefore of some importance.

Subsequent action after recording: 1

Temporal details

Broad period: MEDIEVAL

Subperiod from: 3

Date from: AD 1423

Date to: AD 1457

Coin data (numismatics)

Mint or issue place: Venice

Type: Venetian soldino of Francesco Foscarii type 6

Obverse description: Doge kneeling left and holding a banner, mint control K Q to right

Obverse inscription: FR[A.FOSCA]RI DVX

Reverse description: Winged and nimbate lion of St Mark facing within a circle, holding book of gospels.

Reverse inscription: [S.MARC]VS VENETI].

Die axis: 6 o'clock

Degree of wear: Worn: fine

Spatial data

County: Staffordshire

District: Lichfield

Finder and recorder details

Recorded by: Mr Tom Brindle

Identified by: Mr Tom Brindle

Secondary identifier: Adam Daubney

References cited

Adam Daubney, 2009 The circulation and prohibition of Venetian soldini in late medieval England, 79, pp187..



This record does not constitute an authentication of the object, it is an opinion only. E&OE. The Scheme cannot provide valuations.

Page 1/1



Copyright
Barry Carpenter

Found by Barry Carpenter AKA Puffin

For Soldino
Distribution
paste the link below into Google
Earth/
View in Google Maps
Search box

[http://finds.org.uk/database/
search/results/description/soldino/
format/kml](http://finds.org.uk/database/search/results/description/soldino/format/kml)



Coin of The Month

Trajan Silver Denarius - By Tinnersdad



I am Norman Phillips, aka Tinnersdad. I have been detecting now for about 10 years. I have been fortunate enough to have found several silver roman coins over the years but this Trajan is one of the best condition wise.

This particular Sunday, my son Chris came over, we go out most Sundays, he is my metal detecting partner. I t usually depends on the weather and what fields are available as to where we decide to go. This day one of our fields had been sown and rolled, so conditions were ideal. Once the corn has sprouted we keep off, so we knew this was probably the last opportunity for this field this spring. We usually ask, what will it be today? The answer is nothing but silver or gold. We are still waiting for the gold. This particular field has produced roman coins and artefacts in the past so we were quite hopeful. As is normal when we arrive on site , we set off in different directions and then meet up to discuss our finds if any? However this day I was the lucky one as this coin was only just covered, and produced such a good signal i didn't even have to dig, just moved the soil with my probe and there it was in all its glory, I could hardly believe my luc k. I couldn't contain my self so rang Chris on his mobile and he came straight over, he was very green to say the least. Other finds that day did include some roman bronze coins, but not much detail. Also I had a very nice beehive thimble which has been posted. A very memorable day indeed. Cheers T.D.





Tinnersdad

Artefact of the Month

Vervel (Hawking Ring) - By Paul Reynolds



Lord of the Ring

This was sounding like a very good dig on an old village and church site in East Stratton, Hampshire, that sounded just too good to miss. The dig was run in association with Mick Turrell at Leisure Promotions and all proceeds were going towards the restoration of the Stratton village church roof.

My twelve hour shifts at work were swapped with a work colleague so I could attend (Cheers Bill you're a star.) Weather was checked and looked like a bright sunny day for a change so out came the combat

shorts and t-shirts that hadn't seen the light of day all through the winter; this was short lived as the weather was double checked two hours later and it had turned into cloud with light rain. Those combat shorts soon went back into hiding again till summer comes.

My trusty XP Goldmaxx Power was given a good clean and my headphones charged and all my butties and drink were in the fridge ready for the off. The morning came and I still left at 08.00 clock in the morning knowing the dig was only 15 minutes up the road and it didn't start until

Treasure
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10.00clock but the excitement gets to me sometimes. Was surprised at the amount of cars already there so I think others must get that excitement of a dig and it's not just me. Spent a good hour or so chatting to various people and looking at finds, always like the socialising part of a dig just as much as the detecting itself, met a nice couple who had parked next to me, they had driven up from Devon.

Time had come for the detecting and it was a short walk to the first field and Mick Turrell was there to give his normal talk of where we could detect and brief history of the area. There were a few shouts of why was Mick dressed as the Grim Reaper in a full length black rain coat, must admit he did look a bit like the reaper all he needed was a scythe.

That was it we were off my idea was to go quick through the first field only digging the really good signals, this resulted in a worn Georgian penny and one of those huge cartwheel pennies, the signal from them nearly blows your ears off.

I was now in the old village field and could see a huge blackened soil area so headed straight for that, there was iron everywhere so had to work the Goldie a lot slower than normal. Finds were not that good reaching the far end of the field had about nine musket balls and a broken buckle.

I heard reports of hammies coming out from the area so decided to make my way back through the field again. This is when I got the signal of the hawking ring/vervel, it wasn't a very strong signal but none the less it was a signal worthy of digging in amongst all the iron. The ring wasn't that deep it came out in the first spade and to be honest my first thought was its a

washer and it nearly went in my grot pouch. It wasn't until I slightly wiped the ring I could make out writing so very gently wiped a bit more it all become clear it read **M WILL RUSSELL OF STRATTON** and on the back it read **IN HAMPSHIRE.**



William Russell
5th Earl and 1st Duke of Bedford

Still was a bit unsure what the item was but had a little feeling it was a hawking ring but having never seeing one was a bit unsure. Spent another few hours in the same field after the elusive hammies but they didn't pass under my coil, so it was off to have some grub back at the car.

On the way back to the car I passed the FLO tent so thought I would pop in and show them my unknown item. Rob Webley the Hampshire FLO was there who I have recorded many finds

with and he said straight away yes it was a Silver Hawking Ring/Vervel and was pleased to see it and it could well be a treasure item. As we were examining the item the local village historian saw the writing and that's when I found out that the person to who it belonged to was known as Lord William Russell, 1639-1683 He was sent to the tower of London and beheaded in 1683 for the alleged Rye House Plot to murder King Charles II and his brother James Duke Of York. Russell was executed by Jack Ketch on 21 July 1683 at Lincolns Inn Fields. The execution was said to have been conducted quite poorly by Ketch. Ketch later wrote a letter of apology.

The FIO also informed me that the land we were on was still owned by William Russell's descendants so they could have a chance of claiming the item but this will be looked into at a later date. The local Village Historian also asked me if I would be willing to donate the ring to local village and I said yes I would be more than willing but it would have to go through the proper procedure first. I like to see local history staying local.

Spent another few hours out in varying fields still after one of those hammies that seemed to be popping up from all over the place and my efforts were rewarded in the end with a rather tatty and clipped Charles I Penny, but hey I couldn't complain I had in my finds pouch what at first I thought was a washer that turned out to be a rather interesting find with some great researchable history. Roll on the next outing, what a fascinating hobby this is.

(Oh and it was a glorious sunny day I could of worn those combat shorts.)
Paul Reynolds. (aka: PaulR)



Paul Reynolds



Vervels on the PAS

[Vervels on the PAS site - details](#)

[Link for pasting into Google Maps Search Box](#)

UKDN FUN DSLR - Camera PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION



*Scratchiemmm (Mary) was the winner with
"Bonfire"*

Taken with a Canon 60D Camera with 18 - 135mm lens

UKDN Fun Point Press and Pray - Camera PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION



*the barnacle (Steven Wright) was the winner with
"Mouse in the house"
Taken with a Go Pro HD Camera*

This Months Identification

Identifying an Edward Penny



When it comes to identifying coins, one of the most challenging coins detector users find, is without doubt an Edward Penny. Or, as many detectorists say an 'Eddie' Penny. Yet these coins are also one of the most popular hammered coins found. It was therefore no surprise to see this particular hammered in the 'Please identify my finds' section of the UKDN forum this month.

So where do we start? Well as with all coins we have an obverse and a reverse (Front and Back in layman's terms). The obverse is usually the head of the monarch and reverse is usually the other side, often portraying a cross or shield of some kind, on hammered coins.

On this particular coin the real give away is the annulet stops in the legend, on the obverse side. This almost certainly dated the coin to Edward III. Now it was a case of finding out what coinage.

Well the first two coinages of Edward III could be ruled out pretty quickly. The reason being that the First Coinage (1327-1335) did not have annulet stops, and was merely a continuation of the issues of Edward II and the Second Coinage (1335-1343) issued no pennies, or at least none are known. That led us on to the later issues, including the Florin and Pre and Post Treaty.



Now was the time to have a little look at the reverse. The reverse read CIVITAS DVNE/LMIE which immediately indicated it was a coin minted in Durham.

Not only that this particular inscription was only used for Pre Treaty series C, D, E and G. All other coins minted at Durham had different spellings such as DOR/ELME or DV/ELM to name a couple. So the hard bit had been done.

Upon further reading it was noted that series C had a reverse barred Non the reverse (back to front N), yet Series D had an unbarred one, Series E a crozier before CIVI and Series F, read CIVITAS DVR EME.

As this coin had a reverse barred N on the reverse it was possible to say with some confidence that we had a Fourth, Pre Treaty Coinage, of Edward III (1351-1361) Penny.

Narrowed down even further for the fact that Class C was only minted between the years 1351-1352). This was confirmed by again checking the obverse legend which read EDWARDVS REX ANGLIE. It also had an Initial mark as Cross type 1 and a Lombardic letter m. So as you can see it isn't really as hard as you think.

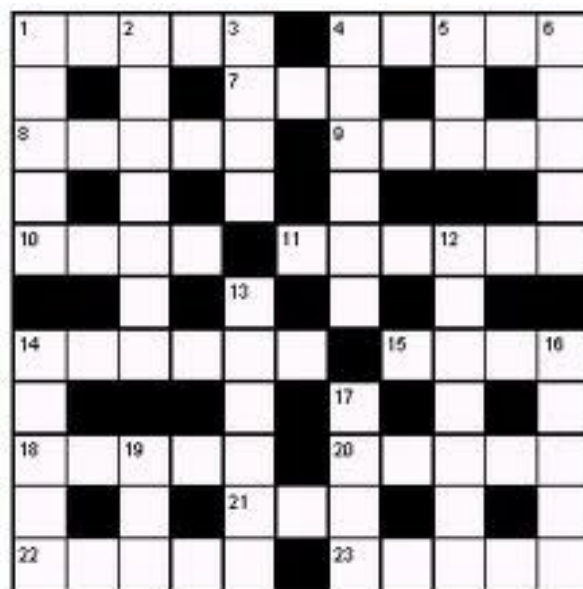
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The South-Lancs & Cheshire Metal Detecting Club has been in existence since September 1978 and for a long period in the 1980's and 1990's the club newsletter was written by both Brian Cross and John Fargher. The front covers were designed by Dave Berry, club member and resident artist. The newsletter front cover became a classic of good humour, hobby relevance and fine design and each month the club members looked forward to what Dave was going to put on the cover. Many club members could see themselves captured by Dave and featured on the cover, Brian & Mo' for example, courting at the time, often saw themselves below a heart carved in a tree or Brian would be featured wearing Wellingtons on the end of suspenders.

Dave has kindly given us permission to feature some of the classic covers and for this we thank him. Here's another classic from Dave Berry, dating from sometime in December 1984.

Cover Explanation:

Bit of a Mickey-Take by Dave on Ritchie Leech's finds rate. All good fun as, believe it or not, Ritchie HAS made some tremendous finds !!



PhilD has created a web based crossword which will suit all you crossword buffs. This one fills it in for you as you get the words correct.

Take a look by clicking the crossword.



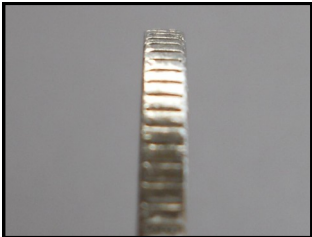
Rare 1992 ten-pence coin

My forum name is Jorvik Andi and as you may guess I'm from York and my name is Andi Brigham, I have been interested in coins for many years and at the age of 48 I turned my attention to metal detecting (in the hope of finding some nice old coins, which I have found a few now). That was in September 2009 and that is when I found the UKDN forum site, what I really like about this forum is that it allows the members to partake in a wide range of non-metal detecting subjects.

I also found that these members hold a great wealth of knowledge about not only metal detecting and the coins and artefacts found by them (and others), but also of many other things too. The fact that they freely share their knowledge with the other members is a great asset to all, I'm sure that we all have learned something we didn't know by being a member of UKDN.

So following on from one of these topics which was called "Found in change received", I was asked to do this article about the rare 1992 ten-pence coin.





In 1992 the Royal Mint started production of the smaller (reduced sized) ten-pence coin, this coin has a diameter of 24.5mm, weighs 6.5 grammes, is cupro-nickel in composition and has a milled edge. We will start our journey by looking at a group of 1992 ten-pence coins, looking on their milled edge you will notice that some are different, some will show a curved edge (known as "Wired" edge) whilst the others have a sharper edge (known as a "Flat" edge for obvious reasons).

	<p>Illustrated left is a group of 1992 coins, the first 2 coins on the far left and the last 2 coins on the right are "Flat" edged coins. The 3 middle coins are the "Wired" edged coins.</p>
	
<p>Close up detail of "Wired" edge coin</p>	<p>Close up detail of "Flat" edge coin</p>

So now we have been able to split these coins into two groups "Wired" and "Flat" edged, now the fun starts!











The Royal Mint used different dies to produce this run of coins, in total there are five different varieties to look out for, one of these is worth saving and another of these is rare.

I will now try and help you distinguish between the different dies and combinations to be found.

<p>Obverse 1:</p> <p>The letters L and I in Elizabeth point between two border beads.</p>	
<p>Obverse 2:</p> <p>The letters L and I in Elizabeth point directly at a border bead.</p>	
<p>Reverse 1:</p> <p>The number 1 in the "10" point directly at a border bead. (Imagine a line drawn through the centre of the number 1).</p>	
<p>Reverse 2:</p> <p>The number 1 in the "10" point between two border beads.</p>	

This is all the relevant information one will need to be able to sort the coins into the five different types.

Now I will endeavour to list the five varieties or types and an approximate breakdown into percentages produced for each one.

<p>Type 1: Wired edge, obverse 1 reverse 1.</p> <p>This is thought to be the earliest type into general production; it would appear that the "Wired" edge was abandoned sometime around mid 1992 production. This type represents approx. 40% of the total mintage produced.</p>	 
<p>Type 2: Flat edge, obverse 1 reverse 1.</p> <p>A continuation of the type 1, but on different planchets (blanks) with Flat edges. This type also represents approx. 40% of the total mintage produced.</p>	 
<p>Type 3: Flat edge, obverse 1 reverse 2.</p> <p>An extremely uncommon variety, referred to as the "between/between" type. This type represents approx. 3% of the total mintage produced; this type could become desirable in the future.</p>	 
<p>Type 4: Flat edge, obverse 2 reverse 1.</p> <p>This is the rarest variety, referred to as the "dot/to dot" variety. This type represents less than 1% of the total mintage, with some estimates as low as 0.5%. This type would be worth saving for the future.</p>	 
<p>Type 5: Flat edge, obverse 2 reverse 2.</p> <p>This type represents approx. 15% of the total mintage produced. This is the type found in proof sets and also the BU mint folders.</p>	 

So now you know all I can tell you about the 1992 ten-pence coin, hoping that you all find at least one type 4 variety to put away, just in case they become valuable.

Jorvik Andi (Andi Brigham)



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Jorvik Andi

Andi detecting the spoil heaps at Heslington 2010



With almost 500 members visiting every single day and 100's of new posts every day it is so easy for you, the members of UKDN, to miss out on some very interesting posts. So, each month in the magazine we will bring to your attention some posts that you might have missed like.....Click on links

Whistling dog	Warning as tide traps 93
Over the moon	Staffs conservation hoard tour
For a laugh captions please	Norfolk items are treasure
Bronze age hammer rare?	Roman treasure find so saucy
Three hammereds from a stream	Protection for battlefields
Bronze age axe head	Battlefields trust events 2011



OUT AND ABOUT IN THE RED ROCKET BY BRIAN & Mo'

From January 1996 Issue 125

"Scrap the Red Rocket ???" by Brian & Mo'

Could we do the unthinkable? Should it really be relegated to the scrap heap? Or should we, as Jimmy Sierra suggested, find a suitable parking lot and let her spend the rest of her days slowly rusting away with her memories intact? Several times we stopped ourselves to ask, "Were we really thinking of scrapping the famous Red Rocket?"

Actually we were seriously contemplating the idea, not out of desire but afraid of getting an order from the local council, a ticket from the police and a few stern words from the neighbours. For virtually twelve months the famous Red Rocket had sat forlorn in its parking bay opposite our house. The tax had run out, the insurance was well over-due and cob-webs had taken over where once there was polish of a sort.

time had come to have her put down

It had not moved since our last trip partly because Brian had lost his bottle about travelling at 25 mph on

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from***

the
searcher

The M62, partly because we had caught the bug for detecting abroad and partly because the MOT had also run out. The bodywork, previously like a colander, had suffered badly and the paintwork was now as dull as Brian's eyes after an 18 hour shift. We envisaged that nothing short of a small fortune could put her to rights and common-sense told us that the time had come to have her put down.

We elected to buy another van and started to shop around with the intention of spending several thousands of pounds. For three weeks we toured the Merseyside area looking vans up and down and always coming home to say, with a glance at the Red Rocker, "It doesn't look that bad really does it?"

Almost without exception each caravanette we looked at looked as though it had been dragged from the breakers yard only the day before – they were disgusting!

We let him tow the Red Rocket

Brian started up the Red Rocket for the first time in months and the silencer promptly blew off!! We got a company out that tunes engines and they discovered that the carb was knackered. Within days a new one was fitted and the van sounded brilliant except for the silencer. We were told of a bloke who could do up the bodywork for a reasonable price. He came to the house took one look at it and promised to have it looking like a new pin, complete with MOT and new silencer within three weeks and for much less than the price of another second-hand van. We let him tow the Red Rocket away and waited.

It looked a dream and ran like a dream

True to his word the Red Rocket arrived back in Stonehills Lane looking like it must have done fourteen years ago. The neighbours must have had a shock for we're sure they thought they'd seen the last of it ! It looked a dream and ran like a dream – all we needed now was to load it up and head for some land – we hadn't realised just how much we missed detecting on the land.

A few days later, we were heading down the M62 towards our destination on the other side of the Pennines. We must have gone all of fourteen miles when police cordons and flashing lights steered us off the M62 towards the M6 at Thelwall Viaduct. The M62 had been completely closed after an accident and all traffic was being diverted towards

the Thelwall Viaduct a notorious blackspot on a good day. Never mind, it was good to be away from home breathing in the fresh country air. Two and a half hours later, after having travelled five miles, Brian commented that breathing this air was akin to putting your head in a bucket full of petrol!!

We did finally get free of the jams and had an uneventful journey to our destination, the same area that we searched when we wrote our last article. The Rocket performed superbly and never caused us any problems, it was a pleasure to arrive on site with clean hands.

We hoped to stay in the car park of the pub where we stopped last year but when we got there we found it closed for some sort of refurbishment. We enquired with the locals and found that he had moved to another pub. We met up with him in his new pub and presented him with a frame of reproduction coins complete with the name of the pub and a short history of the coins. This was a gift to him for allowing us to stay on the pub car park last year at no cost. He was pleased as punch but unfortunately couldn't do the same again as his new pub had no parking at the rear.

After a drink or two we drove to the fields we had worked knowing we could park at the end of the track which led to the fields. Here we bedded down for the night feeling chuffed that we had given the Red Rocket a new lease of life.

Two huge portions of the three fields were available to us and so the next morning we started our searches, Mo with her brand-new Spectrum XLT.

The weather was warm so we worked in t-shirts all day coming back to the van frequently to empty our pouches of the many bits and pieces we were finding. Readers may remember that it was on these fields last year that we came off these fields with over 20 lbs of buttons, bits of lead, musket balls and other typical finds as well as some hammered coins and a gold posy ring.

Walt had got permission for more fields

Word soon gets around the grapevine whenever we visit these small villages. One villager told us that Walt, the chap who had given the plate to Mo last year, had heard that we were on the fields, and he would be calling on us later. Sure enough he showed up later the next day along with permission he had gained for us to search a field across the lane. He also told us that he had told his best friend who owned two fields several miles away all about us and instructed us to call on him before we went home.

As we'd always wanted to search the field across the lane we introduced ourselves to the landowner the next day. We had twenty-odd acres of beautiful flat ploughed land to search but, despite searching it for four or five hours, we got very little off it.

more like a vagrant than a landowner!

We opted to see Walt's buddy with a view to searching the couple of fields that he had in an area we'd never looked at before. As we drove into the farm yard it was as if we'd passed through a time warp to Georgian or

Victorian times!

A heap of dung lay smoldering in the middle of the yard which was surrounded by derelict buildings one of which appeared to be the cottage in which George and his wife lived. We found his wife and told her that Walt had sent us, she called out for George and he came out from his pigeon loft, the upstairs of a derelict barn, clutching a handful of pigeon eggs which he threw onto the dung heap. They were promptly snapped up as a treat by the numerous hens and cocks that were roaming the yard. George blended well into the background for he wore the scruffiest of coat and trousers, and looked more like a vagrant than a landowner!

We introduced ourselves and within minutes we felt we'd known this character for years. We told him about our detecting and he listened, genuinely interested, telling us that we could go anywhere on the land surrounding the farm which was all pasture and which contained, amongst other things, a ten acre lake and windmill.

"Could you do something with some plums?" he asked Mo'. When she said she could he took us to the orchard which we supposed was left as orchards used to be, wild, free and uncultivated. There we saw the plum trees and the carpet of plums which must have been several plums thick. George told Brian to get several carrier bags and then proceeded to fill them up. We didn't stop until we had about 20 lbs weight of plums.

Down Featherbed Lane

We elected not to search the pasture land he walked us around once we heard that the two ploughed fields had just been rolled and seeded. George directed us to them, they were down a lane with the quaint name of Featherbed Lane, so-called because of the thistles that used to line the lane. According to George when he was a lad the lane would be filled with white down at that time of the year.

We drove around for quite some time looking for this lane passing only a rough bridle path until, of course, we realised that this path was Featherbed Lane. The fields were half a mile down here so gingerly we took the Red Rocket down this rough path which had hedges on one side and a six foot dyke on the other. We arrived at the fields and just about managed to turn the Rocket around at the field gate. We parked up and detected the fields finding a Victorian groat until ... the heavens opened and we experienced one of the heaviest showers we have ever seen. Whilst Mo' complained of her hair being wet Brian could only think about how muddy that lane must have become.

Sure enough, when we got back to the Rocket the route back to the main road appeared a quagmire. Mo' elected not to sit in the cab but to walk behind. Five minutes later our pride and joy was lying side-on in the lane with its rear wheels about a foot away from this six foot dyke. Mo' took the photograph shown at this point and despite our cramming

branches and all sorts under the wheels the Red Rocket refused to move.

The scariest 500 yards of driving of my life

To cut a long story short we walked back to some other fields and found a farmer to help push the Rocket out. Brian knew that once the van moved he had to keep it going and keep it going ... straight. One false move and the Rocket would end up in the dyke. He made it to the main road and then promptly went to change his under-wear. It was he says, "Probably the scariest 500 yards of driving of my life!"

We didn't venture back onto those fields, there hadn't been any sign of use earlier than Victorian times. Instead we elected to make the most of the original fields, knowing that they had produced hammered coins last year and surely would on this trip with some concerted effort.

We decided to try the top end of one of the fields which had only produced the one hammered coin last year but which, we felt, surely must hold a few more. Up and down we walked and then Brian produced the Henry III penny shown in Figure 2.



Fig 2 Henry III Penny

At last we'd found one, like a lot of detector users we measure the success of a trip on whether or not we had managed to pull a hammered coin from the ground. No more turned up that day.

two cartwheel pennies in quick succession

Sticking to this area finds started to turn up on a regular basis and after one particular break Mo' walked into the field & pulled out two cartwheel pennies in quick succession. Some Victorian silver started to show itself, one of each, a threepence, sixpence and a shilling.

The weather suddenly changed whilst having dinner that day and Mo' decided to 'chill out' by doing some cross-stitch. Brian, ever enthusiastic when on ploughed and, opted to "get out there and find another". He crossed the dyke switched his machine on and almost immediately got a good signal. Looking down to the ground he was gob smacked to see a lovely short-cross penny lying on the surface. The coin is shown in Figure 3.



Fig 3 - Short-cross penny

Brian must have been back in the Rocket in two minutes flat with a grin from ear to ear. Needless to say Mo' didn't do anymore cross stitch that day, but unfortunately nothing else turned up for her.

Walt gave us 20 lbs of apples

We had noted that the two hammered's had turned up quite close to each other and so concentrated on working this area. Brian was to be the lucky one that day for he found two more hammered coins before dusk forced us to call it a day. One was the cut quarter shown in Figure 5 the first Brian had ever found.



Fig 5. Obverse and reverse of cut quarter

and the other coin is shown in Figure 4.



Fig 4 - hammered half-penny

Walt came across to see us again this time with a bag of apples that must have weighed 20 lbs. If we weren't coming home with loads of finds at least we had enough fruit to keep us

free of constipation for quite some months! We chatted for some time causing us to have a last fling on the field before heading off home. Figure 6 shows the two medieval buckles we snatched out of the ground in that last hour or two.

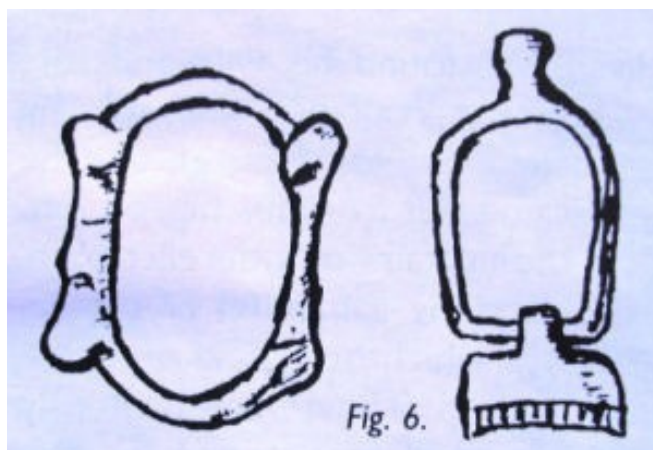


Fig 6. Two medieval Buckles

They confirm that this area saw activity during the period we were

interested in.

There is a long strip of sugar beet to come out of one of the fields so we hope to be able to search this before it is re-seeded. It will probably be the subject of another Red Rocket article in the near future.

The Red Rocket performed Impeccably on the journey home and we made it back in record time.

The van still only does 55 mph but at least it doesn't slow down to a crawl whenever it sees the slightest incline. "The Red Rocket cannot be allowed to die" said Jimmy Sierra and for the next year or two at least, we are glad to be able to report that it won't be and that you have all got the chance of spotting the Red Rocket enjoying the byways of Britain.

Useful Weblinks
PAS - getting involved
PAS - self recording
Advice for finders of archaeological objects including treasure
Conservation advice notes
Responsible detecting code of practice
Frome hoard time lapse video of excavation
Press coverage of the Frome hoard discovery
Burnham hoard excavation
Staffordshire hoard excavation
Staffordshire hoard at the BM
To Report Nighthawking - If in progress ring 999, if after the event click here & enter post code, number shown on the right hand side

York club member finds Iconographic ring



Ray Lewins with his Iconographic Ring

It was a Sunday in August 2010, Don our outing organiser arranged an outing to a stubble field I had not been on before, we set off at 09/30 and it was not long before we all knew the field contained a lot of iron, aluminium and lead.

I looked for a different path to follow and swept the detector between the wheel marks left by a tractor. It was about 11am when I got a really good signal and dug down, it was a bit of aluminium, I picked it out and put it in my scrap bag.

Without really thinking why, I went over the hole again and there was another signal, I dug down a few inches more, there was something shining like brass. I picked it up and to my delight saw it was not just a gold ring but a very special Iconographic one.

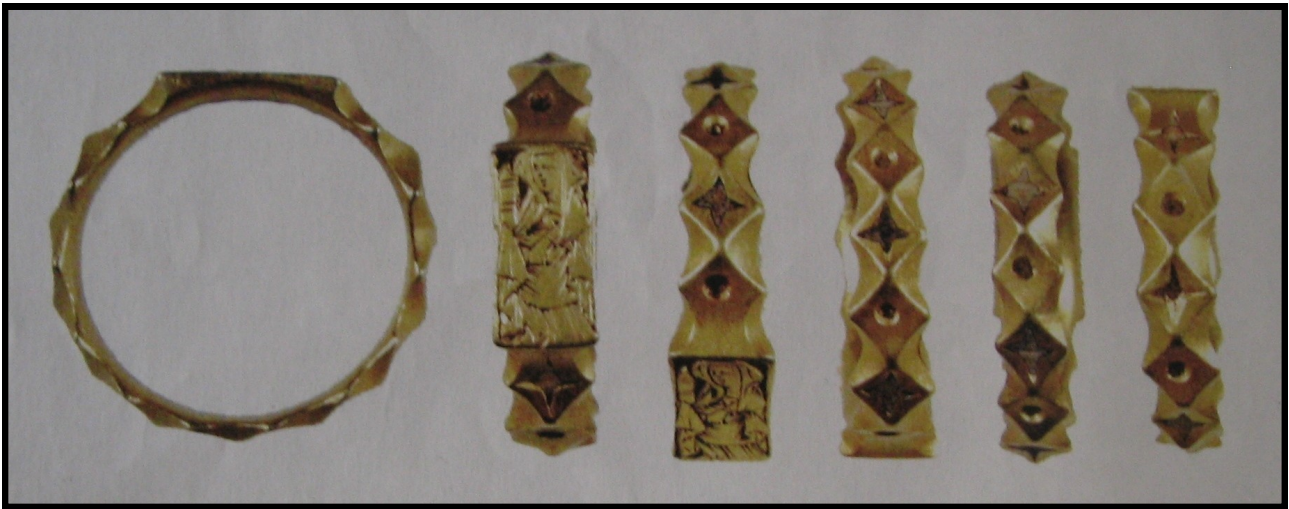
I could hardly contain myself until another detectorist came up and asked me if I had found anything. After showing him he phoned Phil, the Secretary who came over with his camera, photographed me with the ring, took lots of photo's of it and GPS'd the find spot.



It only seemed like minutes before the news had spread throughout the field and everyone was coming to me to see it. They were all really pleased for me and at the same time, just a bit gutted for themselves, it turned out there were very few finds on the day and just goes to show what even a poor field might be hiding.

Ray's Iconographic Ring





Copyright
Ray Lewins

The ring went on to win the York and District MDC 'Find of the Year Competition' and the Yorkshire Federation - 'Medieval/Tudor Category 1st Prize'

What a great day I will never forget!



Our club has a rule that everyone must carry a sheet of plastic, a plastic bag or a tray to put the soil on when on pasture, or drilled land. This is to keep the ground mess around the hole to a minimum, keeping Mr Farmer happy. Great idea, and this has produced a variety of solutions to a simple problem. Too many things to carry around, detector, spade, plastic sheet or tray.

So a growing number of members drag a plastic dinner tray, seed tray, washing up bowl or a "green supermarket carrier bag with a stone in it, behind them on a cord attached to a belt. A few have even started dragging those small yellow handled spades in the same way. This does look odd at first, but once tried, works very well at keeping muddy tools out of the way leaving a hand free.

Puffin.

Machine Settings

Just a guide to new Etrac users.....a few simple and smooth settings..... to get you started.....

Use the screen wide open

Auto+3

Ferrous

2 TONES

Fast ON

Deep OFF

volume limit 30

volume Gain 25 -26

response Norman

Ground - Difficult

Trash Density - Low

threshold to suite or 1

Just a few settings here which will help the newby to the etrac, those who haven't already had a minelab will find the multi tones and the sheer power of this machines manual sensitivity ear bashing ...the above is a great set up for starting out and its very easy on the ears you could add a single bar at the bottom of the screen to help even more on the ears..but there is no need really.....try it and see.

Silversimon/Gaz.

Recording Meteorites



Image compliments to Petethedig

Meteorite Websites (click on link for info);

[The British & Irish Meteorite Society](#)

[The Institute of Meteoritics](#)

[Meteorite Identification](#)

[Meteorite Classification](#)

What to do if you think you have found a meteorite;

Record it's find spot preferably with a GPS.

Take images of the rock in situ.

Clean the rock and take quality, well lit, clear images that are in focus.

The Museum does not make firm IDs from photographs but if they are of good enough quality they can usually say from them whether it is worth bringing or posting the specimen in for a further look.

Send the images to Peter Tandy who deals with the Natural History Museum meteorite enquiries in the first instance, his contact details are 0207 942 5076 or pt@nhm.ac.uk Peter can provide the information as to where to send the specimen (if it is one) or if the finder wants to bring it to the Museum they can make an appointment to see Peter.

The Natural History Museum can identify meteorites at the Museum. The first thing to do would be to send the rock in and they should be able to tell from a basic observation if the sample is indeed Meteoritic. There are many natural and manmade objects that can be confused for meteorites.

If the sample is a meteorite they would need to take a portion (depending on size of the rock) for more detailed mineral and chemical analyses to determine what type of meteorite it is. They would then submit this information to the Nomenclature Committee of the Meteoritical Society and it would be recognised as an official meteorite and included in both the Meteoritical Bulletin and the Catalogue of Meteorites.

The Museum does not charge for meteorite IDs. For the meteorite to be officially recognised as a meteorite a 'type specimen' has to be lodged at a recognised repository and the Museum is one of those repositories. The only 'payment' is that they get the type specimen for the National Collection.

There are no other museums in the UK that have the expertise to identify meteorites.

I would like to thank Dr Caroline Smith, Curator of Meteorites, Department of Mineralogy at The Natural History Museum <http://www.nhm.ac.uk/>, Cromwell Road, London, SW7 5BD, United Kingdom.

Tel: +44 (0)207 942 5709, Mobile: +44 (0)7979 534278, Fax: +44 (0)207 942 5537,

E-mail: C.L.Smith@nhm.ac.uk for the above input and her agreement for us to publish the above text as part of the article.

Thanks also to Mark Ford at the British and Irish Meteorite Society for his comments and their great website, note that they would also appreciate images and details of your meteorite.

The Institute of Meteoritics, the Northern Arizona University and the Meteorite Blog for their great web sites.

Keep your eyes peeled when detecting folks, after finding a likely rock with your metal detector check your find with the (Neodymium) rare earth magnet. If the magnet sticks, and the rock looks like it has been melted and some rust spots are evident then you may have found a Meteorite.

Also if you have an old white kitchen tile, swipe the rock across the unglazed side and note the colour of the line, (called a streak test) these tests will eliminate 99% of the usual suspects.

Be very careful with rare earth magnets because they will damage credit cards, mobile phones, computers, PDAs and other electronic equipment. Never carry one near your wallet or in your pocket.

Fingers crossed you find one.

Temporary paper labels for grip top bags

<p>Name - Address - Venue -</p> <p>Tel -</p> <p>Find Spot NGR - Known as - Land -</p> <p>Date - Depth -</p> <p>Object ID - Length - Thickness -</p> <p>Diameter - Width - Weight -</p>	<p>Name - Address - Venue -</p> <p>Tel -</p> <p>Find Spot NGR - Known as - Land -</p> <p>Date - Depth -</p> <p>Object ID - Length - Thickness -</p> <p>Diameter - Width - Weight -</p>
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About us

UK DETECTOR NET was created on September 28th 2002 to bring together responsible metal detectorists everywhere to discuss the hobby, their finds, the machines they use and a million and one other detecting related subjects.

Visit the forum

[Click here to visit forum](#)

Contact UKDN

enquiry@ukdetectornet.co.uk

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If you would like to contribute to the newsletter please contact either UKDN as above or PhilD via PM.

UKDN aims

UKDN is a forum for people who are interested in the hobby of metal detecting. UKDN is an online community where members can exchange and share knowledge, their views, discuss the hobby, their finds, the machines they use and a million and one other detecting related subjects. UKDN actively works towards the following aims:

1. Develop a greater understanding of the hobby and some of the wider issues through healthy pro-active debate within the forum and through the monthly magazine, which is distributed to, and read by, our membership and beyond. The magazine includes UKDN based news and articles, as well as wider news, debate, and issues of heritage interest.
2. Provide a platform to inform beginners in the hobby of the basic principles in the use of a metal detector, gaining permission, site research, basic heritage law, farming scheme rules and in the 'best practice' for conservation, recording and co-operation.
3. Actively promotes the 'Code of Practice for Responsible Metal Detecting' to all members of the UKDN online forum and beyond.
4. Encourage all UKDN detectorists to record their finds with the appropriate bodies (depending where they detect); In England and Wales, this is with the Portable Antiquities Scheme, in Scotland this is the Treasure Trove Unit.
5. UKDN will actively work towards ensuring the future security of the hobby. We will liaise and co-operate with heritage professionals in a way which is mutually beneficial to all parties whilst maintaining our independence, and we encourage their active participation, either in the UKDN online community or through our on-line magazine.