

The UKDN

WORD

World Of Responsible Detecting



Issue 47

July 2011



***This month's
Winning Coin***



***This month's
Identification***



***This month's
Winning
Artefact***



***Out and
About in
The Red
Rocket***



***Tribute to
Bill Baker***



***Also inside: Two successful searches and recoveries
Photo request for metal detecting calendar
Just-in-Case Product report and Detecting Scottish
beaches***

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Cover Photograph courtesy of Tinner - it shows his dad Norman Phillips

A Message from Admin

The team reckon it could be an early harvest if the drought prevails and... you could be getting some especially short stubble this harvest.

At this moment in time it looks like the harvest may begin early and so we may be detecting the fields sooner than we think. Drought conditions still prevail in parts of the country and it looks like the harvest could be poor.

Worth bearing in mind too is the fact that the price of straw bedding is likely to be high so stubble will be cut lower to the ground so that as much as possible can be baled. Short stubble is never anything detectorists will complain about :-)

If it stays very dry then we will also get longer to detect if the conditions prevent the next crop going into the ground. A word of caution to our members though. The farmers will not be in the best of moods with farm incomes threatened, so be careful how you approach them when searching for new permissions.

At the bottom of this page we have introduced photos of the Admin Team - just so that you can see who is helping run UKDN.

Within this magazine you will see a full-page advert asking for calendar photos. As you will see we need top quality photos suitable for inclusion into this new venture ie producing a metal detecting calendar of the highest quality.

Don't forget to pop into the UKDN shop and look around. Useful at this time of the year are the UKDN cloth caps, complete with logo and of course, those great looking newly designed UKDN cloth badges.

It is quiet out there at the moment but it can be a useful time. That's why some of us wander the field edges and wheel lines looking for surface finds like pottery and flint. It's a good time to just look around for new detecting sites ready for after the harvest.

We look forward to seeing your finds and hearing your stories on the UKDN Forum.

Good Hunting from The UKDN Team

The Admin Team



Brian & Mo'
Founded UKDN in Sept 2002, Detecting since 1978.



Puffin
Here since Nov 2007, Detecting since 2007



Coreservers
Techy Admin
Here since 2003, Detecting since 2003



Petethedig
Here since Nov 2002. Detecting since 1980.



History Hunter
Here since April 2005
Detecting since 1984.



Tomredmayne
Here since Sept 2006, Detecting since 2005



Kevmar
Here since Sept 2002
Detecting since 1978.



Karv
Techy Admin. Here since March 2004.
Detecting since 2004.

Artefact of the Month

Papal Bulla Pope Alexander IV, 1254-1261 - PaulR



PaulR wasn't sure if he should go on this club dig but decided to anyway. The chalky ground was just so dry and finds were few and far between. After looking at a fantastic Saxon penny found by another searcher Paul makes a fantastic find.

I was a bit dubious about this dig which was being run by a fairly new club based around the Southampton area called The Past finders. I had been on about six other digs with them and they were all very good digs and a great bunch of people, but with having no rain for over two months and knowing the dig was on pasture I had a funny feeling the chalky soil around the Hampshire area was going to be like digging concrete.

One thing us detectorists don't like is being defeated by the weather, be it rain, iced ground or sun baked ground we still venture out. We must be a bit mad in the head at times.

I arrived at the dig early in the morning with my detecting buddy Billy and we were the first to arrive. It looked like it was going to be another sunny day even though I was really hoping for rain that night to soften the ground.

We had five big pasture fields to choose from and most people headed straight to the largest field on top of the hill. There really wasn't a lot coming out of this field apart from bullets and misshaped lead pieces.

None of the fields were really producing any finds of any note so we thought we would head back to the cars for a spot of lunch and refreshments and the usual chit chat about what was found, or in this case what wasn't being found.

After lunch I decided to have a go on the smallest field that was a bit of patchy looking field with clumps of stingers and weeds dotted about. First signal, I had a nice little buckle and next came a couple of worn old copper pennies so thought I would stay in this field a bit longer.

Along the boundary of the field I could see a detectorist that had a good smile on his face so I headed towards him.

I got a very loud signal on the goldmaxx power so I marked the spot with my spade and detector and carried on over to the grinning detectorist. On approaching him I saw in his hand he had unearthed one of the best silver Saxon pennies I have ever seen in the flesh. He was well chuffed and I couldn't blame him either.

I headed off back to my detector where I had marked the good signal and dug my

way down into the baked sandy soil which took some digging to reveal a first for me it was a Papal Bulla of Pope Alexander IV, 1254-1261.

That was my only find of any note that day and it was very hard going due to the very dry ground conditions but another tick off the finds list. I went home a happy chap.

PaulR - July 2011





**Silver Penny of
Coenwulf
796 - 821 AD
Tinner**

With a spare hour or so left over from his wedding anniversary break Tinner (Chris) uses that time to go detecting and finds one of his best finds ever !!

Strange how some things work out just right, I had booked the first week in May off as it was our 10th wedding anniversary on the 4th.

So I had the whole week to get some detecting in. On the Sunday before, as usual, I had been out with dad. We had some drilled maize we could detect on. They are two very big fields so finding a hot spot can be tricky.

A hammered came up

Instead of my normal random wanderings, I decided to do grids and hoped this would produce the goods. On the Sunday it did! A hammered coin came up - a Lizzy half groat - and as I had the rest of the week I decided to use this method for the other trips.

It was very hot in May and the ground was very dry - not good for signals. We had been down to the coast on our anniversary, stayed over and drove home on the 5th, getting back in time for an hour or so

detecting in the evening.

Dad was not around so off I went. The ground is also very flinty. Some of them are big - ideal for markers. On arrival, I found a large flint and stood it upright to mark one end of the grid. 100 paces - another flint - the grid was set.

It never seems to take long to do a run when you are working to a set grid, even going slow and low.

a Saxon coin - brilliant!

After about an hour, a couple of bits of lead and some shot gun cartridges later, I had a good high pitch signal (I use the set up which Gaz has put up and this works well for me.) A quick wave of the probe to see if it is the top soil - better not to dig a hole if possible - but no, not in the top inch or so so. So I re pin-pointed with my detector and went in with my spade. As this had only been drilled recently, the ground was not compacted hard. I turned the spoil over and checked - not in there - so the hole was checked again with the probe. Yes - a good signal at the bottom of the hole. Brushing the soil away, a disc shape turned over - I thought it could be a hammered as it was grey. However there had been a lot of buttons come off this field. As I picked it up, one side was covered in dirt so I turned it over and could see a cross shape - my heart jumped. Yes I thought - a Saxon coin - brilliant!

I usually carry a camera with me when we are out, so I took some pictures of it as it had been found.



I placed the coin in my finds box, wrapped in tissue very carefully, as I have heard of these coins falling apart when touched.

what a buzz

I thought I would call to see if dad was home on the way back. He was. I knew he would be as pleased with this as I was. As we gently rinsed off the coin, we could see a kings head and the name Coenwulf - wow - what a buzz!

Dad came out with the normal "jammy #####" comments, but finished with a smile and "well done".

The next day I rang Katie at Salisbury (who is the FLO for Wiltshire) and arranged a meeting. She recorded it and thought it was great.

I am still amazed that it was only a little nibbled on the edge. Other than that it is in good condition. One of my best finds!

Thanks for all your votes.

Chris

Tinner - July 2011



The Happy Couple



The Hole



***Obverse and Reverse of the cleaned Coenwulf penny
more pics at bottom of page 9***

Platinum Ring Lost on Hotel Car Park

By Sodbuster

Sodbuster gets a call to search for a platinum ring lost in a hotel car park but you won't believe where he found this very sentimental ring !!

On a recent Sunday while at York detecting with the club, I got a phone call from an upset woman asking if our club did a recovery service to find rings and items lost by the public

I said yes but wouldn't be able to that day as I was at York detecting with the club so I asked her to text me her mobile number so I could contact her later on to arrange a meeting .

The woman rang me the same night and

told me she and her husband had been to a hotel in Beverly and they had started arguing and the mans platinum wedding ring had been thrown out of the second floor bedroom window.

the ring could not be found

They had searched in the night with torches and all the following day to no avail. The ring could not be found. So we arranged to meet in Dewsbury and I was given a lift to Beverley to see if I could find the platinum wedding ring.

When we got there the car park was about 30 foot sq and covered with small pebbles. There were about 4 small thorn bushes nicely cut in two locations and placed around a garden table



Sodbuster with the ring

Now feeling fed up

The woman quickly showed me the location of the window where the ring was thrown from so I started searching the car park and around the cars. Thirty minutes had passed. I'd had a few good signals and found a few 5p coins in the pebbles and a 2p in the middle of the car park so I headed to search under the metal garden table. We were now feeling very fed up as I had searched all the areas where the ring must have been. We were coming to the conclusion someone may have picked it up.

Finally a cleaner from the hotel came out and said "Are you looking for the ring," we said "yes" and the cleaner said "I'll move my car for you in 5 mins I'm just getting changed", so I told the woman that I would search over by the table until the car had been moved then I would search where the car had been parked.

I put my hands in the thorns

So I searched under the table then I started going up one of the thorn trees and I got a very good signal in the centre of the thorn tree but at the top. I put my hand in the thorns and separated the thorns and leaves and the ring was there!! I shouted out to the woman that I had got it!

The woman could not believe I had found the ring and was stood there just gazing at the ring with tears in her eyes



The platinum ring

desperately trying to ring her husband to tell him the great news that the ring had been found.

Jenny has donated a £50 cheque to our club for subs.

I'd like to say thanks to Jenny and wish them both the best for the future.

Sodbuster



Tinners uncleaned Coenwulf Penny

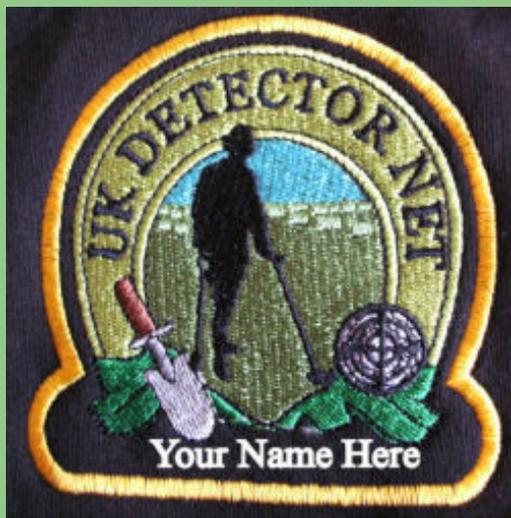
UKDN FUN DSLR - Camera PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION



DSLR Winner Barry Carpenter aka Puffin - British Museum

Canon EOS 450d Kit Lens, Composit image via MS Ice and 9 photographs.

UK DETECTOR NET CLOTH BADGES



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 Fun Point Press and Pray -
Camera PHOTOGRAPHIC
COMPETITION***



Winner Tom Redmayne - All aboard?

Taken with a Panasonic Lumix DMC TZ3 camera on 19/5/2011

This Months Identification

Elizabeth I Sixpence

This months ID looks at an Elizabeth I Sixpence. The coin itself is one of the more popular hammered coins found by metal detectorists. However this particular coin, unlike many Elizabeth I coins, has a super portrait, with much of the detail still intact. So how do we know it is an Elizabeth I Sixpence? Well there are a few huge clues available to us.

Firstly the date – 1575. It wouldn't take a person with a Phd in history to find out who was on the throne back in that period. Secondly the legend ELIZABETH D G ANG FR ET HI REGINA and finally the initial mark Eglantine which dates it to 1573-8.

The reverse has the inscription POSVI DEV ADIVTOREM MEV

So as you can see, even if we didn't have certain parts of the information available to us, it is still easily identifiable. So much easier than some of the earlier hammered coins.

The next part of the identification process is to determine the exact denomination. This is usually on the size factor. In this case the coin measures 25mm, which fits it in nicely with a sixpence.

All these coins were minted in London and were made in silver. Spinks have these referenced 2563.

Treasurehunterste June 2012



UKDN FINDS BAGS - EXCELLENT !!



Made of strong, durable 200 gauge polythene with grip-seal open-ings and with three write-on panels.

Supplied in a three useful sizes to suit all occasions i.e. 1.5" x 2.5 inch for coins and very small finds, 2.5" x 3 inch for larger coins and artefacts and 4" x 5.5 inch for the larger finds.

Sold in batches of multiples of 100 e.g. 300 or 600 or just 100, 500 and 1,000.

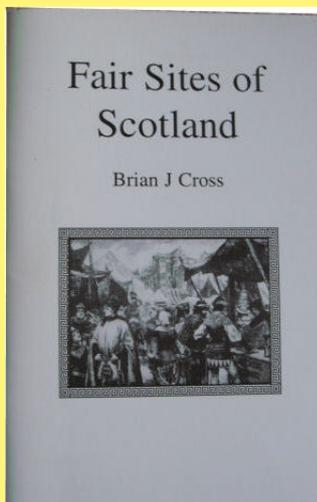
All sold at very competitive prices with no rip-off fees for postage. For more info and to order go to the UKDN Shop via the link on the Forum Index Page.

100 small bags - £2.50 INC. postage
500 small bags - £7.80 inc. postage
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](#)

Just-in-Case Test Report

By Puffin

Some of you may have noticed an advert header on the forum for Just-in-Case display cases. But what are they? Well, I received three samples of these display cases to review, from Brian and Mo.

As I already owned two of these well made boxes, I am very impressed with them, they have stood the test of time and some rough handling by a small visitor we had one day. The build quality is very high and they are very robust for what they are, the finds were kept safe and undamaged when the display boxes hit the floor!

So what exactly are they used for? I believe that they started out life as button collector's storage units, but they have developed into something much more flexible. Let's start with a general description of the boxes.

The basic construction of the outer is a heavy duty card board covered with a black leatherette type pebble grained surface material. You have a base and a lid. The base is a shallow tray, while the lid has a real glass sheet glued to the inside of it, forming a window showing the contents of the case. There are a number of box sizes and types to choose from, the samples I have are all 36.8cm X 19.7cm X 2.54 cm (14 1/2 " X 8" X 1"). But they are available in a variety of sizes.

<http://www.just-in-case.biz/Standard-Riker-Cases.aspx>

Each type of case has a different insert according to their intended use. The couple I purchased are simple vacuum formed plastic trays with individual compartments, called The Division Riker Case. http://www.just-in-case.biz/32_Division_Riker_Case_Blue.aspx

This plastic tray is covered with either red or blue velvet flock coating forming a soft

finish. One of the three samples sent to me has this style of insert. The other two are very different.



The Riker Case http://www.just-in-case.biz/Riker_Case_14X8.aspx has a spun white polyester lining which is about 2cms thick and soft enough to cushion any object to stop it moving around. The lid on this box is held in place with four large steel pins inserted through the sides of the lid and base. Anything stored in this box will simply not move around once the lid is fixed in place. Ideal for odd shaped objects that are not too deep as opposed to being long and/or wide.

http://youtu.be/I9no_rivq1o

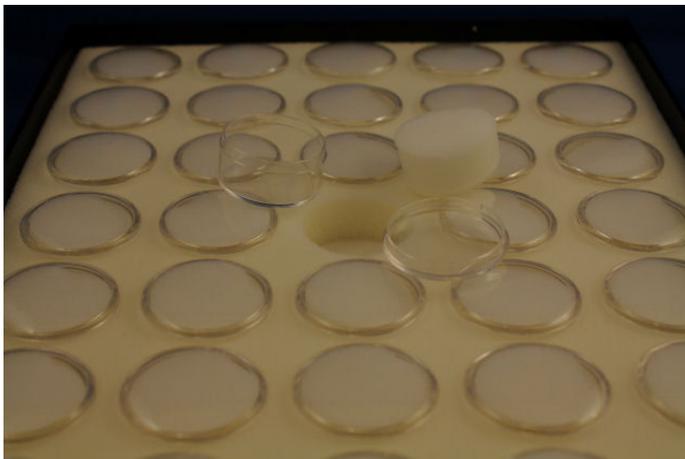


The third box called the Lucite Cup Case, http://www.just-in-case.biz/Lucite_Cup_Case_50_White.aspx is very interesting and one style I had not seen before.

The insert can either be white or black stiff foam sheet with round holes cut into it. From twenty four, thirty six or fifty holes in total. The smaller the number of holes, the larger the hole diameter. Each hole, holds a sealable clear plastic capsule, which fits snugly in the foam hole, inside each capsule is the foam plug from the cut holes.

This is the real benefit of this style case, as the finds are individually held in place in the case and within the capsule so no possibility of damage from the finds sliding around during transport.

As the Just-in-Case web site states "Perfect for general collector displays". Coins, arrow heads, geological or archaeological samples, tokens, medallions, the possibilities are endless for metal detecting." I would totally agree with this, ideal for those



special finds.

These cases are a brilliant way to display your smaller finds, keeping them safe from further damage. The two cases that I own, hold my collection of small lead items, like spindle whorls and bag seals. Ideal as it prevents people handling the lead oxide, while viewing. Also I use it for small selection of copper alloy bits, like watch winders, 19th C. trade weights etc. anything really. But if you want to go up market or produce a special display case for your land owner then the Just-in-Case wooden display cases are just the ticket. <http://www.just-in-case.biz/Wood-Display-Cases.aspx>

If wood is not your thing then there are, also a selection of aluminium cases.



Just-in-Case also produce a selection of different coloured case linings, made from foam, which opens up the possibility to customise your display to suit the objects or exhibition. With care and a very sharp knife you could cut your own holes to suit the object being stored.

Also there is also a purpose made holdall carry case available, enabling you to carry and store multiple units in safety.

All in all, I do recommend these display cases as being about the most useful and versatile on the market when it comes to showing off your small finds or collectables. Considering the build quality they are reasonably priced as well. I can see myself buying a few more to house my ever

growing collection of finds. Why not do your finds a favour and get some yourself?

Barry Carpenter AKA Puffin - July 2011

Just-in-Case can be found at <http://www.just-in-case.biz>

QR CODES

When deemed necessary or useful UKDN will incorporate QR codes within the Word magazine or on the forum. Below this text is an example of a QR code which will take anyone scanning the image with a mobile smart phone directly to the UKDN Shop.

Although initially used for tracking parts in vehicle manufacturing, QR codes now are used in a much broader context, including both commercial tracking applications and convenience-oriented applications aimed at mobile phone users (termed mobile tagging). QR codes may be used to display text to the user, to add a vCard contact to the user's device, to open a Uniform Resource Identifier (URI), or to compose an e-mail or text message. Users can generate and print their own QR codes for others to scan and use by visiting one of several free QR code generating sites or apps.

QR codes storing addresses and Uniform Resource Locators (URLs) may appear in magazines, on signs, buses, business cards, or almost any object about which users might need information. Users with a camera phone equipped with the correct reader application can scan the image of the QR code to display text, contact information, connect to a wireless network, or open a web page in the telephone's browser. This act of linking from physical world objects is termed hardlinking or object hyperlinking.



Two ways of getting to the UKDN Shop, firstly scan the QR code with your smart mobile device or click on the UKDN Shop logo with your mouse.

Did you know?

The "penny" originated as far back as the 8th century when a silver coin was minted (in England) which was one 240th part of a pound weight of silver. There were thus "240 pennies to a pound". The symbol which was later adopted for the penny was the letter "d" which stood for the Roman coin "denari".

The silver coin became a copper penny in 1797 and then a bronze coin in 1860. Even a silver coin worth a penny was relatively valuable and it is thought that the first "half-penny" was just a silver penny cut in half. But a copper coin of that value was introduced in 1672 (devaluation of the currency by then would have made the silver in the coin worth more than the face value).

The shilling coin is thought to have been introduced in Saxon times but it only became worth twelve pennies in the 16th century. It was at that point that 240 pennies and 20 shillings to the pound became established. The notation which evolved represented the currency in the "£sd" format, eg. £10.15.6 (Ten pounds, 15 shillings and six pence).

The copper "farthing" was worth a quarter of a penny. It had been withdrawn from circulation in 1956 (with its picture of a wren on it) before decimalisation.



B17 Crash in the States

A sad sight, but thankfully nobody was injured.

[**See Here**](#)

Changes on Time Team

[**See Here**](#)

Festival of British Archaeology 16 -31 July 2011

[**See Here**](#)

Positive metal detecting news story

[**See Here**](#)

What name would you give to your own MD brand

[**See Here**](#)

home made electrolosis - easy !!

[**See Here**](#)

Magnet Fishing

[**See Here**](#)

The Search and Recovery of the lost "priceless, sentimental and irreplaceable" earring.

How it all started by Treasurehunterste...

On the morning of the 26th April I received the following email:-

Hello, I am wondering if you can help me. While gardening on Sunday my wife lost an earring that belonged to my mum, who passed away recently. The earring is not of great monetary value but its sentimental value is priceless, my wife is so upset and desperate to find it. It has fallen into an area of gravel and we just cannot see it. Do you know of any detectorists who would be able to help us? We live near Chester. Thanking you Andy and Sylvia.

I immediately put an appeal for help onto UKDN forum. Later that day Digowt replied, so I sent him the details.

The search and recovery by Digowt...

I am fortunate to have taken early retirement, so when I read the post I decided to volunteer to help as it is only about an hour away. Two days later I set off to go and look for the missing earring, I had a little plan in my head to keep my sensitivity nice and low as I knew it would be shallow.

On arriving in Chester just after 12 noon, I was given a friendly greeting from Sylvia who had lost the earring and you could tell how much it meant to her, it was her late mother-in-laws, who had passed away shortly before.

it was very iffy

I took my gear into the back garden and asked Sylvia for the other earring, so that I could scan it and see what type of reading I got. It was very iffy so I had to up my

machine to full power just to get a decent signal, although the numbers were jumping round because of the pin.

another false alarm

I started scanning the area where she said she thought it would be, but after an hour or so all the signals I had were coming from below the gravel so I knew that I had to do something different and decided to find a clear patch of ground. I then put a polythene garden bag on it and started with a plastic pan (from a pan and brush set) full of gravel, I spread it out on the bag, scanned it, then put it on a tarpaulin sheet away from the area, after about half an hour I got a signal, I got my pinpoint probe out and after a lot of probing I had a tiny bit of alloy in my hand, another false alarm, but I was encouraged by the machine picking up such a tiny target.

A little while later I got another signal, again I got my probe out, moving the gravel around, I just caught a little glimpse of a gold colour, I thought to myself, I've got it, only for it to be a piece of gold coloured foil.

I've got it !!

After many more pans of gravel I got another signal, I went to reach for my probe when I spotted the magic colour of the edge of the earring in the gravel. I just moved the gravel aside and it was in my hand, at this time Sylvia was putting some washing out on the line, so I shouted, "Sylvia", she looked at me and I said, "I've got it!!!"

She said "you haven't?" so again I said "I have" she said "honestly?" I said "yeah"

she said "...are you joking?" I said "no" and by this time she was beside me, I put the earring in her hand and to say she was over the moon would be an understatement. Her voice was trembling as she thanked me and then she phoned her husband and some other members of the family. I was buzzing at this stage, such a nice happy ending.

The following day I received this email from Sylvia.

Thank you very much for putting George (aka digowt) in contact with me.

I had spent 2 days using a dustpan and brush, scooping and sifting through the gravel in the area where I thought my earring had fallen, with no luck.

Although the earrings, despite being gold, are of no great monetary value, just a nice pair of small earrings, they had belonged to my mother in law, whom I loved dearly, and lost suddenly, with cancer last August, so they have sentimental value, are irreplaceable and priceless.

HE FOUND IT !!

George contacted me on Tuesday night, and came yesterday to try and find it. The earring was so small, after 2 hrs he resorted to scooping a pan full of gravel onto a plastic sheet and scanning over it with his detector, a slow process. He didn't give up, and 3 and half hours after starting his search, HE FOUND IT!!

I can't put into words how I felt at that moment, and how I still feel now. A total stranger, whom I had never met or spoken to before, took the time and trouble to come to our house, approximately 30 miles from where he lives, and spent 3 and a half hours painstakingly and methodically, sifting through gravel with his detector, until he found the earring.

George actually said he was staying until he found it, or until it went too dark, whichever came first.

He point-blank refused to take any money for this; he wouldn't even let me pay for his petrol! He told me to give it to a charity. We agreed that the money I wanted him to take, I would give to the Hospice of the Good Shepherd, where mum spent her final 4 days. I didn't know such clubs existed and if I hadn't lost the earring, I would never have contacted you, or met George, a lovely man with a genuine heart.

My husband would like to send a big thank you to you and George, not only for finding the earring, but for making me bearable to live with again, Ha!

Myself, I will never be able to thank you and George enough, even if I never see George again; I will remember him for what he did for me.

Again many thanks, Sylvia.



Digowt with the ear-ring

Sylvia then persuaded a very camera shy, Digowt to have his photograph taken with the earring as she wanted to put it in the memory box she has created for her mother in law.

Special Thanks to our Moderator Liz for compiling this.



The ear-ring

UKDN offers a search and recover service via its membership. If you have lost a piece of jewellery or even a piece of farm machinery then our members can find it for you. Simply ask one of our members to place your request on the UKDN Forum and reach almost 5000 metal detector users.

Detecting Tip of the Month

I always carry a small trowel to extract finds from the hole rather than risk damaging them with the spade....Georgian Tim.

A basic one I know but after seeing a club member make this mistake after over a years detecting (not their fault our fault for not teaching them correctly).

If your signal disappears when you are digging it clean all the loose out the hole and spread the earth around which has come out of the hole. It may be it has fallen to the bottom of the hole, or it is sitting at a difficult angle....Craiga.

To keep the mud from sticking too much - quite apt I think - Put a spray silicon coating on your spade.....Allan Ashford.

This is a basic one if you lose the signal after digging it scrape the mud from spade and boots and check again ,had a small hammered stuck to my spade once....Cerberus.

The coin test is one I have done and it works, but top of my agenda is find all the quick escape routes, that mad bull or horse is always just round that corner....Rider.

THE 2012 UKDN **METAL DETECTING CALENDAR**

IT IS STILL NOT TOO LATE FOR YOU TO ENTER YOUR PICTURES FOR THE CHANCE TO HAVE THEM INCLUDED IN THE UK'S ONLY METAL DETECTING CALENDAR.

SIMPLY UPLOAD YOUR PICTURE, OR PICTURES, TO THE THREAD IN THE "YOUR PHOTOS" SECTION OF THE FORUM BY 10.00 PM ON AUGUST 17TH.

THEN, BETWEEN AUGUST 17TH AND AUGUST 31ST, ALL FORUM MEMBERS WILL GET THE CHANCE TO VOTE FOR THEIR FAVOURITE PICTURES, FOR EACH MONTH, AND FOR THE COVER.

THE WINNING PICTURES WILL MAKE UP THE VERY FIRST CALENDAR.

SO GO OUT AND GET CREATIVE, OR LOOK THROUGH THOSE OLD PHOTOS YOU HAVE TAKEN OVER THE YEARS DETECTING, AND POST YOUR PICTURES. WE HAVE SOME GREAT ONES ALREADY BUT WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE SOME MORE.

Tribute to Bill Baker

It is with deep regret that Bill Baker, a long standing member of the York and District Metal Detecting Club passed away on the 13th May 2011 after much suffering of a progressive lung disease.

The Club would like to pay tribute to Bill by publishing the following articles;

One of Bill's favourite finds was this Iron Age Terret Ring found on a Club outing near Easingwold, pictured below along with a write up thanks to the Portable Antiquities Scheme, Northern Newsletter Number 3, Spring/Summer 2005.

Bill was a faithful member of the York Club who played a key role back in 2003 when the Club got together with local amateur archaeologists and YAT staff to demonstrate how far constructive working relationships between archaeologists and metal detector users have developed in the York area.

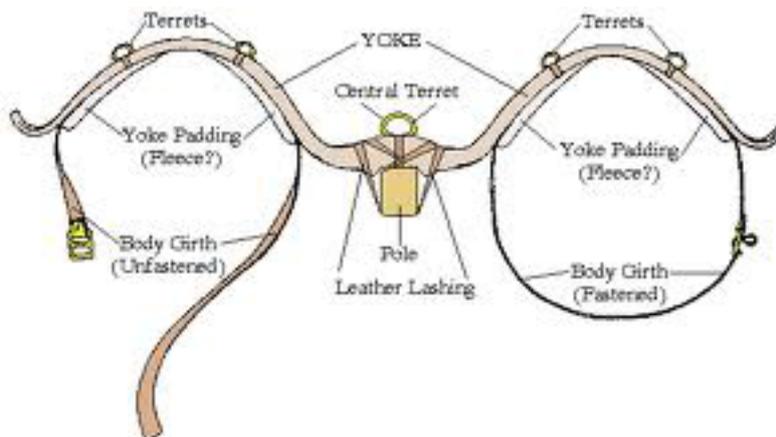
This was shown in the following well written YAT article 'Targeting the topsoil'. The text and images are © York Archaeological Trust, reproduced by permission.

Iron Age Terret

The late Iron Age is well-known for its distinctive metalwork, with this bronze terret ring from near Easingwold a good example. The flat faces of the hoop are decorated in characteristic Celtic style. It has typical spirals and crescents, and is inlaid with red and yellow enamel; much of the enamel still survives and remains brightly coloured.

Terret rings were used on chariots. There would have been four on the yoke, guiding the reins for the individual horses. (Occasionally there was also a fifth, much larger ring, on the central pole, but their exact function is uncertain.) The elaborate decoration of this terret suggests it comes from a rather special vehicle.

The quality and preservation of this piece are so fine that the Yorkshire Museum are buying the piece. Visitors to the museum will be able to see terret ring alongside more famous Iron Age objects such as the finds from the original Arras chariot burial excavations.



Thanks to Yorkshirehistory.com for yoke graphic

Targeting the topsoil?

An archaeological experiment with metal detectors

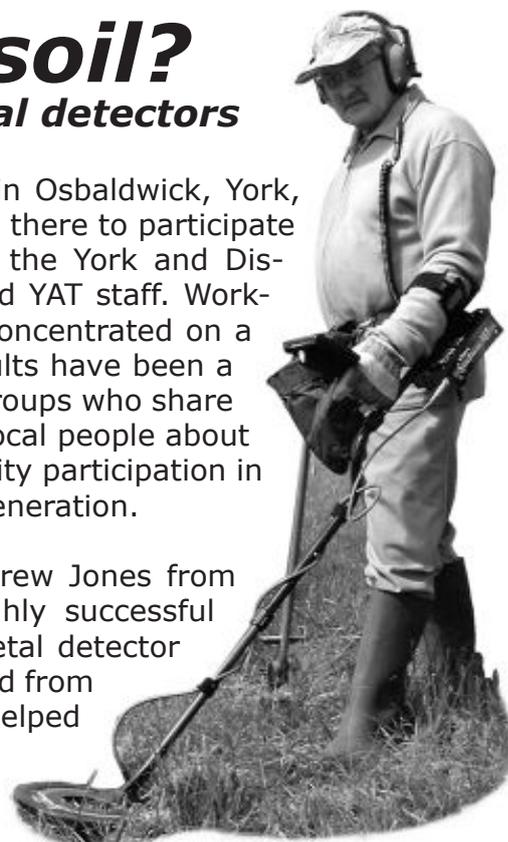
An eclectic bunch of people congregated on a green field in Osbaldwick, York, on a sunny Sunday morning in early April 2003. We were all there to participate in a unique experiment — to develop a project involving the York and District Metal Detecting Club, local amateur archaeologists and YAT staff. Working together with the local community, the investigations concentrated on a group of medieval fields to the west of the village. The results have been a wonderful success. They include building bridges between groups who share an interest in the past but rarely work together, educating local people about archaeology and metal detecting, and encouraging community participation in investigating the past — from young children to the older generation.

The project was the brainchild of David Brinklow and Andrew Jones from York Archaeological Trust, and was conceived after a highly successful Open Day on the site in May 2002. At the Open Day, metal detector users were encouraged to scan the top-soil already excavated from a series of 22 evaluation trenches. The local community, helped by a team of archaeological volunteers, got involved and collected artefacts from the spoil heaps. Everybody thoroughly enjoyed the day and it was felt that we should build on this success. It also gave the Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust a suitable arena to discuss their proposals for a housing development on the site. Lively debates took place throughout the day amongst Open Day visitors as they examined the finds recovered that day as well as the results of the archaeological evaluation. There was a metal detecting finds display tent, and plans and aerial photographs of the ridge and furrow earthworks extant on the fields proposed for development were also exhibited.

After a number of discussions on the Open Day, a new project was conceived and further funding was sought from the Joseph Rowntree Foundation. The Foundation enthusiastically embraced the project which has a number of key aims.

- 1) To promote good working practice.
- 2) To develop guidelines and prepare a protocol on how to integrate metal detector users and other members of the community into the planning and development process for green-field development sites.
- 3) To empower local people to participate in the investigation.
- 4) To develop constructive working relationships between all parties (archaeologists, metal detector users, the local community and the developer).

One of the key issues is Aim 4. Archaeologists and metal detector users are often portrayed as stereotypes, as if they are always at loggerheads. The project is designed to demonstrate how far constructive working relationships between archaeologists and metal detector users have developed in the York area.



Some of the objects found by metal detectorists: padlocks, a possible tobacco pipe tamper shaped like Napoleon, decorative fitting and a fragment of a Tudor groat.

Both parties have been working quietly and voluntarily together for some years, especially with the Portable Antiquities Scheme where metal detector finds are recorded at the Archaeological Resource Centre in a weekly 'finds surgery'. This current project is the first major opportunity to see if professional and amateur archaeologists can work together with metal detector users in the field to build up a better understanding of the past history of an area, by becoming more familiar with and making use of each others' skills.

These radical aims have been at the heart of four community participation metal detecting days. At the time of writing, we have arranged and run three of these days, all of which have been very successful, fun and exciting. Numerous coins have been recovered as well as military buttons, a Victorian commemorative medal, and pieces of railway and agricultural memorabilia. Several abandoned cars on the fields under investigation were jokingly offered as booby prizes!

Accurately locating the artefacts using an EDM (Electronic Distance Measurer), as well as an innovative hand-held device known as a GPS (Global Positioning System — using satellite configurations), has been fundamental to the recording methodology. From this we can develop future community projects, working with local people and metal detector clubs to adopt the best practice for this type of investigation. Procedures for project preparation, execution, finds recording and conservation, surveying and plotting finds distributions have been developed using experts from the excavations, education, finds administration, artefact research and conservation departments at YAT. It has been a truly collaborative effort. A further innovation resulting from the project has been the design of a storage kit for metal finds recovered by metal detector users, which could be marketed in future. The last event on 1 June will, we hope, bring together all of the methods trialed; these will be presented to the public at a meeting on 28 June.

Future outcomes of this project, to be completed by the end of 2003, include a travelling exhibition, a web page on the YAT website, a Joseph Rowntree Foundation Findings report, and a short academic article for a journal. So keep your eyes peeled; Yorkshire Archaeology Today will report on the end product.

Rather than concentrating on 'Night Hawks', illegal metal detector users who steal ancient finds from known archaeological sites, YAT is heartily encouraged by what this project has achieved. It is clear that there is an exciting future for archaeologists and metal detector users to work together to rescue finds of historical and archaeological significance. Metal detector users and amateur archaeologists want to work with professional archaeologists. All of them have significant contributions to make to the study of the past, so let's work together!



Local metal detectorist Bill Baker and Tom Gibson of YAT scan the field for finds



YAT surveyor Eliza Gore with EDM equipment



Finds Assistant Katherine Bearcock dealing with one of the days finds

Detecting Beaches in Scotland by Coreservers

Below is an answer I got from the crown extate regarding beach detecting in Scotland. seems a bit of a mine field, but we should make people aware that it is different from England.

“The Crown Estate owns around half of the foreshore, the area between mean high water springs (MHWS) and mean low water springs (MLWS) in Scotland, and approximately half of the beds of estuaries and tidal rivers in the United Kingdom. Our GIS (Geographical Information System) contains information about areas of foreshore which have been claimed by other parties or are subject to a lease or sale. We have a comprehensive GIS for Scotland but we do not have online maps available as the information that we hold for Scotland is captured differently to that for England and Wales.

The foreshore around Scotland has mixed ownership and numerous agreements and other interests. You may also be aware that The Crown Estate lets and licences many areas of foreshore and we need to

ensure that the appropriate checks are undertaken to find out whose interests may be affected. Our consent is also subject to any statutory or other designations which may apply. For example, if the foreshore is within a SSSI (Site of Special Scientific Interest) Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) may raise an objection if any activity could conceivably cause damage or aggravation to the area in question. It is also a criminal offence (under section 42 of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Area Act 1979) to use a metal detector on a scheduled monument or a monument in the ownership or guardianship of Scottish Ministers, or of a local authority, without prior written permission from Scottish Ministers. Historic Scotland can provide further guidance on this: hs.inspectorate@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

With regard to metal detecting on land which does not lie within our ownership you may wish to refer to the Scottish Outdoor Access Code for further information: <http://www.outdooraccess-scotland.com/>

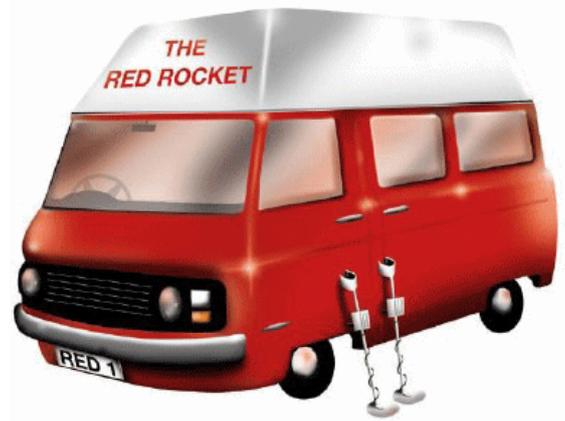


Troon Beach, Scotland (Photo copyright jamie-mitchell and licensed for reuse under a Creative Commons Licence)

**September 1997 Issue
No 145 Out and About
in the Red Rocket**

By Brian & Mo'

the
searcher



Word magazine is re-printing the Red Rocket series of articles which were printed in The Searcher magazine in the 1990's. In this story they take a friend across to Yorkshire and the trip doesn't go very well.

We have not submitted any Red Rocket articles during the past twelve months for the simple reason that we lost our pet photographer and were let down by many people who promised to take photographs of finds but... brought them back to us later confessing that they hadn't worked out!

We have four trips to bring you up to date. You will recall that in January 1996 we told you how we brought the Red Rocket back to respectability with a re-spray, new exhaust and full M.O.T.

The next month a local chap asked us if he could join us on a day trip to some fields. We don't usually oblige such requests as we are used to being able to get up and go when we want, stop when we want and basically do our own thing.

However, on this occasion we obliged simply because we would be staying over in Yorkshire for a few days and our friend only wanted to join us for the first day, meeting up with us about mid-morning.

Such a rendezvous meant that we had to leave about one hour earlier than him. The Red Rocket may now look good but it is still in serious need of some extra horsepower, about fifty of them would help for starters!

fields were in crop

We met our friend Ken at a motorway junction in Humberside and set off for our fields only to find that they were in crop. As these were the only fields we had permission for in that area we had no choice but to commence knocking on doors to ask for permission to search some land.

This is not the way we normally operate. We like to do a bit of homework or at least to see the fields before we could knock on a farmer's door. We don't know whether it was the pleading look on our faces or the fact that Ken was always standing behind us with a stupid grin from ear to ear but whatever... we kept being told to go away!

After the sixth farm Mo' and I had had enough and as Ken was beginning to moan about using up daylight hours, we had to do something fast. We decided to phone Jude Hulston, a friend of ours who lived quite near to that area and who, we knew, had permission for some land not far away from where we were.

promised him a bacon butty

We fortunately found Jude at home and explained that we were getting no success with the farmers and asked if he had a field we could go on for the rest of the day. Jude was a saviour and directed us to a farm where he knew we could get permission once we told the farmer we were friends of his, and that he and his partner Syl were going to join us within the hour. We thanked Jude and promised him a bacon butty and a cup of coffee from the Red Rocket once he arrived.

We found the farm easily, and the field that Jude suggested, which had shown Roman coins in the past, was free to search. Within minutes we were parked and getting the detectors out. Ken had brought a brand-new XLT and wanted us to put in some special programs and Mo' commented as she picked up her XLT from Brian, "This seems light compared to Ken's".

no batteries in our detectors

It was ... for a very simple reason. The evening before Brian had put the batteries on charge, and guess where they were now! Yes, in our kitchen still being charged up! The language was terrible. We'd driven all this way, spent hours knocking on farm doors getting rejection time after time and now, after getting on a good field, we had no batteries in our detectors. Brian would never live this one down!

Then he had a brain wave. He drove off like a madman in the Red Rocket to find the nearest phone box. If he could catch Jude and Syl before they left to join us they could bring us their spare detector. Ken had told us that Mo' could have his XLT battery when he left later that day.

Jude's phone rang and rang and then Sylvia picked it up. "I was just locking up", she said, "I'll see what he's got spare". We waited on the other end of the phone and then, heaven, Jude's voice on the other end and he told us he would bring a spare machine.

Gizza Go

When we got back to the field Ken was walking up and down using his brand new XLT. We followed at his side wondering whether or not he would give us a go. "Gizza signal", "Gizza go". We kept saying but he wasn't listening. Every time he bent to dig a signal we would quip, "I'll buy that one off ya!" or "Let's 'ave that hole!" Once Ken asked "What happens if you set so-and-so at such a setting?" He

lost his machine for about fifteen minutes whilst we demonstrated the effects, deliberately taking our time and trying to get the best use out of the machine whilst it was in our hands.

his first-ever hammered

We had only been working about half an hour when Ken found a badly worn hammered sixpence of Elizabeth I, his first ever hammered coin. He was chuffed to bits and highly honoured that he found it whilst detecting with the Red Rocket crew. He kept saying how he had been all over the north of England with two blokes but never found anything worth keeping and here he was, out for the first time with us and within thirty minutes of being on a field he had his first hammered in the bag. We commented that, if he didn't give us a proper go of his machine then that coin would be his first and last!

Jude and Syl duly arrived and very soon all four of us were working the fields. Syl had come along for the ride and the fresh air. Nothing else of interest was found during the remainder of that day and we stayed on the field through the night after saying our goodbyes to Ken, Jude and Syl. We thanked them immediately for pulling us out of the mire.

We were to be away for four days and, because of our problems gaining permission in this area, decided to move on early the next day. We agreed to try an area about twenty miles away. We hadn't been there before but had enough knowledge of the history of the area to be confident in front of a farmer or landowner. This we feel is important. We'd much rather ask permission with the words, "We'd like to search on that field because we believe..." than ask "Can we have permission to search over there mate?"

It was while we were driving down a narrow lane towards this area that we saw a pheasant lying in the middle of the road. We stopped the Red Rocket and found that

it was still warm and had probably flown into the path of a car. It had suffered a broken neck.

Brian decided that we would keep it, he'd pluck it and we'd eat it later. We'd never eaten pheasant and had heard that this was the dish of kings. We placed it under the table in the van and carried on our way.

another half-hour wasted

We struggled to find the farmer for the first field we'd selected. We drove to the farm only to find it deserted, we drove around the fields for ages, and at one point almost became bogged down. Then we walked all the way across a field to a man on a tractor only to find he was a farmhand who advised us that we'd find the farmer back at the farm! On the way back to the farm we saw in the distance a tractor turning off the main road onto a trackway across the fields. We felt that this must be the farmer and elected to follow him. Four hundred yards along the track the route rose up a steep incline which looked decidedly slippery. Did we risk getting the Red Rocket stuck again as on our last trip? No, we wouldn't take that chance again but had to back down along the trackway for the full 400 yards to the main road. Another half an hour wasted. We occasionally have such days like this when looking for permission, as we're sure all of you do.

We called it a day and decided to go to the next area of interest and, for a change, found the farmer in his yard and all too ready to give permission, after we might add, he reassured us that we were wasting our time as someone had "done those fields over ten years gone!"

We didn't have too many hours left and all we could do really was give the four fields available a quick going-over with the intention of finding which of them would receive our full attention the following day.



Fig 1 - Henry IV Penny

As evening came upon us and we met up again, we drew the conclusion that, on first reflections, all four fields contained nothing of special interest! But, we know that first appearances can be deceiving and large fields should be given much more time than just a couple of hours.

giving her the willies

The evening was spent in a nearby lay-by as we couldn't find the farmer to ask if we could spend the night on the fields. The dead pheasant really got in the way and was beginning to smell a little.

Brian had wanted to pluck and cook it that evening but the farmer had told us that it should be hung for at least four days to help improve the flavour. We hung it from the ceiling of the Red Rocket but during the night Mo' wanted it moving as it was "giving her the willies"!

We spent the whole of the third day on the four fields, spending almost all the time until dinner on the one nearest the farm house. However, they produced nothing worthy of note, just the usual Georgian copper coins, a Victorian silver sixpence and a pile of buttons and bits of scrap lead.

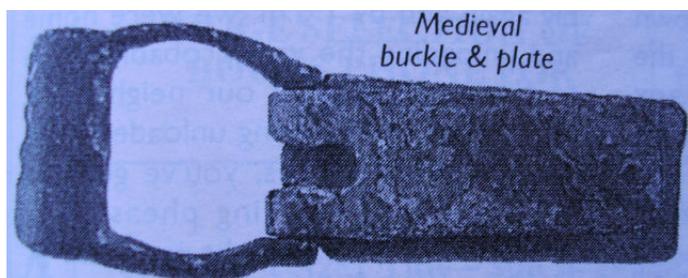


Fig 2 Medieval buckle and plate

That evening we called on the farmer to show him our finds and to tell him that we couldn't find anything of interest on the four available fields. He seemed to be more disappointed than we were and suggested that we call on his brother, several miles away, as he had some fields that would be free to detect upon. He told us he'd call him whilst we were driving there which was a nice touch.

His brother was as helpful as he was and his wife took an immediate liking to us. So much so, that she kept us talking in the farmyard for well over an hour. We couldn't complain as this sort of public relations exercise can only do the hobby the world of good. Farmers can be quite gregarious creatures, meeting others at markets and livestock sales and if we can convince several farmers a year that detectorists are just ordinary people like themselves and not the thieves we are often made out to be in the media then we feel we have done our bit towards keeping this wonderful hobby.

another night under the stars

We thanked him and told him we'd see him in the morning or if he wasn't about, we'd see him after our searches. He told us we could bed down for the night in one of his fields and off we went to spend another night under the stars in perfect quiet.

The next morning was terrible; it was raining hard with a strong wind. We had to get on with it and toggled up with loads of wet weather gear. Mo' made the first nice find, the hammered penny of Henry IV shown in Fig. 1. We found a lot of buckles, musket balls and other pieces in this area and so elected that there will be a few other medieval pieces from this field.

The medieval buckle and plate shown in Fig. 2 came up next. This dates to between 1250-1400, confirming that the field had seen some use during the period. This was also found by Mo', who was very pleased with the performance of her XLT, having now used it several times.

We broke off for dinner and that's when the smell of the pheasant hit us when we entered the Red Rocket. "How can anyone eat something after it has been festering for four days", we thought. Surely now the thing would have maggots enjoying themselves on the ample insides of the bird.

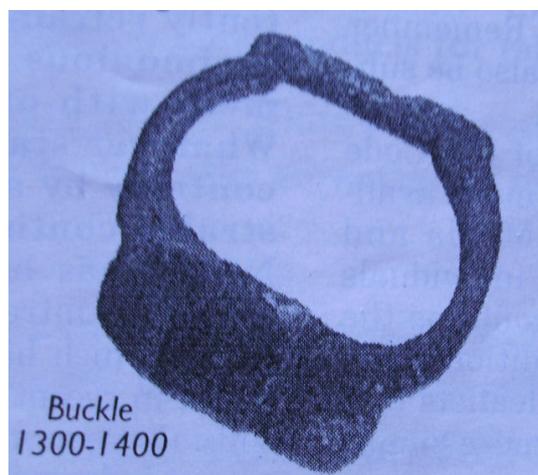


Fig 3 Buckle 1300-1400

We decided there and then that even if

Brian did find the courage to pluck the bird and take its insides out, we probably wouldn't eat it.

The rain eased after dinner and so we moved back to the same area, which didn't produce anything new, so we slowly worked our way towards a distant bunch of trees in the middle of the field. As we got nearer finds started appearing again. Brian found the buckle shown in Fig. 3, which we have dated to 1300-1400.

The bunch of trees surrounded a deep pit, which was filled with water. It was a lovely spot and very lush. We searched about this pit for the next few hours and came to the conclusion that it looked like it had been there for a long time. Then Brian found a small Scottish hammered coin, shown in Fig. 4, about twenty yards from the edge of the pit. As we haven't any books on Scottish hammered coins we are unsure of the identification of the coin but suspect it dates to between 1200-1400.

We didn't finish searching here till it was almost dark and we could just about make out the silhouette of the Red Rocket. We were at the end of our trip and sorry to be going just when we had found a productive area but we could come back in a couple of weeks. Now all we had to do was call and see the farmer, show him our finds and get on our way.



Fig 4 Scottish hammered coin

We explained how old the finds were and the purpose of each to the farmer and his wife. They were surprised at our determination, saying "Have you been out in that weather looking for this rubbish?" We finished off by saying that we enjoyed rescuing such pieces from the ground and got a lot of pleasure from the hobby, and we would like to come back in a few weeks if the fields would still be available. We were told we could come as long as the fields weren't seeded. We bade our farewells and left for the long journey home.

The Red Rocket performed impeccably again and by 1 am we were home and unloading the van, probably much to the annoyance of our neighbours. What was the last thing unloaded from the Red Rocket? Yes, you've guessed it; it was that plucking pheasant which Brian put straight into the bin!

Did you know?

The oddly shaped nickel-brass threepence piece, with twelve sides, was first minted in 1937. It is thought to be the first non-circular British coin. It replaced a small, silver, threepence piece which had been popular for placing in Christmas and birthday cakes. Many of the old coins survived, just for that purpose.

It was King Henry VIII who first introduced the gold "crown" worth five shillings, which later became a silver coin. A "half-crown" coin was also introduced, later becoming cupro-nickel (which has a silver appearance). As decimalisation approached, the half-crown was withdrawn as it had no place in the new decimal age.

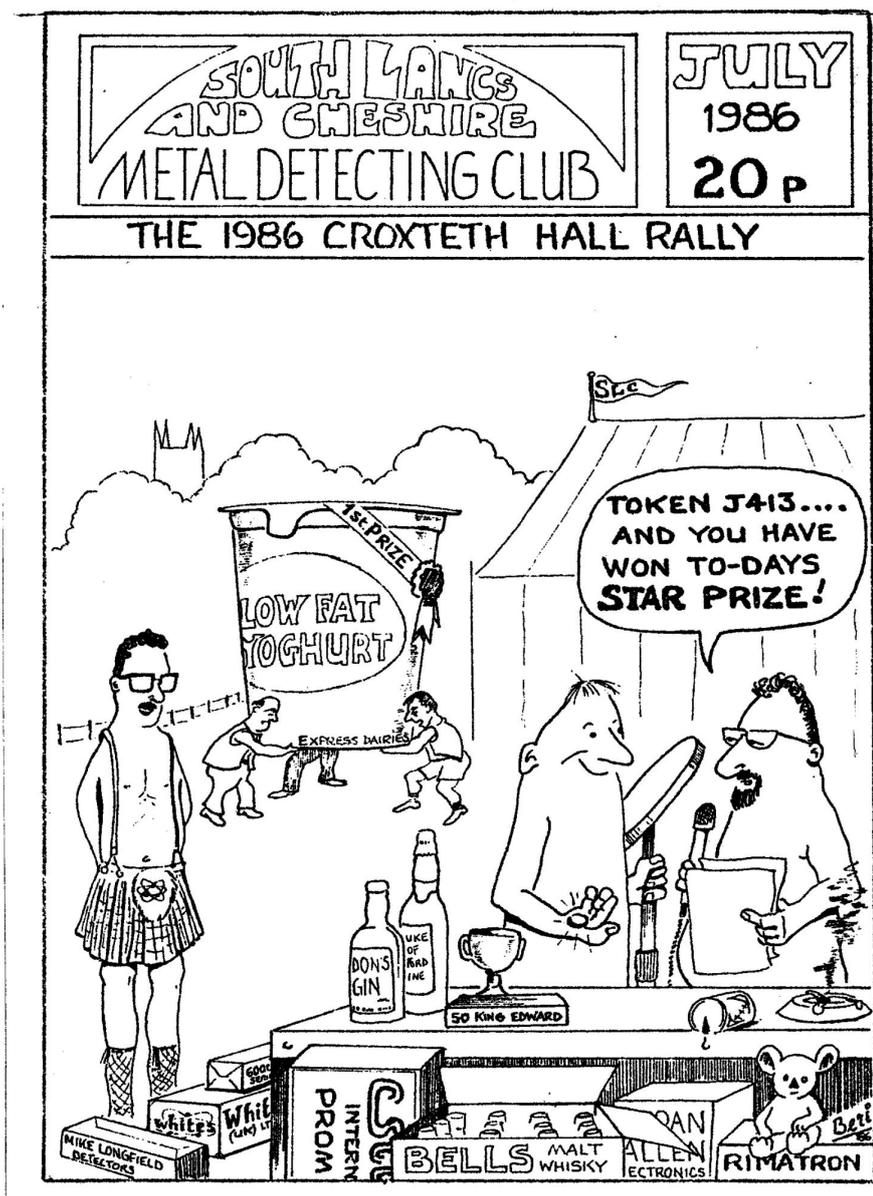
Scottish coinage followed a similar development to that in England, though Scots coinage was often in short supply and of uncertain value compared with the English, Dutch, Flemish or French coin, which were preferred by the majority of Scots.

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 July 1986.

Cover Explanation: In 1986 the club held a big national rally at Croxteth Park on the outskirts of Liverpool. By this time the club had already gained a huge reputation for holding big national metal detecting rallies. The highlight of several of the rallies prior to this one was the amount of yoghurt given away as prizes. Virtually no-one went away empty-handed as we had that much yoghurt donated to us by the Ski Yoghurt factory.

By the way, the guy in the kilt is obviously George McRae from Whites of Inverness.



Best News Stories from June 2011

AN ARCHAEOLOGY enthusiast has unearthed a valuable piece of Weston's ancient past after a Roman ring he discovered near the town was declared treasure trove.

Read More

A TREASURE hunter from Weymouth unearthed an Iron Age grave containing a skeleton of a woman and a number of her belongings.

An inquest into the treasure, which was discovered by Carl Walmsley of Westham, heard how a total of 14 items were found in the grave on land near Portesham.

West Dorset coroner Michael Johnston declared that the items, including a mirror, two brooches, a bronze amulet, a coin, tweezers and a number of glass and stone beads, were treasure at the inquest held at Dorset County Hall.

Mr Johnston said that the items, which were discovered on April 27 last year, dated from between 15BC to AD50-60 and were found in a Durotrigian type grave.

Read More

Archaeologists have been discovering how Romans lived 2,000 years ago, by studying what they left behind in their sewers.

Read More

A 17th Century mug that was found in a Gloucestershire farmhouse has sold for £82,000 at auction.

Read More

The Wickham Market Hoard, the stash of Iron Age coins buried by a tribe which roamed the East of England 2,000 years ago, will go on permanent display at Ipswich after museum officials raised the £315,000 asking price to keep it in the county.

Ipswich Museum launched a two-month campaign to save the 840 sacrificial coins, which have sparked courtroom controversy between their two feuding finders, when the Treasury made them available at the end of April 2011.

A fast-tracked bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund yielded a £226,000 reward, augmented by major contributions from the Art Fund and the MLA/V&A Purchase Grant Fund.

Read More

New York streets paved with gold

Read More

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

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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, PhilD via PM, or Brian Cross at ***briancross4@hotmail.com***

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.