

UKDN WORD

WORLD OF RESPONSIBLE DETECTING

ISSUE NO.48
August 2011



COIN OF THE MONTH
GEORGE III one third Guinea

**A POLITE, POSITIVE
APPROACH TO OBTAINING
PERMISSION**

**MEMBER'S REPORT ON
THE DEUS DETECTOR
PART 3**

**OUR READER'S
DETECTING SKILLS
SAVED THE DAY FOR
A PENSIONER**

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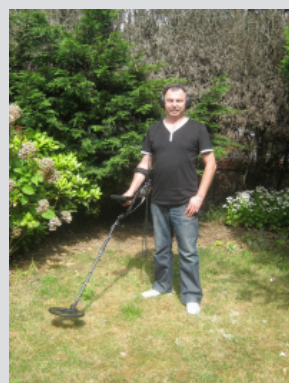
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Front cover photo - Rainbow over the Lincolnshire marshland by Tom Redmayne

A Message from Admin

The crops are coming out and the Admin Team have noticed the increase in finds and the quality thereof. A nighthawker gets caught on one of the team's land and we thank those who ID all your finds.

Welcome to this the 48th issue of the UKDN Word magazine. We now begin our fifth year of issue and hope to keep bringing you the latest forum news.

Petethedig caught a person on his land who was detecting without permission. This is an on-going incident but UKDN will not tolerate night-hawking and we salute Pete for his stance.

On another note we have already seen, in this past fortnight, several exceptional finds being shown on the forum. No doubt more will follow now that most of the rape crop has been cut and swathed and the barley harvest has also just started.

The wheat will probably be another 2 to 3 weeks but the potatoes are starting to

be lifted and that gives fresh, relatively flat soil to detect on straight away. There also seem to have been more pea crops this year so some good detecting land should be about.

In the pages of this magazine we have members praising our Finds Advisors and the Admin Team would like to extend that thanks. We have a wonderful team of Finds Advisors and we would like to thank them publicly for doing such a fantastic job. Coins and artefacts get identified so quickly that it's sometimes unbelievably quick. Thanks guys !!

Don't forget camera buffs that we are still asking for photos suitable for our 2012 metal detecting calendar.

On a final note, within the pages of this magazine you will see items being sold on behalf of the UKDN Shop. We have Finds Bags, Caps with the UKDN logo and UKDN Cloth Badges with your Username printed on. Click on any of the links and get that product shipped to you very quickly.

Good Hunting The Admin 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

Bronze Age Axe C 1700-1500 BC Found by Firthy77



My detector is the Deus with the large coil, I had just got the coil and wanted to test it out so I went to a section of one of my fields that I had previously done with the standard coil and with an Xterra 705 to see if it found anything else.

It is a pasture field in Cheshire that has not been ploughed for many years.

I got quite a few signals that the other had missed. Then right in the middle of the section I got a nice signal and started to dig. The axe was about 14 inches down, I was fairly certain it was a bronze age axe and was well chuffed.

When I got home I posted a picture for ID on UKDN and got a reply almost immediately confirming it was an early bronze age flat axe 1700-1500 BC. This is the oldest thing I've ever found although last year I got part of an Iron age bridle bit (3 links).

UKDN is fantastic at helping to ID finds and I'd like to say thank you to all the guys.

Fred - Firthy77 Photograph on next page is Firthy77



Coin of The Month

George 111 one third Guinea Found by Scratchiemmm



I've been going through a pretty lean spell for the last 18 months – my club has amassed a total of more than 300 hammerededs in the last 12 months and my tally is zilch! I have found hammerededs in the past, but this lean spell is a bit demoralising, yet I turn out for our bi-monthly digs with the optimism and hope of all hardened detectorists with the thought 'today could be the day'!

Actually I didn't think that at all – it was an excuse to get out, to meet up with club members and support our site finder in getting us a June dig.

Pasture- ugh!!

It wasn't really pasture, but a nicely close cut practice area for the local golf club. The ground was hard on account of the lack of rain so I didn't expect a great deal.

At the start of the dig I followed a straight line up the side of the hedge. There were plenty of signals but after the usual ring pulls, bits of lead and other annoying rubbish I made my way further into the field before making my way back to my car and refreshments.

I don't actually recall the signal.....it was probably more 'iffy' than good, but I decided to dig. I made a nice circular cut of the turf and lifted it off. There right in the centre was a gold looking thingy.

My first thought was that it was a bit of gold foil from a Christmas chocolate, but when I picked it up and rubbed it, I realised that it was the real thing..... a GOLD coin!!

I looked around for my brother and he was maybe 100 metres away. I left my detector and walked over to him trying to keep the grin off my face. When I got close I said "It's not a hammered, but it is a first – my first gold coin!".

I didn't do much more detecting the rest of the day, but as it turned out this field yielded over 80 Georgian coins, three silver ferrules and a number of musket balls so it is thought it might have been used for hare coursing or some other similar 'betting' activity.

As with everyone who finds something significant, be it gold, an ancient artefact, a hoard of Roman coins or whatever, the find comes up when you least expect it and in conditions that you least expect. Such was the circumstance of this find.

Scratchienn July 2011

Did you know?

The Battle Abbey in Sussex was built by William the Conqueror in 1070 on the site of the Battle of Hastings.

The high altar was placed directly over the spot where King Harold was killed.

An excellent video can be seen [here](#)



DEATH OF HAROLD. Bayeux Tapestry.

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 a May in the mid-1980's possibly.

Cover Explanation: Here is a cover released after the Rally of the Roses, an annual event between our club and the Halifax Club. It was hosted by each club in alternate years on their own territory. A large cup was awarded to the winner of a special event which saw club members running around to find a certain amount of money before the other club reached their amount.

Obviously, some tokens WERE buried in cow pats !!



Doctor Mark Blackburn at the Fitzwilliam Museum



It has come to the attention of our members that Dr Mark Blackburn of the Fitzwilliam Museum is presently very poorly and we of the UKDN metal detecting community would like to thank Mark so much for identifying and recording our members finds on the database over the years.

We at UKDN are all thinking of you Mark and hoping you make a full recovery.

Please report early medieval finds to:

***Early Medieval Corpus
Department of Coins and Medals
Fitzwilliam Museum
Cambridge CB2 1RB***

If the FLO can't ID it, Dr Martin Allen at the Fitzwilliam Museum Early Medieval Corpus may be able to if you email him the images.

Dr Martin Allen (01223) 332915

Email: mra25@cam.ac.uk

http://www.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk/coins/emc/emc_record.html

This Months Identification

Identifying a Henry VI Groat

It is quite common for detectorist's to find hammered coins for lower denominations. The higher denominations are less so. This is firstly because the higher value coins only came about from the reign of Edward III onwards, and secondly because they were not in general circulation as much as perhaps a penny.

As you can see it had some buying power at the time, and the person who lost it would have felt aggrieved, to say the least. So how do we know it is a Henry VI Groat? I mean it has been clipped so much around the edge that poor Henry's name is illegible.



This month we are looking at a Henry VI Groat. To give a rough idea of its value back then here are a few basic prices (ca. 1300-1400) (i)

lb wool = 3.25d,
lb wax = 6d,
lb cheese = 0.5d,
120 eggs = 4.5d,
lb butter 0.75d,
lb candles = 1.25d

Well firstly when it was posted up for ID, it was shown alongside a modern twopence coin. This is extremely important when trying to identify certain larger coins, as both the groat and half groat have double inner circles. The coin appears to be around 25mm, after clipping, which places it very firmly in the 'groat' category or '4d'.

So we know it is a groat. What else do we know? Well we know it has a long cross pattée dividing the legends with three pellets in each quarter. But this doesn't particularly help us with the king.

The big clue on this coin is seen on the reverse. As well as telling us in the inner description, that it was minted in London – Civitas London – it also has a Leaf before LON and a trefoil after DON. This nails the coin down to a Leaf-Trefoil type, only issued in the reign of Henry VI.

The leaf stops would normally also show after HENRIC, DI and GRA on the reverse but this is illegible however if you look carefully you can see a trefoil stop after REX, which is also associated with this type. It is also possible to see part of

the obverse legend HENRIC DI GRA (REX ANGL Z FRANC).

So we now know that it is a Henry VI, leaf-trefoil issue groat of London. However we can narrow this particular coin down even further as this particular type was only issued in the First Reign during the years 1435-38.

Refs: (i)

Chown, J.F., 1994: A history of money from AD 800. Routledge, NY. 306p.

Schoenhof, J., 1897: A history of money and prices: Being an inquiry into their relations from the 13th Century to the present time. Putman and Sons, NY, 352

This Month's Cartoon



UKDN Fun Point Press and Pray - Camera PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION



atky (Alex)

Sunset overlooking Buttermere and Crummock Water

Canon PowerShot S3 IS



UKDN FUN DSLR - Camera PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION



popsandme

Extra guest at the BBQ

Sony a200

***popsandme
with
detector in garden***

Detecting Tip of the Month

When I go detecting I always take a bottle of antiseptic hand gel with me. Morrisons are currently doing one which is in a handy size bottle, about 4" tall, about a quid. You only need a tiny amount on your hand and then rub both hands together until the stuff is dry (a few seconds).

We never know what has been put into the soil, or, on beaches, what has been buried, and if not using gloves, what we are going to pick up. (2 days ago, I had a handful of dog poo), thankfully I was able to do something immediately.

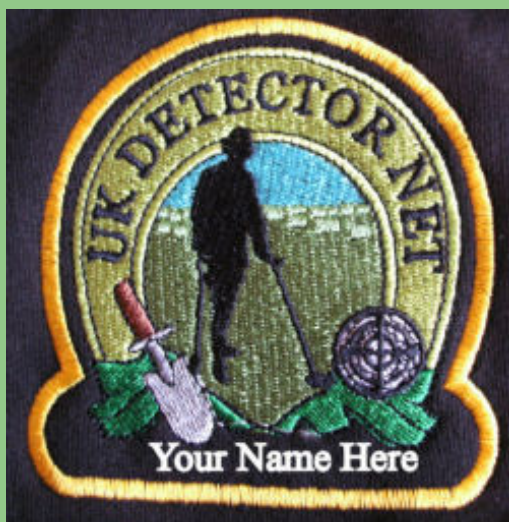
OGJ

I always carry a thin hammie with me and once I'm set up for the field I'm on, find a noisy area, dig a hole to about 12" and then test the coin at all different depths in the hole wall to see how deep I can get the coin.

Then I fill beneath the coin and then back fill the hole with the coin in and test vigorously from all different angles so that I know what I am listening for. I am pretty confident to say I have found some nice deep items, that I don't think I would have if for not doing this few minute test

Mysticslim

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 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.

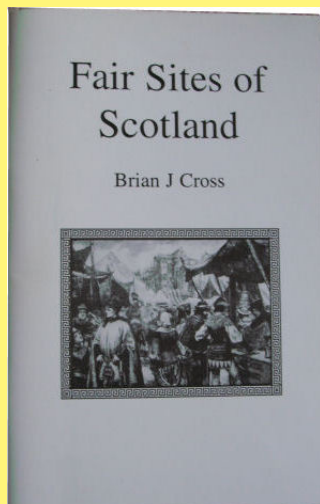
All sold at very competitive prices with no rip-off fees for postage. For more info and to order go to the [**UKDN Shop**](#)

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**](#)

Mick gives Annie some joy by finding her keys

Pensioner Annie lay in hospital after a fall worrying that her lost keys would fall into the wrong hands. UKDN member Mick Butler came along and saved the day.

A couple of weeks ago I got a phone call from John Rigby of the NCMD. He told me he had seen a cry for help from a lady on the internet asking for a metal detectorist to help find some lost keys. As I was the nearest to her (about 10 miles) he asked if I would be interested. I said I would be happy to help and phoned the lady the following day.

nothing was found

She told me she had a nasty fall outside her home resulting in some broken bones and some time in hospital. She remembered having her house and car keys in her hand before she fell but despite a search in the thick bushes nearby by neighbours and police nothing was found.

find someone with a detector

The police advised her to have all the locks changed or find someone with a detector. I called at the house and she showed the bushes where she thought the keys might be. They were about 30 ft long, 6ft high and 5ft deep.

There was no way you could see into them. It took me and my trusty MXT about 20 minutes to find them. She was so relieved she asked me to accept a financial reward for my efforts which I declined.

A friend of mine (HarryUp on this forum) had previously said it might make good publicity for our much maligned hobby and I duly asked her if she would mind telling the local newspaper in the hope



Mic.B with his detector

they might publish the story and show our hobby in a good light. The article was published and I was chuffed to bits to have been of help and saved her a lot of money and messing about.

Mick Butler. August 2011

The newspaper article can be seen at the link below

[Click Here](#)



Did you See

None of the members of the UKDN Forum ever see all the posts and topics created. Below we remind you of some of the more interesting topics you may have missed but which are well worth looking at.

Sicknote A Video describing someone's excuse as to why he couldn't come to work today. Hilarious !!

Badger Story A heart-warming true story told by Commando. You've really got to read this.

Stunning sterling silver military badge. Wow, if you love military badges then take a look at this topic. It really is a stunner.

Photography accessories + A very interesting topic concerning photography accessories and running into printer cartridge prices etc.

Scammer detector buyer!! One of our members got this email from a scammer "Dear Customer,
How is your day?Am interested in purchasing Metal Detector.I will like you to Email me back with the various prices that you have in stock at this time for sale ,I will like to know the type of payment you do accept(Master / Visa card).Am awaiting for your soonest response.
Regards, Slim Bernard." Two pages of responses to this thread

Vessica Seal. Johnd finds a wonderful vessica seal. See it on the thread, wonderful.

Foreign Hammered - Help.....please. John Fargher puts up a picture of a foreign hammered suggesting that he thought it might be.... that it's a Grott of King Crappus XIII of Skipsville. Two pages of responses show exactly what the coin was.

Bronze Axe Head colgoldlyn77 puts up a picture of a splendid Bronze Age axe and gets two pages of responses - most members were gob-smacked with this find.

Prom Night! Karv shows off his girl and two of her friends. Most posters could only say "Wow"

Last ever launch, will you be watching? One of our techno guys (marcsdigs) announced the final shuttle launch. A very interesting thread with plenty of fascinating info.

What is your earliest memory ever. Another thread which run into two pages of quite hilarious posts. Play catch-up by clicking the link !!

Religious fob seal Harry UP found this wonderful religious seal and the posts on this thread run up to four pages so far. A really interesting topic !!

A positive approach with polite communication wins the day By Pacman

***Pacman didn't get a straight
"No" from this farmer and so
for the following seven months
Pacman periodically called in to
see him and say Hello then... he
finally got his permission!!***

About 8 months ago I called into a farm near to me to ask permission to detect. Although most of the farm is pasture it looks interesting especially as the farm house was built in the 1500's and the farmer's family has been there for 5 generations (I found out later).

and no pressure

I had with me one of my A4 size letter pages I had prepared and carry with me, which just introduces myself and stating my intentions with my contact details on, all to show trust and openness and gives them the option to contact me at a later date without wanting an answer there and then and no pressure.

I said hello, briefly introduced myself and told him why I had called in. I handed him my letter for him to read or keep. While reading through he told me that the harvest was late this year and he had nothing at present. I thanked him for his time and said that I would call in again just to check for any availability. I mentioned this because I picked up on the fact that he hadn't said NO...

Over the following 7 months I called in once or twice a month just on the off chance of catching him in the yard without the need to knock on the door and bother him. When I saw him, we had a chat about all sorts for a short while and touched briefly on the subject of his fields every time, just to remind him (he is in late 70's) and make sure that he still had my contact details and hadn't lost them.

I was not going to give up

I had a Google map of his farm and showed him the area I was interested in looking around. He had horses, hay and other things on many fields but each time said "come back again and we will see how we go on". I was not going to give up on this.

I had some permission

Anyway, last month he said I could go on a field where a warplane had crashed during the war. He actually witnessed it as a young boy but it had been totally removed 60 years ago. The field was totally unsuitable really with years of dog walkers past and present, parties, beer cans and crap everywhere, but it was a start and I had some permission. I went on twice just to see what it was like and it was as I expected.

After my second visit I went and purchased a bottle of scotch just as a thank you. When I called in, his son advised me that he was on holiday for a few weeks. I showed him the "thank you"

I had purchased and he said that it was a nice thought and that he DID like a drop of the hard stuff, so it was a good choice and would not be wasted.

I caught up with him today back from his holidays. We had a chat and he asked me how I had got on the other field. I simply mentioned I had a few vicky coins and some new coinage and loads of crap, just to show that I had accepted his offer and that it was nice to get out on a new field with his kind permission. I handed him the bottle of scotch and he was really surprised. He refused at first and said there was no need, but I insisted and said it was just to show my appreciation and thanks for his trust and giving me permission even after calling in all these months. We talked further and found out that there were some fields in other areas that he uses and other farmers he knew well and he could get me on their fields also. After the hay had been collected he said he would let me go on these and that he was also moving horses around and to call in again in a week or so.

the future is looking a lot better

I left feeling very pleased with my efforts and although £15 pounds lighter due to my small showing of gratitude which was well received, and despite not actually detecting anywhere properly on his farm since I called around almost 9 months ago, the future is looking a lot better for some local detecting.

Bottom line is, if they dont give you a NO there and then, then commence with a longer term plan and try not to put anyone under any pressure, and you never know but this tactic just might work.

Good luck.

Paul

PART 2:

Thought I would give an update as its been a few weeks since I called in to the farm due to the good weather.

Anyway, on my way home tonight I thought it was nice evening and as I was a bit early decided to call in on my friendly farmer to see how he was getting on with any of his fields. He was in the yard and it must be Deja vu, when I got there he told me that he was talking about me around lunchtime, how strange is that then....and here I was and I was in two minds and was just going to go straight home.

in his little red book

He told me that there were a couple of fields that were being cut next week that I would be able to go on and asked me to put my phone number again in his little red book. He also asked for a favour.

There is another field that has been cut and will have the hay collected this week but on this field he has lost a part of machinery. He asked if I would have a search for the part to which I replied it would be a pleasure and to give me a call any time as I can even come around early evening.

So I await his call soon and hopefully enjoy the start of a long anticipated friendship which I started to work on towards the end of last year.

PART 3:

Called in to my farmer friend on Sunday after a quiet club dig. He has cleared one field and said I can go on. Also could I look out for a big screw bolt he lost from his tractor. So I went down for 45 mins like a big kid in a sweet shop just looking for the part, praying I would stumble across it, but as he said it could be anywhere. Didnt find it, but will keep looking.

Anyway, did exactly what I have always

wanted and went on to the field tonight from about 2030 just for an hour. He has other fields right on his farm that he is also clearing and cutting the grass on, but I can actually drive up to this field which is about 3/4 mile away, bliss.....a dream come true.



Here's my first field

Here are a few pics and my first find. Not mind blowing but its a start and I got out for an hour and watched the sun set. Managed to run my T2 in all metal as the field was so quiet. Not sure if its a good or bad thing, but who cares.

Hopefully I will be putting some interesting stuff on the site, but happy with my 1912 penny as at least its a coin and only 2 bits of foil found also.



***Obverse and reverse of my first coin
A George V Penny***

Paul (Pacman) July 2011



UKDN CAPS

We have just 7 of these caps left at the current offer price of £11.83 online price or £11.50 if sending a cheque.

[Click Here to Buy](#)

***August 17th is last day
for submissions !!***

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.***

Members Report on the Deus Part Three – By Blue Yeti



Blue-Yeti braves the cold and goes onto a field that's been 'done to death' and comes away in love with his machine

So I braved the cold and went out again... I could wait no longer and had to give it the ultimate test on one of my very favourite fields...

The field in question I have done for 19 years, last year was the first ever year that not a single hammered coin came up, the year before only one. One area of the field is beyond mineralised - it is awful but working into the rubbish can be rewarding.

the top two inches frozen

The field is still very rough but with the top two inches frozen at least it wasn't sticky!!

My very first signal from some depth was a very nice spur pictured below. We then wandered through an area that doesn't produce much but seems to always offer the promise it will by the number of bits. This time was no exception and within a short time I was over the double figures in small bits and pieces, nothing special though!



At the top of the field is a very small area that has produced hammered, but I have not had one here for five years. Thirty minutes later I was crouching over a hole and saw that grey disc, in bad condition. I looked up for Dave to tell him the news and saw he was crouching over a hole, he looked up, looking for me and we both made the hammered signal and started walking over to meet.

I had a busted Edward penny, he had a broken Elizabeth penny, but this is more hammered than the field has produced in the past two years so we were once again pleased/amazed/justified that our investment in new machines seemed to be paying off.

My eighth now of this year

We continued the search and worked towards the junked area. I found a lovely sack seal en route and then a lovely signal produced another hammered this time a decent Elizabeth half groat. Bearing in mind that I found only one for the whole of last year and this being my eighth now of this year on old fields leaves me in no doubt that I am finding what my other machines couldn't pick up.

Into the rubbish area we moved and I changed mode to Deus Fast. I have to say the performance now was not as good as I had hoped. The Hawkeye was quite good at working this area but the Deus at times seemed overwhelmed. It could, of course, be that I have not learnt the machine and that I needed to tweak settings but still we winkled out finds.

Dave got a jetton and I quickly equalised it. We both got a couple of musket balls which on this field are all missed signals.

All to soon it was time to head off but not before Dave managed an Elizabeth three-pence in amongst the junk. He had also popped out mid week (sneaky) and landed himself two hammered then, so our scores for January are eight to me and five to him, so 13 total. Compared to a combined score of four last year we are very pleased with how its going.

after 19 years it amazes me

I also checked my records for this field and even when it was new to me and whoever I detected with we only ever managed three hammered in a day, so after 19 years it amazes me that we can pull out four.



Sack Seal and hammered

I have attached the shots of some of the bits, and if anyone can help with a date for the sack seal or spur I would be very grateful. I am presuming 16/17thC as 90% of the find here are but you never know..

So out again in the hurricane force winds... Have to say detecting on a pleasant day is going to be very enjoyable!

Went back to the field where we had the four hammered last week, which, as explained before is one of my favourite all time fields that has produced a lot over the past 19 years but last year was dead.

Dave and I set up and were detecting by about 1030 and despite my concerns about being on a really exposed field, the lightweight headphones were fine. The wind noise was no worse and they were not blowing off as I feared may be the case. I went off in one direction and Dave the other. After about an hour I got a phone call from him as there was no way in the wind we could shout to each other, that he had a hammered, a nice tiny Commonwealth. I asked where exactly he was and decided to work my way over as I had found nothing much.

littered like no other site

I went through the really mineralised area to reach him, which is littered like no other site I know with coke and building remnants. You have to try and listen out for a two way signal in amongst all the clicks and spits, its really brutal. I kept isolating signals, checking the number 22 coke, 24 coke, 02 iron, 22 coke again. A lot can be confirmed here just be looking down and seeing it on the surface, but I now have enough confidence in the meter to walk away from the low 20 numbers. Another 22 with a second signal alongside at 70 grabbed my attention. The piece of coke was visible on the surface so I kicked it aside and was left with a clear but deep sounding 70-73 signal.

Two spadefuls and it wasn't out and on the third a bright silvery disc was visible, sadly I forgot to clod shot it in my rush to extract it and a quick wipe showed a lovely Mary Groat. Dave was now in sight so I walked over and showed him whilst admiring his Commonwealth half penny, which was in lovely condition.

After lunch we headed to an area of the field where the soil is like sand and therefore it smooths off from rough quicker than anywhere else. Finds have generally been less over here but we needed a break from the ear battering, steep slopes we had spent the morning on. I got a signal reading 91. As I was detecting alongside Dave I remarked on the unusual number, 'probably a Georgian' he replied, 'need to be a big silver to read that high' he joked...

revealed an Elizabeth I Shilling

Well down and down I went, and at approx 12 inches a large grey disc was visible. I grabbed it and didn't wipe it but walked over to Dave, 'think you might want to see this clean up?' I said knowing that it was a very large and thus likely to be fairly unusual hammered. This time though I did remember to clod shot it before cleaning, as Dave held it. A quick wipe revealed an Elizabeth I shilling, not in the best of condition but a denomination of Elizabeth I I had not previously found. So hammered number 9 and 10 for the year fell to me on this outing.



Eliz I Shilling and the half-penny



Clod shot of Elizabeth Shilling

A jetton, loom weight and numerous buttons concluded the day.

the Deus had nailed them

Today was interesting for a number of reasons for me. Firstly, it showed that whether it was the tiniest hammered or the largest the Deus had nailed them. Secondly, for my two-pennyworth I am 100% positive my Hawkeye would not have found either of them purely on the depth recovered from. I cannot claim only the Deus would have found them as I have not used a lot of the other top of the range machines, but I know the depth in mineralised soil would have defeated the laser.

This also meant in two outings on a field that I really thought had been done to death we have had 7 hammered between us, and now for the year between us we have 16, last year we managed four.

Detecting for me has come back to life, I am loving the machine and the confidence I now have in it. I have a lot to learn and am sure I am not using it at 100% of its capabilities but no rush, and if you are happy with what you are finding no need to fiddle about!

Ten hammered was my target for the year, and I have achieved that by today, the first weekend in February.



Mary Groat



Elizabeth Hammered

I honestly thought a ten fold increase on last years total was a lot to ask but am now hoping I will break my previous best of 27 in a year.

I hope this thread/blog is still of interest and does not sound like a Deus advert on speed. I knew that it would take some time to see if using the Deus would be an improvement for me and in reality the results are doing more than I ever expected. Anyway I said I would do it for the year and will continue to do so!!

All the best and happy hunting.

Blue-Yeti.... July 2011

Club Reports wanted

Get your club noticed and in the media by submitting a club report to the UKDN Word and reach 100's of detectorists.

Most metal detecting clubs need outlets such as the hobby magazines and media to advertise their existence. Word magazine is offering a superb facility to metal detecting clubs in that we will, for free, allow you to advertise your metal detecting club within the pages of this well-read magazine.

But, unlike the printed magazines, UKDN Word can give you plenty of space to show off your club, show off your members' finds and even advertise your future metal detecting club rallies.

Its simple enough to do... gather your information, take good quality pictures of your members' finds and submit them to any one of the Team here or simply email them to briancross4@hotmail.com

Your club can put forward a monthly report which will feature in the magazine every month - just allocate one person with whom the task of submitting your clubs material will lie and that's all there is to it. The Word staff will ensure its featured every month.

Jettons

Just What are They?

Few of us know exactly what a jetton is. Brian Cross explains what they were and, more importantly, HOW they were used.

Most of us will have found at least one jetton, jeton (sometimes called reckoning counter) in our detecting past. Some of us will have found many, as I have done, but hardly give these little coin-like objects much further thought. We tell our detecting buddies, "Yes, the rally was OK, I found two Edward I hammeredds and a jetton", with no further indication of what type of jetton it is or from what period for the simple reason that we just don't know!!

A jetton is not a coin but is in actual fact a reckoning counter. At first it resembles the coinage of the period it was issued in probably because it was used in trading situations. They were used in conjunction with an Abacus or counting frame which had been in use in various guises since Roman and earlier times. The Romans used small pebbles or calculi as the pieces necessary to calculate quite complex mathematical operations.

Before we look at the jettons themselves it would be worth showing an Abacus and how it worked so that we can later understand what role the jetton played in the operation.



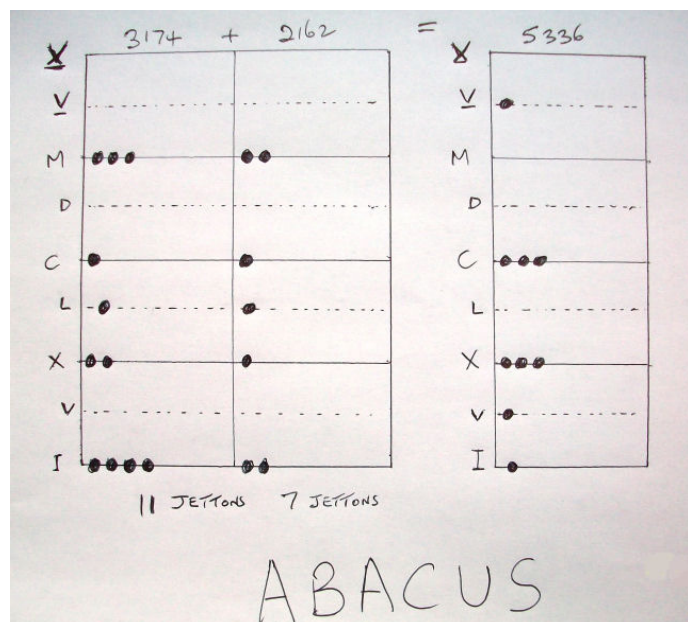
The photo above shows a modern Abacus – many are still used in the Far East. The medieval abacus was a board upon which the counters or jettons were moved around, see woodcut below.



Calculating-Table by Gregor Reisch: Margarita Philosophica, 1508. The woodcut shows Arithmetica instructing an algorist and an abacist (inaccurately represented as Boethius and Pythagoras). There was keen competition between the two from the introduction of the Algebra into Europe in the 12th century until its triumph in the 16th.

Photo copyright – [Wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Calculating-Table_by_Gregor_Reisch.jpg)

The Abacus is shown in the right of the woodcut above but could be very different looking. It could just be a simple cloth embroidered with squares and lines or just lines marked on a table. It could be small or could be huge depending on how many people needed to see the calculations being performed. The English Exchequer table was 10 foot by 5 foot.



The Abacus above is a typical design. Working on the Roman numeral system this example has lines representing the main units of counting i.e. units, tens, 100's and 1,000's. A line halfway between these units represents a half-way point ie. 5, 50 and 500.

This system of calculation could easily be adapted to count money in the old system of pounds, shilling and pence and was obviously also used to count in this way.

In the above example you can see that 17 jettons have been used to denote the quantity 3174 by placing jettons on the following lines – 3 on the 1,000, 1 on the 100 line, 1 on the 50 line (halfway between the 10's and the 100's), 2 on the 10's line and finally 4 on the units line.

You will see that further along 7 jettons have been used to show the quantity 2162 ie 2 on the 1,000 line, 1 on the 100 line, 1 on the 50 line, 1 on the 10 line and 2 on the unit line making 2162.

How does it work

We are going to work out the answer on the diagram at the far right. There are two basic rules to be observed, firstly, no more than four jettons on a line (i.e. representing 4, 40, 400 etc) and no more than one jetton between a line (i.e. representing 5 or 50 etc). So, starting from the bottom line the jettons being added are bunched together so in the above example, you end up with 6 so we take 5 away putting one jetton on the midline of the far right diagram between units and 10's and leave one on the bottom as in the far right depiction.

Now we move up to the 10's line. Bunched together we only have three jettons so they simply move across to the far right. Moving up to the mid-line we find 2 jettons on the fifty line so move them away and add one jetton to the 100 line to represent the 2 fifty's we have just taken away. Along with the other two 100's we already have this will make 3 jettons on the 100 line on the far right.

Moving up – we have no jettons on the 500 line and so move to the 1000 line. Here we have five jettons on the 1,000 line and so move them across to the right. Now we have our answer.

Look at the far right diagram and you can see the answer ie 5336 made up as follows: 1 x 5000, 3 x 100, 3 x 10, 1 x 5 and 1 single unit.

When looking at this its easy to see just why we find so many jettons. In this simple exercise we would need at least 18 jettons and I'm fairly sure that most people who dealt with these sort of calculations on a regular basis must have had at least 50 or 70 jettons.

The Jettons

English jettons first appeared in the reign of Edward Ist and were made of brass or copper. These early jettons often looked similar to sterling pennies in their design.



Fig 4: ENGLISH MEDIEVAL JETTON
 COPYRIGHT - PAS. Record [SUR-A22FB1](#)



**Fig 5: A late Medieval (post 1478),
 copper-alloy, French, "shield of France" jetton.**
 COPYRIGHT - PAS. Record [PUBLIC-B100E0](#)



**Fig 6: A copper-alloy rose and orb jetton of
 Nuremburg Master Hans Schules III c.1608-12**
 COPYRIGHT - PAS. Record [PUBLIC-FA2154](#)

As they often depicted the bust of the king they were pierced with a hole in the centre to prevent plating and being passed off as pennies. (See Fig 4)

By the 1350's English jettons had increased in size and were the size of a period groat. In my experience these English jettons are much rarer than the Continental ones which became more common after the end of the 14th century.

At this time the French produced jettons in large numbers (See Fig 5) and English jetton production slowed as more and more French jettons were imported.

However by the end of the 15th century jettons were being mass-produced in huge numbers by makers in Nuremburg, Germany (See Fig 6) and by the mid-16th century most jetton production was centered in Nuremberg, Hanover and Tournai in what is now modern-day Belgium.

In the late 16th and early-mid 17th century some prolific producers such as Hans Krauwinkel or Wolf Laufer were producing sets of counters and continued to produce the jettons or counters after their use for reckoning of accounts ceased with the adoption of the Arabic numerals in Europe and more modern arithmetic. This new use was as gaming counters as gaming houses grew in popularity so the jetton manufacturers seized this ideal opportunity to continue with production.

Fig 7 is such an example of a later period jetton or counter.

Jettons were also produced as souvenirs of political events or historical happenings, often bearing a message. Some were also produced in silver and given as gifts to officials or, I imagine, visiting dignitaries. Jetton production continued until towards the end of the 19th century.

Further sources: <http://www.chicago-coinclub.org/projects/PiN/juh.html>

Excellent reading here <http://www.mernicks.com/jettons.htm>



Fig 7 : A slightly bent 18th-century copper-alloy post-medieval jetton struck at Nuremberg by Johann Jacob Dietzel (fl. 1711-1748); this jetton must post-date the accession of George II in 1727 AD as it depicts him on the obverse (Mitchiner 1879)
COPYRIGHT - PAS. Record [HAMP-ECD586](#)



Did you know?

What do you know about the numbers of coins in circulation at the moment? We wonder how many of these coins are lying lost on our parks, commons and beaches?

The Royal Mint states that on 31st March 2010 the following estimated value and numbers of each coin in circulation were:

Denomination	Face Value (£m)	Number of pieces (millions)
£2	690	345
£1	1,474	1,474
50 pence	423	845
20 pence	495	2,473
10 pence	165	1,651
5 pence	189	3,774
2 pence	133	6,664
1 penny	112	11,215
Total	3,681	28,441



**£2 coin - 345
million in circulation**



**50p coin - 845
million in circulation**

Care for your finds

Conserve them;
Maximises their appearance and status,
makes ID more easily possible, especially for grots.
Conservation



Archive and store them with all relevant information;
Keeps them and their details safe and together for future reference.
Conservation

Record them and their find spots with PAS;
Gives them provenance, allows academic study & research, which allows the
find to contribute to our national heritage, sometimes re writing our history.
Getting Involved Advice for finders Responsible Detecting Code of Practice

Empower their use by other parties in the future;
Determine the fate of your finds, your detecting equipment &
landowner detecting permissions now for ever after you have gone.
Addendum to last will and testament

Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) recording will give your find provenance

Recording with PAS benefits future generations

Only if a find is recorded can it make it's mark in history

Voluntary recording is much appreciated, self recording is also possible

Every find over 300 years old is important to the scheme and the nation

None recording finds leaves holes in and can distort the historical record

Advice for finders of archaeological objects is available

National Grid references to at least six figures are preferred for find spots

Conservation of the find protects it's value, appearance and status

Enjoy sharing the information your find can give to future generations

Fred Smith - Tel 01944 683222
25 Temple Lane, Acomb, York, YO26 5RD
Venue - **Hill Top Farm**

Find Spot NGR - **SE 12345 67890**
Known as - **York** Date - **19/08/10**
Land - **Cultivated** Depth - **15cm**

Object ID - **Strapend** Diameter - **N/A**
Length - **38.98mm** Width - **10.51mm**
Thickness - **1.39mm** Weight - **3.64gms**

Black - Write on bag before leaving home
Red - Add on site
Blue - Add if you wish later



Best News Stories from July 2011

Hoard of Viking silver coins unearthed in Furness

A metal detectorist uncovered a Viking hoard of silver coins and artefacts in the Cumbrian countryside. The collection, which has been provisionally valued at tens of thousands of pounds, was found in an undisclosed site in Furness.

It is being examined by experts at the British Museum and is expected to be declared as treasure. Experts at Barrow's Dock Museum hope to acquire the hoard and said it was an exciting find for the area. It consists of 92 silver coins and artefacts including ingots and a silver bracelet. Among the coins is a pair of Arabic dirhams.

[Read More](#)

Flag Fen Bronze Age site gets £300,000

A Bronze Age site in Cambridgeshire has re-opened to the public following a change of management and a five-week programme to improve the facilities.

[Read More](#)

Staffordshire Hoard 'to help rewrite history'

A haul of Anglo-Saxon gold discovered beneath a Staffordshire farmer's field could help rewrite history, experts say.

[Read More](#)

York mass grave skeletons were Civil War soldiers

Mass graves found in York contained the skeletons of English Civil War soldiers, according to a new investigation.

[Read More](#)

Gold hoard found in French cellar..

A French couple have found a hoard of gold coins worth at least 100,000 euros (£89,000; \$140,000) in the cellar of their home in the town of Millau..

[Read More](#)

Roman silver coin hoard goes on display in Warwick

A hoard of Roman silver coins which pre-date the birth of Christ are going on show at the Warwickshire Museum.

[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.

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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.