

UKDN WORD

WORLD OF RESPONSIBLE DETECTING

ISSUE NO.51
November 2011



Vesta Cases

Finds of the Month

Mission impossible

UK Beach Detecting

Photos of the Month

Corieltavi Gold Stater

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UKDN would like to thank Tom Redmayne for the cover page image and members for their contributions

A Message from Admin

We'd like to welcome you to this packed edition of The UKDN Word magazine which we hope you'll like and enjoy!

It's been one of those months for the hobby where it seems that hoards were being found weekly, or making the news, in some parts of the UK. We obviously congratulate all those who have been fortunate enough to discover, what most detectorist dream off finding, just once in their lifetime. Such spectacular hoards can go a long way in helping us understand what may have been going on during the time of their burial. Maybe they were left during a time of plenty, but also during times of conflict, the owners never making it back to recover their precious belongings.

Whilst finding a hoard would be the dream find for most detectorist, we would like to suggest, where possible, that if you do find a hoard then do bring in a professional to excavate it so that important information can be gleaned from such sites. Of course during the discovery of such finds things can move quickly, so we always advise that if you find such a thing you just step back and take a deep breath and think about the actions you'll take next.

Such finds are rare, so the information they can offer up should be considered, even though you may have to wait another day or two. This of course depends on the circumstances surrounding what you've found, and if you feel it would be under threat because too many people have seen it, and its location. We recommend that where possible you contact your local FLO or County Archaeologist for advice and help, not forgetting your landowner should be informed too!

On another note regarding finding hoards, please do make sure you have the landowners permission, and an agreement for what you may find where you are searching. Failure to do so could mean penalties against you including possible theft charges, or if your are fortunate to get away with it, a much reduced treasure reward, or none at all for not having that permission in the first place. Such actions bring the hobby onto disrepute and often tar us all with the same brush. There is a Code of Practice for Responsible Detecting that the hobby follows, please read and adhere to it.

We do of course wish you all well in the finding of such great discoveries, let's all do our part in making sure we get the best information from them that will put both us and the hobby in a more responsible light.

Many thanks to all who have contributed to this and many others issues, if you feel you could offer something yourself then please contact PhilD who will be pleased to hear from you.

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

UKDN FINDS BAGS - EXCELLENT !!



[Link to UKDN Shop](#)

Made of strong, durable 200 gauge polythene with grip-seal openings 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

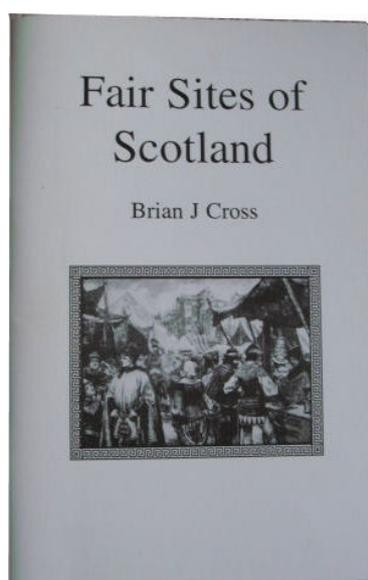
1000 medium bags - £13.50 inc. postage

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



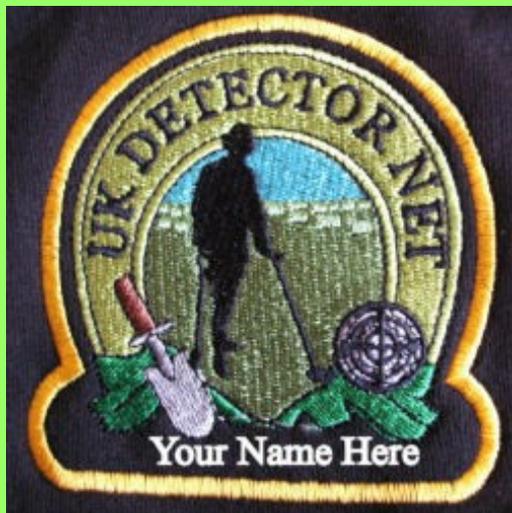
Written by UKDN Forum Founder Brian Cross this book researches all the Cattle, Sheep and Horse fair sites in Scotland. It is an excellent research tool for any detectorist intent on discovering some of these highly productive metal detecting sites.

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](#)

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.

[UKDN Shop](#)



Did you See

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

<i>Another find of note</i>	<i>Another sad loss</i>
<i>Roman brooch - not seen one like this</i>	<i>Stolen detectors</i>
<i>Goldmax Power Tips</i>	<i>Saxon Penny</i>
<i>Miniature cauldron and brooch for ID</i>	<i>Massive stone find</i>
<i>Todays gold coin</i>	<i>Mini cannon</i>
<i>Double rainbow</i>	<i>Half sceat for ID please</i>
<i>What is this?</i>	<i>Valued member</i>
<i>All is not what it seems</i>	<i>Coke</i>
<i>Gold stater</i>	<i>Probably just modern</i>
<i>Lead, lead and more lead - but why?</i>	<i>The last farm house</i>

PAS Find of Note of County/Local Importance Found by Dazzbarwise



Report generated by the Portable Antiquities Scheme's database



Report for : MOUNT
Unique ID: SWYOR-500E27

[Click for PAS Report](#)

Object type certainty: Certain
Printed @ Friday 9th September 2011

Permanent stable URL for this find: <http://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/459858>

Description: An Early Medieval Anglo-Saxon copper alloy possible mount or buckle plate with an incomplete attached plate, and Salin Style I decoration. The object is roughly sub rectangular but tapers at one end. The narrower end has a double collar across the end, which is an old break.

The plate is decorated with two chip carved zoomorphic designs, one on each edge of the plate, and mirroring each other. They have a possible head at the wider end, two legs on each curling around at the outer edge. The body is in two curved blocks with ridges along them. In between these forms at the narrow end of the plate is an anthropomorphic mask. The human face has bulbous protruding eyes, a triangular nose and a long curling moustache. It is best viewed with the narrow end uppermost, whereas the animals are best seen with the plate on its side. In the centre of the plate between the chip-carved decoration is a plain area decorated with eight triangles punched in a row running along the length of the object.

In the forehead of the human mask is a single central copper alloy rivet which attaches the decorated plate to a smaller plain plate on the back of the object. The rivet is flush with the front and the back surfaces. The back plate is sub rectangular in form and has been broken. It projects beyond the narrow end of the decorated plate and is angled to one side. It has a slot cut in the projecting end which ends at the start of the front plate at a thickened area on the back plate. The back plate on one side of the slot is missing, but the other side survives for a short length but is broken at the end. It contains a circular hole.

On the reverse of the decorated plate at the wide end are two circular depressions, one in each corner behind the zoomorphic heads. These do not appear to have even been attachment holes. Both the plates have a green patina.

Length: 51.7mm; Width: 31.4mm; Thickness: 6mm; Weight: 20.08g

Subsequent action after recording: 1

Temporal details

Broad period: EARLY MEDIEVAL

Date from: AD 400

Date to: AD 600

Spatial data

County: East Riding Of Yorkshire
District: East Riding Of Yorkshire

Parish: North Cave

Finder and recorder details

Recorded by: Ms Mary Blevins

Identified by: Ms Amy Downes



Coin of The Month

William the Conqueror - Bonnet Penny **By Amber - Sue Jewitt**



My name is Sue Jewitt (Amber). I made the William the Conqueror find in North Yorkshire. I have been detecting for ten years now and in my time I have found some amazing artefacts and coins, even treasure which is now housed in The Bowes Museum.

I needed to break my duck

The morning in question that I found this lovely coin I just said to Graham on my way to the dig that I could

really do with finding something nice as I need to break my duck as I hadn't found anything decent for a while. I walked onto the field which was one hundred acres plus, I stopped, looked around which way to go then started walking with my Goldmaxx Power.

I had an iffy signal

Within half an hour I had a iffy signal (but I always dig them) and about six inches down standing up on its side

I saw the silver. I was elated when I saw the coin as I knew it was something different to what I have had in the past. I was told it was a bonnet type William the Conqueror and to think it had been laid in the earth for almost a thousand years it was in lovely condition and all it needed was a little water to clean it. Another rare find off my wish list. Sue.



Runners up in the Competition were; Simon the searcher with his Trinovantes Quarter Stater 70BC to 65BC;



And Donnydave with his Corieltavi Domino type Stater;



Artefact of the Month

Early Iron Age Brooch By Jammeygit



*Runners up in the Competition were;
Teccer-col with his 2nd Century
Umbonate Plate Brooch;*

*And Martyn with his Bronze Age
Chisel;*



Mission impossible, chips and a broken marriage ***By Firesmudge (Paul)***

It was August when I received a phone call from a farmer I had not seen for 2 years, I was surprised to hear from him due to the time lapse. He asked if I was still doing the 'metal detecting thing' as had been over all his fields looking for a lost ring belonging to his mum that was lost in the forties. Sadly I never recovered the ring because of lapsed memories of where it was roughly lost, but not for the want of trying.

Anyway he asked if I could look for another lost ring which again was a bit of a surprise after my last failure. He explained that he had diversified his business and was heavily into wood chip production as well as still farming.

an impossible task

One of his workers was loading a huge skip full of chips and securing the tarp on the top when his gold wedding band dropped into the wood chips at some point. He frantically searched but to no avail as you can see by the picture below it would have been an impossible task, the proverbial needle in a haystack or should I say ring in the wood chips. He was devastated and got a severe ear bashing from the good lady that night but had resigned himself to the ring going to the furnace.



We made arrangements to try search the skip during unloading at the customers premises, I had one shot as the chips were getting unloaded they were going straight into a burner for heating the complex so one chance. To be honest I was not hopeful after hearing the task and knowing it would be very lucky to get the ring before it went for cremation. The night before I got a text to say we have to put off for a week as the skip will not be unloaded by the customer so I unpacked the gear and waited for the following week.

I turned up to see for the first time the mammoth task ahead it was a bigger job than I thought. A hulking blue skip packed full of wood chips greeted me with a mechanical tele-handler digger at the ready to unload it and dump the chips into the hungry mouth of the furnace.

no way is this going to work

A plan was needed so first thing I said to the owner of the chips was I am here to do as best I can without messing up your schedule and making too much mess with chips. A very sceptical owner said no way is this going to work and I thought to myself maybe it is mission impossible but it was worth a shot.

I decided to scan the ground immediately in front of the skip where the chips were to fall to test for any possible signals that I could remove to ensure an accurate search.

BEEP! I recovered 20p from the area which apart from that signal was clean, so far so good. Next task was to open the doors of the skip and try scan the vertical wall of chips before they fell out. At this point I should mention that the ring owner thought it was near the door some place?

The doors opened and sure enough my eyes met a vertical wall of chips a quick scan or two with the machine trying to avoid the metal skip as much as possible commenced, watching for the tell tale signs of an avalanche at the same time.

I moved as the chips started to slip so I decided to use the bucket on the digger to hold the top half in place within the skip and scrape out the bottom onto the afore mentioned sterile ground then we would clear our feet loading the furnace and repeat the operation once searched. First load out was clear, well at least I hoped it was because no second chance for this job. The bucket came out fully loaded as the upper chips had fallen into it, the driver stuck it in reverse and asked if it was to go in the furnace I said it would be better to search it before it goes or we could miss the ring he agreed with a look in his eye of 'You're mad!'

We dumped it on the already searched stuff and he extended the bucket into the skip to protect me from further slippage then stepped out of the cab to watch BEEP! A faint but positive signal showed on the DFX I started to fumble through the chips with my hand running each handful over the search head, nothing. Again scanned the heap and the signal was there by this time I had an eager pair of eyes at my shoulder.

More fumbling and head scanning, dumping each handful as it was clear, I could hear the signal but not see a thing when an almighty scream was heard in my left ear "It's there the ring I see it" and a huge BEEP! In my right ear. The ring had slid down the heap from the top bucket load after I picked up the handfuls and became visible to both as I ran the head over the pile again. I knew it was there it just kept moving in the loose pile.



We both just looked at each other in total amazement we actually had found the ring and turned mission impossible into mission accomplished. I texted the farmer to say job done he was speechless and said he will tell the ring owner the good news. I thanked the customer for his help and let him load the furnace knowing I had saved the ring from certain melt down. I headed straight to the farm and left the ring in the office and headed home smiling knowing that I have saved a marriage, well I can exaggerate that bit!.

Paul (Firesmudge)

SOUTH LANCS AND CHESHIRE
METAL DETECTING CLUB

Newsletter April '83.

An Ode to a Toad

HERE WAS A LAD - WE'LL CALL HIM JOHN
WHO THOUGHT HE'D PULL A CRAFTY ONE.
HE PLANNED TO WIN BY FOUL OR FAIR
THE TROPHY CALLED 'FIND OF THE YEAR.'
HE PLACED A GOLDEN RING HE'D FOUND
UPON A VELVET CUSHION - ROUND,
AND IN A CASE OF GLASS AND WOOD
HIS COMPETITION ENTRY STOOD.
IT NE'ER OCCURRED TO THIS SELFISH MALE
THAT HIS PLANS WOULD SURELY FAIL.
HIS FRIENDS DECIDED TO PLAY A TRICK
UPON THIS SCHEMING CLEVER DICK.
THEY TOOK THE RING FROM OUT THE CASE
AND LEFT A PRESENT IN ITS PLACE.
THEY CLOSED THE CASE WITHOUT A WORD
AND LEFT INSIDE A GOLDEN TURD,

AND ALTHOUGH IT ALL SEEMS QUITE ABSURD
THE LUCKY BUGGER STILL CAME THIRD!

Bozo
/83.

UKDN FUN DSLR - Camera PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

**Joint Winner 1 - Shocked
by Marcsdigs - Canon PowerShot SX30 IX**



Joint Winner 2 - Colour in B/W **Joint Winner 3 - Sundown &**
by Slapeddicus **Sun flowers by Popsandme**
Nikon 5100d **Sony a200**



UKDN FUN POINT PRESS & PRAY- PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

Winner Barmouth Bridge



Taken by Puffin with a Pentax W80 on a kite rig

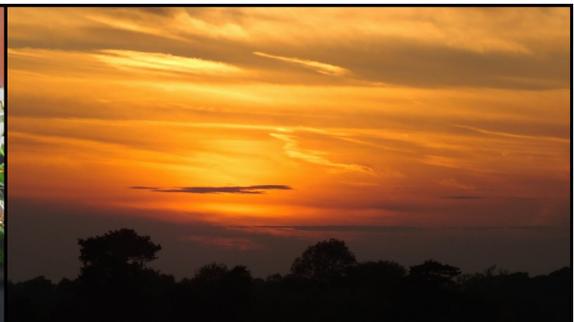
Runners up



*Chameleon
By Gra*



*Humming Bird Hawk Moth
By Marcsdigs*



*Sunset
By Warwick Wolf*

Vesta Cases - By Tim Storer (Georgian Tim)

Vesta was the virgin goddess of the hearth, home, and family in Roman religion. Vesta's presence was symbolized by the sacred fire that burned at her hearth and temples. Her closest Greek equivalent is Hestia.

A Brief History of the Match

The first "friction match" was invented by English chemist John Walker in 1826 who called them Congreves but later variations by other makers had various names including Lucifers and Vestas. Today we can still see the Vesta brand on boxes of "Swan Vestas".

These first matches were highly unstable and the initial reaction was almost explosive and could throw sparks a considerable way. They also had an unpleasant smell which, in 1830, a Frenchman (Charles Sauria) added white phosphorus to remove the odour. Unfortunately phosphorus is very difficult to put out once ignited (some of you may remember phosphorus experiments in Chemistry at school) so combined with the ability to throw sparks which stick to whatever they land on, this was asking for trouble.

Incidentally there was enough white phosphorus in one pack to kill a person so if you come across some of these original matches handle them with care. "Phossy jaw" was just one of the bone disorders to be rife amongst the people making the matches. There was a wide spread campaign to ban these matches once the dangers became known but money talks and it took decades to be resolved.



(Picture from: <http://tywkiwdbi.blogspot.com/2010/06/dark-history-of-phosphorus-matches.html>)

There were various innovations over the years but these early matches were as dangerous to both the end users and the workers that made them.

Unfortunately cost played a major part of people's decisions and as the white phosphorus matches were cheaper than later types, they were still the most popular.

They were banned in various countries starting with Finland in 1872 but it wasn't until the Berne Convention in 1906 that an agreement was reached to ban the use of white phosphorus in matches. It still took the British Government another two years to pass a law prohibiting the use of white phosphorus in matches and even then they gave the manufacturers until the 31st December 1910 to stop the use. The final ban was in China in 1925.

The Vesta Case

These were also known as vesta boxes or match safes (matchsafes) and were invented out of necessity shortly after the first matches came onto the market. The matches had to be kept in airtight(ish) container that would keep them dry and protect the user if they accidentally ignited which they often did. The name supposedly comes from an early case maker who named the cases after the goddess Vesta and were popular until the 1920s.

The earliest version I have seen is a silver Vesta case hallmarked 1830. They were made out of anything to hand and are known in gold, silver, tin, silver gilt brass, plain brass, ivory, wood and later versions are known in Bakelite. A lot of the more expensive metal versions were often gilt lined to protect the metal from chemical reactions with the matches.

There are thousands of different designs out there and a simple image search on Google will return more pictures that you would care to look at. The only limit to size, shape and design is the human mind. As a collector's item, the more unusual the higher the price, with designs such as foxes heads, animals with hinged heads, Mr Punch and musical instruments being the most popular.

It is still possible to pick up brass versions starting at around £5 to £10 and silver start at around £30 but the rising price of silver is pushing them even higher. As with anything that achieves a high price the inevitable fakes of the most expensive cases are coming onto the market. There are also modern copies which are duly marked and not intended to deceive and can make a nice starter collection.

Here are four that I have in silver which I picked up before the price of silver went through the roof and put them out of my price range. The first two are fairly modern but the second two are circa 1900.



How do I know it is a Vesta case? A simple answer is that they all have a ribbed surface (striking plate), usually on the bottom, for striking the matches. However they can also be combined with other items such as a sovereign case, small knife blade or vinaigrette (scent box to be sniffed if you come across a bad smell). I have even seen them with toothpicks and postage stamps. This one is made of brass with a silver wash and the indentation of the striking plate can be seen in the lid.



They were often carried in the trouser/jacket pocket or suspended from the Albert chain and kept in a waistcoat pocket which is how we as detectorists may first come across them. As we all know, anything kept in a pocket is liable to end up in a field and then found by us.

My first find of a Vesta case was a brass version almost mangled into an unidentifiable lump and not worth keeping. However my second was made of silver and although it has seen better days has cleaned up nicely. Maybe one day someone on the Forum will be lucky enough to find a sovereign case version with a couple of sovereigns still in place.



Dr. Mark Blackburn

UKDN has for the last 8 years been involved in getting our members to record all their Early Medieval coins with the Early Medieval Corpus (EMC), so I was saddened to hear of the death of Mark last week.

As far as Saxon and Viking coins go he was as good as it gets to an expert of world renown, and will be sadly missed. I spoke to him not so long ago when he informed me that his cancer was beyond any help, but he remained in his job until he could no longer work.

His passion and work ethic placed him head and shoulders above many of his peers, he'll be sadly missed by all who came into contact with him on a personal or professional basis alike. Our condolences go to his family, friends and colleagues. [His obituary](#)

If you do have any coins that fit the profile he set out then please do honour this man and his work by recording your finds [Here](#)

[Dr Mark Blackburn - Awarded D.Litt and the Derek Allen Prize;](#)

'Dr Mark Blackburn, the Keeper of Coins and Medals at the Fitzwilliam Museum since 1991, who is widely recognised as one of the greatest scholars in numismatics today, has recently won two prestigious awards.

Mark Blackburn received Cambridge University's degree of Doctor of Letters (D.Litt) in recognition of his long and distinguished record of research and publication in the field of medieval numismatics.

Dr Blackburn has also been awarded the British Academy's Derek Allen Prize for outstanding published work in numismatics. There is only one award each year, made for studies in musicology, numismatics and Celtic studies in successive years. The prize was named after a former Treasurer and Secretary of the British Academy, Derek Fortrose Allen (1910-1975) who made a distinguished contribution to all of these fields.

Dr Blackburn's work focuses on Anglo-Saxon numismatics and the monetary history of early medieval Europe. He is a reader in Cambridge University's Department of Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic, and a Fellow of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge. He will soon be publishing a book on 'Viking Coinage and Currency in the British Isles'."

[View a full list of Dr Mark Blackburn's publications and achievements.](#)

Stolen Metal Detectors

Between 29/09/2011 and 30/09/2011
A Burglary occurred in Nottinghamshire where a total of 56 New Metal Detectors with a retail value in excess of £15,000 were stolen

Officer in Case Pc 3127 HOOPER
Any one who has any Information regarding these stolen Metal Detectors should **contact the Officer in Case.**

A full list of the stolen property is below.

Details of Stolen Metal Detectors
Crime Number BW/076581/11

Make Model 1 Model 2 New / display
Serial Number

Minelab X Terra 305 Display 3704-0103

Minelab X Terra 305 New 10300-365

Minelab X Terra 305 New B6012638

Minelab X Terra 305 New B6013836

Minelab X Terra 705 Display
B6025076

Minelab X Terra 705 New B6020755

Minelab X Terra 705 New B6013836

Minelab X Terra 705 New B6022185

Soveriegn GT New B6014583

Safari New B6004020

Safari New B6020346

E-Trac Display B6014016

E-Trac New B6031076

E-Trac New B6031153

E-Trac New B6029968

E-Trac New B6031025

Fisher F2 Display 10085484

Fisher F2 New 4106193

Fisher F5 Display 11095360

Fisher F5 New 1114981

Fisher F5 New 1114978

Fisher F5 New 104974

Fisher Goldbug Display 11101509

Fisher Goldbug New 11101513

Fisher F75 Display 4109525

Fisher F75 New 8106148

Fisher F75 New 4109516

Laser F75 Special Edition New
9106202

Laser Rapier plus Display 20905

Laser New 21569

Laser New 21571

Laser New 21609

Laser Hawkeye Display 21056

Laser Hawkeye New 21544

Laser Hawkeye New 21545

Tesoro Tejon New 186668

Tesoro Tejon Pro Upgrade New
188221

Tesoro Tejon Pro Upgrade New
188227

C-Scope CS3 MX Display 212829

C-Scope CS4 PI new 210545

XP ADX 150 New V6

XP ADX150 New V970

XP XP Goldmaxx Power Display Z843

XP XP Goldmaxx Power New AB072

XP XP Deus New 70190

XP XP Deus New 8238

Garrett ACE 150 Display 51210291

Garrett ACE 150 new 51210279

Garrett ACE 250 Display 50173521

Garrett ACE 250 New 51270710

Garrett ACE 250 New 51270709

Garrett ATPRO old style Display
51041887

Garrett ATPRO new style New
51051813

Garrett ATPRO old style New
51051872

Garrett ATPRO old style New
51051870

Garrett Euroace Display 50473162

Garrett Euroace new 51353220



Detecting Tip of the Month



T2 Coil Cover Replacement - by Dazzbarwise

dazzbarwise"]My T2 coil cover had decided to fall apart the other week and I didn't fancy paying £18 inc postage for another piece of ultra thin plastic, so I wondered if I could make a replacement out of plastic card?

After looking around the web I found a [model shop](#) that sold black Building Card sheets at 9"x12" which would do the trick, I decided to allow nearly an inch or so extra all around the edges so to protect the sides of the coil from getting bashed. Especially seeing that it'd be impossible to bend it to make the outer edges like on a coil cover.

I used a small drill and 6 thin cable ties to strap it on. The front and back edges flapped a bit because of not being able to position cable ties so I used a bead of sealant in these areas to prevent that..though I'd probably use a bead all the way around if I fix it on again, as this would help prevent muck and stubble getting stuck between the coil and cover.

The card is available in various thickness's 20/000 (0.25mm) through to 80/000 (2mm) which is what I bought, though probably 60/000 (1.5mm) would have done, though the thickness helps reduce the chance of the edge cracking if I bash it again something hard.

A sheet cost me £2 but there was £3 postage so I decided to buy 2 sheets in case I messed one up.. which I didn't so I made Dave one. They should last some time as well because they must be 3 times thicker than the original covers.

I cut out the internal spaces to help lighten the weight a bit using a drill and then a fretsaw, but I did leave some over cut inside to protect the inner edges of the coil as well.

- Dazzbarwise.

Corieltavi Gold Stater - By Donnydave



It was one of those weekends you often get at this time of year some of our own fields were still stubble and searchable, there was a big rally at Bishop Burton and an open dig nearby at Redbourne in Lincolnshire. So undecided I contacted my detecting buddy Dazz, he was a great help, I will leave it to you was his reply. I did not like the sound of the rape stubble in Lincolnshire and the Bishop Burton rally was a massive area to cover so I decided our own fields in East Yorkshire was the best bet.

We still did not know which fields would be available and a quick glance at our intended target revealed it was freshly roughed ploughed and the pasture next door was long grass and still occupied by sheep. So we set off for the next village along with the intention of travelling a bit further to a field that we knew would be available for a few weeks yet. We arrived to field after field being dark brown and ploughed, the last two fields on this particular farm were still stubble, so we pulled up to check them out. Dazz was trying out his new XP Deus for only the second outing and said he fancied the field over the road, this did not appeal to me because I have never had anything decent from it, so I pulled onto one of my favourite fields that has yielded plenty of hammies a few roman and medieval bits and not forgetting a Saxon sceat.

I set off for the far corner heading towards a small copse at the bottom of a hill, I left Dazz getting re-acquainted with his new toy. The field was very quiet to start with so I re-adjusted the T2 so that I could pick out the smaller items, I set off again with my new settings when I got an iffy signal very quiet but repeatable, I took out a spade full and the signal was now loud and I could see what looked like a gilded army coat button, but on picking it up the weight told me it was something good, and turning it over I instantly realized it was Gold Stater my first ever. I have always said there should be some around this area, with the silver ribbon of the River Humber glistening in the distance, but I never dreamed I would find one. I walked over to Dazz to show him and he was genuinely pleased for me. I could go home now but we had a full day of detecting in front of us, my only other good find was a medieval key off the same field. Never give up on a good field - Donnydave.



HERITAGE CRIME

What are heritage crimes?

Heritage crimes are, first of all, offences that damage the historic environment – so things like vandalism, graffiti, arson and theft.

Why should the public care about heritage crimes?

Heritage crimes are criminal activities, which can have serious effect on neighbourhoods and society.

Things like arson, graffiti, and criminal damage scar beautiful buildings. Anti-social behaviour such as substance misuse debase the places we live and enjoy visiting; theft and illegal metal detecting take away the physical evidence valuable to our understanding of the past. On top of that, all of these can incur financial loss on property owners.

If heritage crimes are not tackled better we all stand to lose something of our history and well-being.

How serious are these crimes?

There is **no national statistics on heritage crime** by the police so the true extent is difficult to ascertain. Through our work in the regions and our experience with many sites across the country, we know the crimes are widespread and they tend to be under-reported by victims.

A recent assessment identified that arson, architectural theft, removal of artifacts from protected sites and vehicle nuisance pose the greatest threat.

Illegal metal detecting in Lincolnshire is growing and reported cases are only the tip of the iceberg.

The level of **metal theft** is also of great concern.

- In 2005, there were 84 metal theft claims from churches totalling £325,326. In 2010, this has soared to 1763 claims costing £3,310,488 (data from Ecclesiastical)
- In 2010 Manchester diocese tops the list of metal theft claims with more than 90 claims recorded up to the end of November. It is closely followed by Lincoln, with more than 70 claims

Our understanding of the volume and extent of crime in the historic environment continues to develop. Neighbourhood Policing and local involvement will contribute considerably to gathering intelligence and data on the ground. We will also be developing systems that will allow us to accurately record crimes and ASB and thereby place our resources in the right place at the right time.

For crimes in progress - call 999

More action, less crime. It all adds up.

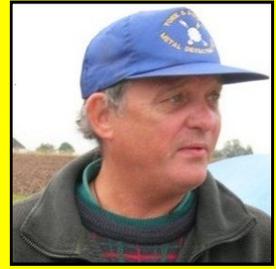
For crimes that have happened - report to your local Police
[click here for the non emergency reporting number](#)

LINCOLNSHIRE POLICE

[Click here to take part in the English Heritage Crime Survey](#)

policing with PRIDE

UK Beach Detecting - by PhilD



Introduction

I hope the following information will be useful to anyone who would like to have a go at beach detecting. It's great *to be beside the seaside*, to get away from it all, to chill out, take the air, get a tan, an ice cream, stay at a B&B or holiday camp, enjoy yourself in the beautiful scenery and do some beach combing and detecting. Finding something is a bonus.

Uk Beaches

In 2010 Blackpool was named the *favourite seaside resort* by Which? Other favourite resorts were;

- Brighton, Sussex
- Whitby, North Yorks
- Bournemouth, Dorset
- Scarborough, North Yorks
- Newquay, Cornwall
- Torquay, Devon
- St Ives, Cornwall
- Skegness, Lincs
- Great Yarmouth, Norfolk



Map showing the *principle seaside towns*

Map showing the *smaller seaside towns*

Google Earth will let you zoom into the beaches and ticking the historical imagery in 'view' will show the beaches at different times of the year.

Be sure to check the Photo's and Panoramio boxes in 'layers' on the bottom left of the screen and you will be able to see images others have posted of the beaches.



Viewing [Web Cameras](#) can give you an idea of what the beach looks like before you go.

Detectors

There are detectors made specifically for beach detecting, however most detectorists would like to use their land detector on beaches and not have to splash out on a [beach detector](#).

However due to mineralization not all detectors are suitable for beach detecting, especially when it comes to wet sand and submersion in water. You may find your detecting is confined to the dry sand.

It is worth considering when first purchasing a detector that it should also be at home on the beach. The [Minelab Sovereign, Elite and Explorer](#) are deemed to be good on beaches but care should be taken not to allow salt water to get into the control boxes.

Accessories

[Garrett Propointer](#)



[Garrett Sand Scoop](#)



Best Times to Detect

Try and detect before people are on the beach and after they have left, this causes the least inconvenience to other beach users and you won't feel like the 'pied piper' with hoards of kids trying to dig your every signal.

Be prepared to get out there with your metal detector right after a major storm passes through. If you don't you may miss some of the best metal detecting of your life. The surf from large storms will erode many inches, sometimes feet of sand off of a beach exposing historical artefacts and other great finds that were previously too deep to find with a metal detector.

Tide Tables & Web Links

[BBC Tides](#)

[Tidal Predictions](#)

[Easy Tide](#)

[Understanding Tides](#)

[Good Beach Guide](#)

Research

Check the local library for old pictures and articles of events on the beach showing where people gathered in the past. Google Earth might show where people congregate on mass in recent years.

Find postcards showing the beach at the height of summer, they will show the 'hot spots' to search where the greatest numbers of people congregate.

Talk to the beach attendants and bait diggers, ask the fishermen that you meet on the beach, have they noticed any recent changes to the beach by recent storms. Any newly exposed rocks at low water and what wind direction will stir up the sea and sand to expose the lower levels.

Talk to old residents, do they have an interesting story to tell about their Grandfather who witnessed a shipwreck as a boy.

Check out the [O/S map](#) and [Magic Map](#) for beach layouts, they show features such as Mean Low and Mean High water lines and tidal ponds.

Kinks in the Mean Low water lines are formed by geological gullies in the bedrock which trap losses and do not shift position like sand and shingle gullies.

Check out [old maps](#) they show how things would have looked in the past.

Try to get to see a Yachtsman's inshore water chart for the area.

Watch other detectorists and learn which areas are producing.

Ask if any dredging away of sand has been carried out or if sand from another beach has been deposited and if so where was the sand from and detect there.

Permission

Thanks to the [NCMD](#) negotiating a permit system with [The Crown Estate](#), most beaches can be detected on for free, subject to [terms and conditions](#). All it takes is a quick email [to apply for a permit](#) and one will be emailed to you within a few minutes. Maps are available on the website showing the areas covered by the permit. The Duchy applies a licence system in Cornwall.

Dry Sand

Detect the Towel line, on most beaches there is a strip of beach just above the high tide mark where the majority of beach goers set down their towels and chairs. This can be one of the most productive areas to search and since it is in the dry sand it is very easy to dig targets. This is typically one of the first areas to hunt on a beach, lots of dropped coins & a chance of jewellery.

When up on the dry sand, look for the remains of beach parties, barbeques, sand castles, where the ice cream van parked, where the Donkey rides are, hot dog stands, anywhere people would have reached into their pockets for money, they are all good indications of where you will find the spoils.

In the sand dunes, look for where the picnics have taken place.

Wet Sand

Detect the sweet spot, this is the area between the high tide mark and the low tide mark of a beach, search parallel to the sea. By doing this, the sand you cover isn't going between dry and wet, making some detectors loose balance all the time.

This area is likely to contain gold and silver rings that have slipped off bathers due to their fingers becoming wet.

This area is reloaded by mother nature every time there is a gale or storm.

Hard Pack

Detect the hard pack, black sand and shallow sand, try to find areas where the sand and shingle levels are low, (not deep) or where the hard pack may be exposed. Most beaches have a hard surface below the sand and shingle, and this is where the majority of the older finds will be found because coins and artefacts quickly sink down through the upper layers of the beach.

Also look for patches of small stones and shells that have come together and been left by the tidal action, often you will find a like sized coin or ring has come to rest in the same area.

Some people take a four foot by half inch round steel bar and 'survey the beach looking for hard pack (not gravel or rock) within the depth the detector will detect finds. If the sand is too deep you will have to return when the wind has eroded it.

The bar is pushed down, when it hits rock the sound is sharp, gravel is a medium tone and with clay it's a dull tone.

Look for patches of sand wetter than others as the tide goes out. Check the sea walls and piers for damp areas which might suggest the sand levels have dropped.

Black Sand

Look for patches of black sand on the beach because this is a good sign that the top layers of sand have been washed away and you can get to the lower levels and therefore the older finds.

A lot has been said about "Black sand", all of which is true, but not all beaches have a sub strata of black sand, some may have hard packed stone as the sub strata, while others may have black, grey, yellow or orange clay and some will have a solid rock shelf. It is always prudent to look for areas where the top covering of sand has been temporarily eroded away.

Surf

Surf or shallow water detecting may be necessary in areas where you have little or no tide, these areas may be, lakes, rivers or areas of the sea bed that low tide does not give you access to, shallow water can be hard to search and you will need the right equipment, but the rewards can be great, as this is the area where rings can easily slip from the cold fingers of swimmers.

You will need a good underwater detector, some detectors now come with iron rejection that can be a big advantage to the pulse induction machines but will not detect as deep. With all underwater machines particular attention must be taken to ensure all seals are clean and fitted correctly, you will also require a strong long handled scoop to retrieve the find and finds pouch, depending on location and weather conditions a wet / dry suit will also be needed, waders can be used if only working shallow water ie river beds.

What to look for in finding a productive area is the same as on the wet beach covered earlier in the article, ie : gully's, black sand, and hard pack, but most of all you need to search the areas that have had the most activity.

Safety must always be on your mind it is so easy to get out of your depth or even detect along a sand bar only to find you cant get back to the beach as the inner gully deepens, it is wise to only detect the shallows with a companion that can alert someone if you get into difficulty.



Features

Around the pier - Check around and under the pier if there is one, most were built by the Victorians and some very nice finds can be made under them, one word of warning, beware of fishing hooks, broken glass and junkies needles, so don't dig in the sand with your bare hands.

The sea wall, large rocks, boulders and groynes - are good places to search, sunbathers use these as back rests, wind breaks and clothes hangers, look to see which way the ebb tide runs along the beach, items will be swept along in this direction and come to rest against any obstructions such as groynes or rocks.

Look for the remains of stakes and piles - they may indicate a landing stage or dock, a stone and shingle bank that juts out at right angles to the beach, all are good indications that the area may have been used for the loading and unloading of cargo.

Look for anything unusual on the beach - ie where a stream meets the sea, look to see how it has eroded its way down to the sea, it will give a good hint of what the sub-strata is like beneath the sand.

Look for deep cuts and areas of the beach that have been eroded away.

Most designated bathing beaches now have lifeguards/beach patrols during the summer months, they usually patrol an area between a pair of flags set out along the beach, bathers are encouraged to stay within this area for safety reasons, it is a good place to start your search.

Footpaths from holiday camps leading to the beach can also be productive.

On your map of the beach add all the useful features you come across and mark the position of your finds, a pattern might evolve over time.

Dangers

Being cut off by the tide - make sure the beach is safe to detect and the tide does not rush in quickly and get behind you.

Avoid - beaches with quicksand.

Needles and broken glass - can be a problem where jocks gather so don't dig with your hands.

Munitions - reporting UXB's to the police and coastguard and keep people a safe distance from the area.

A mobile phone would be very useful if you need to call for help.

Remove Litter and fill in holes

Remember you are an ambassador for the hobby. If you leave the beach better than you found it you can feel proud of yourself. So please remove any litter you see and fill all your holes in.

Best News Stories from October 2011

[Bronze Age hoard found in Manorbier, Pembrokeshire](#)

[Hoard of Roman coins declared 'treasure' in Shrewsbury](#)

[Battle to keep Leeds Treasure Hoard](#)

[Bredon Hill Roman coins unveiled at Worcester museum](#)

[Discovery of rare coin haul](#)

[Staffordshire Hoard to be sent to America](#)

[Staffordshire Hoard exhibition boost with heritage cash](#)

[Iron age gold coins found in Kimbolton](#)

[Find of a lifetime - treasure hunter digs up 200 piece haul of Viking Jewellery and coins](#)

[The Shrewsbury Hoard PAS Report](#)

[Statistical release for Treasure \(2009 figures\) and PAS \(figures for 2009 and 2010\)](#)

[Iceni gold coin hoard clean up at Ipswich Museum](#)

[Norfolks united front to tackle heritage crime](#)

[Medieval seal from Stone Priory found in a Surrey field](#)

[Rare Roman coin found near Dorking](#)

This Months Identification



Henry VII Groat

It has been another superb month on the ID forum of UKDN. One particular coin caught my eye though and I thought it was worth giving a brief write up on it.

The coin in question was uploaded by Phil D on behalf of a fellow member of his club.

The coin can be identified quite easily as a Henry VII coin by simply reading the inscription around the edge of the obverse. HENRIC' x VII x DI x GRA x REX x AGL x Z x F' There is also a crowned bust and a pheon mint mark which would date it to 1505-9.

On the reverse it reads POSVI DEV' : AVDITORE : MEV', and has cross over arms. But the interesting aspect of this coin is that on this side it had a mm of a cross-crosslet dating it from 1504-5.

It is a Groat due to it's size being 26mm and it's issue is profile because the bust is side on.

So why the two mint marks? Well the only explanation is that two dies were used and it is a mule coin. There are other examples of such coins which have been found and which have subsequently been sold at auction. This also makes this coin quite special, although not unique.

So there we have it. A Henry VII Groat, Profile Issue. MM cross-crosslet and pheon. Mule coin. North 1747, Spink 2258

The coin itself is in lovely condition and worthy of any coin collection.

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Useful Weblinks

[*PAS - getting involved*](#)

[*PAS - Upcoming Events*](#)

[*PAS - self recording*](#)

[*PAS -Recording Timeline*](#)

[*PAS - Advice for finders of archaeological objects including treasure*](#)

[*PAS - Conservation advice notes*](#)

[*Responsible detecting code of practice*](#)

[*Frome hoard time lapse video of excavation*](#)

[*Press coverage of the Frome hoard discovery*](#)

[*Burnham hoard excavation*](#)

[*Staffordshire hoard excavation*](#)

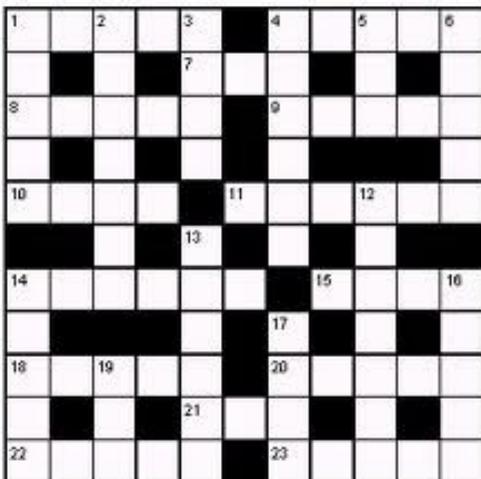
[*Staffordshire hoard at the BM*](#)

[*Definition of Treasure*](#)

[*To Report Nighthawking - If in progress ring 999, if after the event click here & enter post code, number shown on the right hand side*](#)

[*Rallies & Events - Searcher Magazine*](#)

[*Rallies & Events - Treasure Hunting Magazine*](#)



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

Take a look by clicking on the crossword.

About us

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

Visit the forum

[Click here to visit forum](#)

Contact UKDN

enquiry@ukdetectornet.co.uk

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

UKDN aims

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

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