

# UKDN WORD

WORLD OF RESPONSIBLE DETECTING

Issue no: 106  
June 2016



Scintillating Sceat



Medieval Matrix



Photo Comp Winners



Silver Savvy pt 6

Inside...News, Views, Competition Results and more

# ***UKDN Word Table of Contents***

*Click on the title to go to the page*

## ***Regulars***

***4 - Welcome message***

***5 - Did You See***

***32 - News And Views***

***34 - Latest Farm News***

***39 - Pas Upcoming events***

***45 - Useful Websites***

***46 - New Members***

## ***Competition Results***

***6 - Coin of the month***

***7 - Artefact of the month***

***9 - DSLR Photo Competition***

***11 - PP&P Photo Competition***

**facebook** | join our group +

## ***Features***

***14 - Are you Savvy about Silver***  
***By John Fargher***



***22 - Colonial Bottle Seals by***  
***Bill Dancy***



UKDN would like to thank Tomredmayne for the front cover image,  
DetectingDavid for image enhancement and UKDN members for their input.



# admin team

## Brian & Mo'

Founded UKDN in Sept 2002

Detecting since 1978



## Coreservers

Word Assistant Editor

Here since 2003

Detecting since 2003



## Popsandme

Here since 2009

Detecting since 2009



## Kev Woodward

Here since 2005

Detecting since 1990



## Puffin

Here since 2007

Detecting since 2007



## Son of the sands

Here since 2003

Detecting since 1999

## Moderators



## Tinner

Here since 2006

Detecting since 2001



## Baldric

Here since 2004

Detecting since 2003



## Littlebloke

Here since 2004

Detecting since 2000



## Hectorsfarm

Here since 2012

Detecting since 2011



## Firthy77

Here since 2006

Detecting since 1970



## Sic odiggin

Here since 2009

Detecting since 1978





Welcome to this issue, the 106th Word magazine to be published by UK DETECTOR NET. It is another large issue running to 47 Pages and contains a plethora of interesting articles by both forum members and outsiders.

This month we have Part 6 of the series on silver by John Fargher ie "Are you Savvy About Silver". In this issue John discusses some thoughts on collecting silver. The article features some stunning pieces from his own collection which demonstrate the art of silver smithing to a high degree.

Another article features Colonial Bottle Seals. This was written by Bill Dancy and originally featured as a piece within a USA magazine called "American Digger". When Bill was writing the article for American Digger he contacted our very own Kev Woodward for help in identifying some of the British seals he was finding over in the USA.

American Digger have kindly allowed UKDN to reproduce Bill's article and so it is featured in this issue starting on Page 22.

This month and the following two months are the quietest on UKDN in the calendar year due to the lack of available land to detect on. Our finds and photo competitions have had excellent entry numbers this past five months and we are desperate for that trend to continue.

So we ask that if you do manage to get out and do some detecting during the next two months then please enter your finds into our monthly competitions.

They don't need to be winning entries - it's the taking part and helping make a competition that's the important point.

Good hunting if you are lucky to get out.



# 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

[\*\*Saxon penny help\*\*](#)

[\*\*Found by youngest member\*\*](#)

[\*\*Cheap car cam cameras\*\*](#)

[\*\*Hammered groat & bits for ID\*\*](#)

[\*\*Wedding ring horror & delight\*\*](#)

[\*\*Chunky silver coin ID please\*\*](#)

[\*\*Denarius for ID please\*\*](#)

[\*\*Scrap metal prices 2016\*\*](#)

[\*\*Silver Celtic Unit\*\*](#)

[\*\*6 hammered & Henry IV\*\*](#)

[\*\*Britains biggest gold nugget\*\*](#)

[\*\*5 hammy day\*\*](#)

[\*\*Possible fair site\*\*](#)

[\*\*Help with Garrett AT Pro\*\*](#)

[\*\*3 days, 2 men, 1 gold\*\*](#)

[\*\*Anyone found one of these\*\*](#)

[\*\*Small stone axe?\*\*](#)

[\*\*Lines\*\*](#)

[\*\*Phone apps for recording\*\*](#)

[\*\*Monuments\*\*](#)

# Coin of The Month

## Winner - Tinner - Saxon Sceat

Thank you very much for all those who voted for my coin. Since I started metal detecting, one of the most exciting finds, which gets both the heart and the imagination running wild are Saxon coins.

They are elusive to say the least, but I have been lucky enough to find a few over the years. Their designs and intricate patterns are truly fascinating and this is why I think they are one of the most interesting coins to discover.

It transpires that the coin I found this month is in fact from Europe and is a reasonably common type. However it is still makes the heart skip a beat when you turn the clod over and see such a wondrous thing.

I was in my usual settings on my XP Deus GM Power tweaked to highly sensitive. It was a cracking signal of 86 so it was obviously not very deep and turning over the soil with the first clod the coin sat in front of me.

With the very briefest of cleans I could tell it was a porcupine type on reverse, with a TOT on the obverse. To think that this coin has travelled across Europe and ended up in a field in Wiltshire is just truly amazing, and this is one of the reasons I find this

hobby so interesting. You literally never know what the next signal might be.

Thanks again for all the votes. happy hunting!

Tinner





# Artefact of the Month



## Winner - Gooner Seal Matrix



On Monday 25th April my friend Dave phoned me and said that he had just driven past one of our permissions on the Kent/Sussex border and it had been drilled and rolled as flat as he'd ever seen it and we had been given the go ahead to detect until the crop had chitted, that ended up being three terrific days, on day one Dave found a William 1V sovereign and I found a dogs head pourer, and over the three days we found five hammeredds from five different monarchs. We had a discussed a plan of attack on the best way to utilise our limited time and knew exactly what we were doing, so on day two I started off exactly where I'd finished on day one, and after what seemed like an age of finding nothing but tiny pieces of lead I got a signal that was obviously not another bit of lead, I was hoping for something a little different but couldn't believe my eyes when the Vessica seal showed its face, I was lucky enough to find a lead example a few years ago but this bronze one just took my breath away, I took it to show Dave and cleaned it with water and a soft toothbrush that I carry with me at all times now and was quite taken aback with the quality and definition that it still retained. It turns out to be a 13 Century seal that depicts a bird of prey with its kill, and the legend reads CREDE MICH I that translates into trust me, a real thing of beauty that I'm totally over the moon with, the field is now out of bounds but you can understand that I'm chomping at the bit to get back on that field when the crop is off. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who voted for the seal, it certainly made my month finding it !

## **Monthly Competitions Runners up**

### **Arfrage - Tiberius Denari**



### **Tinnersdad - William III Shilling**



### **Bazi - Decorated Stone**



### **Tinner - Saxon Brooch**





# **UKDN FUN DSLR - Camera PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION**

**Winner - Jimmytheferret**



**Runner Up Featured Overleaf**

# UKDN FUN DSLR - Camera PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

**Runner up - restyler  
Pyromancess**





# UKDN FUN POINT, PRESS & PRAY PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

**Winner - restyler  
Fork handles**



**Runner Up Featured Overleaf**

# UKDN FUN POINT, PRESS & PRAY PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

## Runner up - Casa-Dos Driftwood on the beach





# **ARCHAEOLOGY-TYPE FINDS BAGS EXCELLENT**



*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 below.*

*100 small bags - £2.90 INC. postage  
500 small bags - £9.20 inc. postage  
1000 small bags - £13.99 inc. postage*

*100 medium bags - £3.20 inc. postage  
500 medium bags - £9.90 inc. postage  
1000 medium bags - £15.50 inc. postage*

*100 large bags - £4.99 inc. postage  
500 large bags - £14.50 inc. postage  
1000 large bags - £23.00 inc. postage*

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

# **ARE YOU SAVVY ABOUT SILVER ?**

## **PT 6 - SOME THOUGHTS ON COLLECTING SILVER**

**BY JOHN FARGHER**

The rules for collecting silver are pretty much the same as the rules for collecting coins or antiques..... Collect only things that you really like. Collect the best you can afford. And, remember that condition makes all the difference.

For silver, because the metal is so soft, condition and wear are big considerations. Scratches, dints, pinholes, scuffs, damage of any sort, over-cleaning, undue wear, and rubbed hallmarks, all remove both collectability and cash value from a piece.

And a rough rule of thumb when buying is that the heavier the gauge of silver used to make a piece, the better quality it is likely to be. The age of a piece is another prime consideration for collectors, as age affects both desirability and price.

If you have the cash in your pocket, then George III and earlier pieces of antique silver are the most desirable. Victorian and George V silver is usually within a reasonable range of affordability, and more modern silver, unless of the highest quality or produced by a celebrated designer, is likely to be expensive to buy from new, yet will require many years before it achieves any increase in value or a worthwhile level of collectability.

*(Continued on page 15)*



*(Continued from page 14)*

Makers also have to be brought into the equation, with pieces by the most prestigious and respected craftsmen commanding a premium on price. Two similar items, apparently of the same age and condition, can command vastly differing amounts..... in accordance with the maker's mark each one carries.

My own silver collection mirrors the advice given above, but I would also add that it reflects the taste of both my wife and me. Collecting bits of silver is an interest jointly held. We are not specialist collectors, so have an eclectic mix of pieces, each of which could belong in a specialist's collection.....snuff boxes.....card cases....purses... sovereign cases, vinaigrettes....and so on.

They are from different periods, from different countries, and from the workshops of makers of differing repute. But, they are the things that interest us, and follow our first rule of collecting. There are many other categories of collectable silver, including specialties like thimbles, christening cups, caddy spoons, nutmeg graters, pepperettes, inkwells, and pin cushions..... on what seems like a long and never-ending list of silver collectables. And, they are all things that we do not collect.

For collectors like us....Life aint long enough, and pockets aint deep enough, to have the collection we would really like. But, tell me, what's new???

To end this chapter..... Rather than bemuse those readers who have managed to stay awake and stick with this series so far, I will omit much of the technical detail and present a few ideas on items that might appear attractive to potential newcomers to silver collecting. I have purposely avoided mentioning values for, as with coins and other collectables, condition and rarity tend to govern prices. Suffice to say, that nothing in my collection would require a Securicor escort to a Museum of Silver!!!

*(Continued on page 16)*



### **A LADY'S FANCY EVENING PURSE**

Made in the workshops of Henry Wilkinson, measuring 4" x 3" x 1 ½", and fully hallmarked for Birmingham 1918, this silver purse was made for use by ladies who wore long dresses and went to "functions".

This example is lined with green silk, and has an integral silver chain and finger suspension ring.

A popular collecting subject for both men and women.



### **AN INDIAN SILVER BROOCH**

An Indian silver brooch, measuring 2 ½" across, dating to the Raj period of the late 19th century. The scene depicts Parvati, the wife of Shiva, and Nandi the sacred bull.

A lovely thing, well-crafted, but not a mark to be seen anywhere on it. Probably the least expensive item in my collection, but it's a favourite and I'll keep it.

Silver brooches are a really good entry point for would-be silver collectors.

(Continued on page 17)



### **A STYLISH PERFUME BOTTLE**

A silver cased perfume bottle with a flip top and inner container of glass, made in Birmingham in 1923 by John Thompson & Sons.

2 ¾" tall and 1 ¼" in diameter.

Perfume bottles are another widely collected item. Their variety is almost endless.



### **VESTA CASE**

Vesta cases of this sort make a very good starting point for silver collections because they are reasonably priced. Vesta cases with unusual novelty shapes and/or applied decoration (golfers, footballers, or cars, for example) moves them into a different level of specialist collecting, and prices rise dramatically. On the other hand, engraved monograms, unless well executed, can reduce the value of a piece.

The one illustrated here is well made, undamaged, bears a Birmingham hallmark for 1907, and weighs 26.3 gm. It was made in the workshops of Joseph Gloster, one of those makers whose work is sought after by collectors. It has enough going for it for me to ignore the monogram.

(Continued on page 18)



## **VISITING CARD CASES**

Together with sovereign cases, snuff boxes, and vinaigrettes, good quality card cases occupy my top four collecting interests. There's no special reason for this. It is merely choice. They are the things I like most.

Although very contemporary in style, and looking as if it was made only yesterday, this delicious calling card case (below left), with the very finest engine-turned decoration, was actually crafted by silversmith Edward Smith, who was something of a specialist box maker. It was assayed in Birmingham in 1859, and the full hallmark on the inside lip includes the duty mark of Queen Victoria, her head in profile.

Measuring 4" x 2 ¾", the card case weighs 74.3 gm.

Another fine example from my collection..... This time Edwardian with uber stylish engraved decoration, dating to 1901, and from the Birmingham workshops of William Thorneycroft (below right). The initials in the cartouche are attractive, but probably reduce its value a little. Measuring 3 ½" x 2", this case weighs 54.1 gm.



### **SOVEREIGN CASES**

In my opinion, sovereign cases are very masculine items of silver: made to hang from the fob end of a man's pocket watch chain, and possessing a high degree of engineering not found in many other silver collectables.

The one shown here was assayed in Birmingham in 1910 and was made in the Birmingham factory owned by Aaron Lufkin Dennison, the American manufacturer of Waltham pocket watches.

Although specialising in high quality watch cases, for Waltham in the US and for domestic watchmakers in the UK, the English factory also produced fine silver goods of similar format, like sovereign cases.

Over a hundred years old, in pristine condition, with sprung hinged lid and coin shoe, and push button opener. It measures 2.2cm in diameter, 1.5cm in depth, weighs 20 gm, and would hold up to five sovereigns. Superb !





### **SNUFF BOXES**

Runner up on my top-four list of favourite silver collectables is another mainly masculine (although certainly not exclusively so) item, the snuff box. They are certainly far more attractive objects than the habit of sniffing the stuff, despite snuff-taking being a practise undertaken by every strata of society for well over 350 years.

Snuff boxes were made of just about every material man can use, from wood, to metal, to horn, to papier mache, and come in a variety of sizes. My preference is for silver "pocket snuffs", which could be slipped into the pocket and passed around when in company. I also like the slightly larger version which is amply described by its title the "table snuff".

The box pictured here is a "table snuff", from the reign of William IV. It was assayed in Birmingham in 1830, and was made in the workshops of respected craftsman, Edward Smith. It measures 6.6cm x 3.4cm x 1.75cm, and weighs 71.9 gm, and is in remarkable condition for its age.





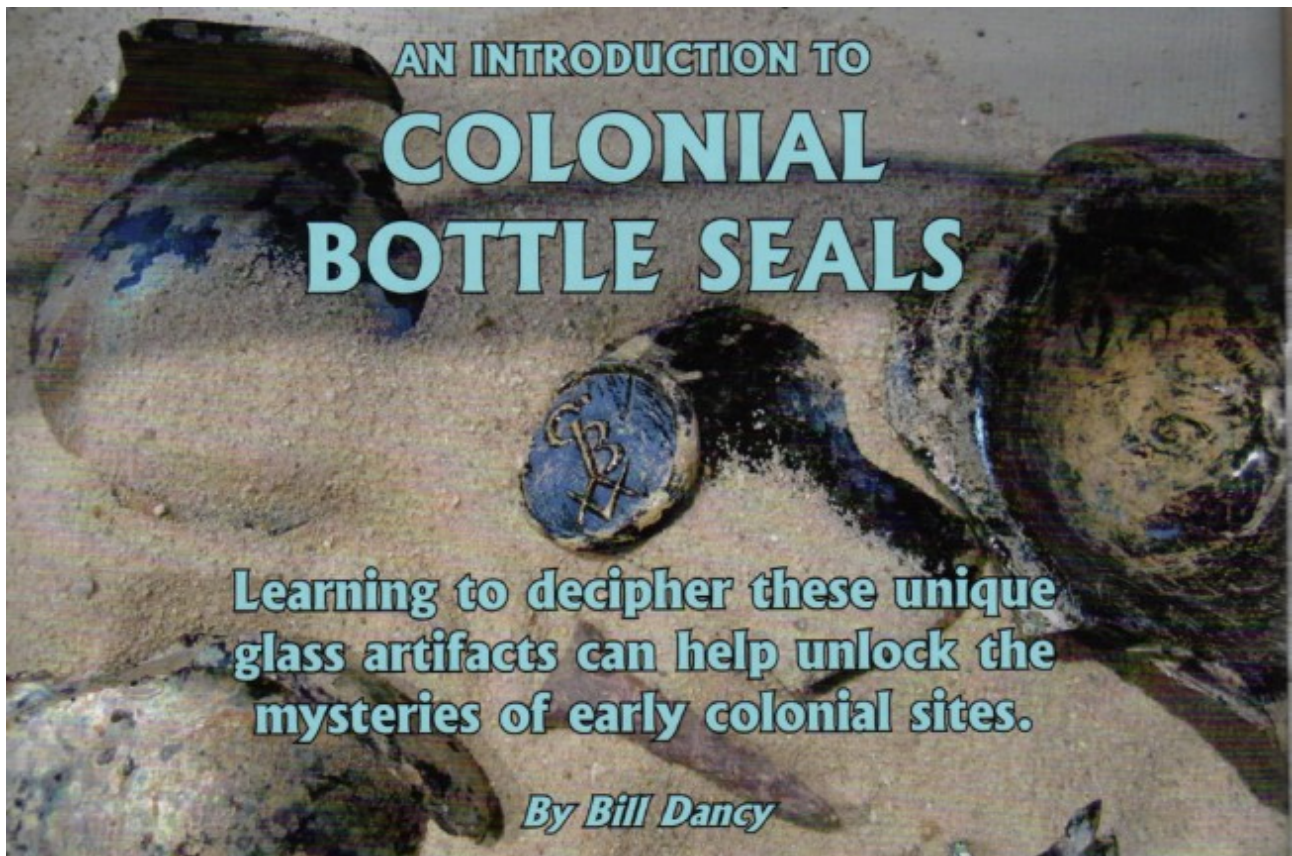
### **VINAIGRETTES**

Top of my own personal list for silver collectables is the vinaigrette: a small box containing sweet-smelling perfume or salts below a gilded pierced grill, to be wafted under the nose when encountering the rank and rancid odours of the city streets of Georgian England. They were one of the real necessities of life, at the time !

Vinaigrettes were usually very small things, made small so that they could be carried and used discreetly. They could be concealed in a ladies muff, a gent's waistcoat pocket, nestled in a gloved hand, or carried on a chain around the neck.

Despite their diminutive size, vinaigrettes could be miniature works of art, and I have chosen this one to show, not because it is my best example but because it is exceedingly small.....and beautiful. It is the smallest silver object of any sort in my whole collection, in fact.

Measuring a mere 2cm by 1.5cm by 1cm, and weighing only 6gm, this tiny vinaigrette was made and decorated by brothers Thomas and William Simpson, and assayed in Birmingham in 1822.....almost 200 years ago, during the reign of King George IV. These tiny boxes can be very small.....but very expensive.



My interest in colonial black glass goes way back to my first experiences with trash pit digging over 15 years ago, and my hope was that one day a complete, early bottle would miraculously pop out of the ground. I have long-since accepted the fact that it's extremely unlikely this dream will ever become a reality. However, my enthusiasm for seeking out and recovering early colonial glass remains undiminished as I know these are important pieces of history that help tell the story of how the earliest settlers to our country experienced and enjoyed life.

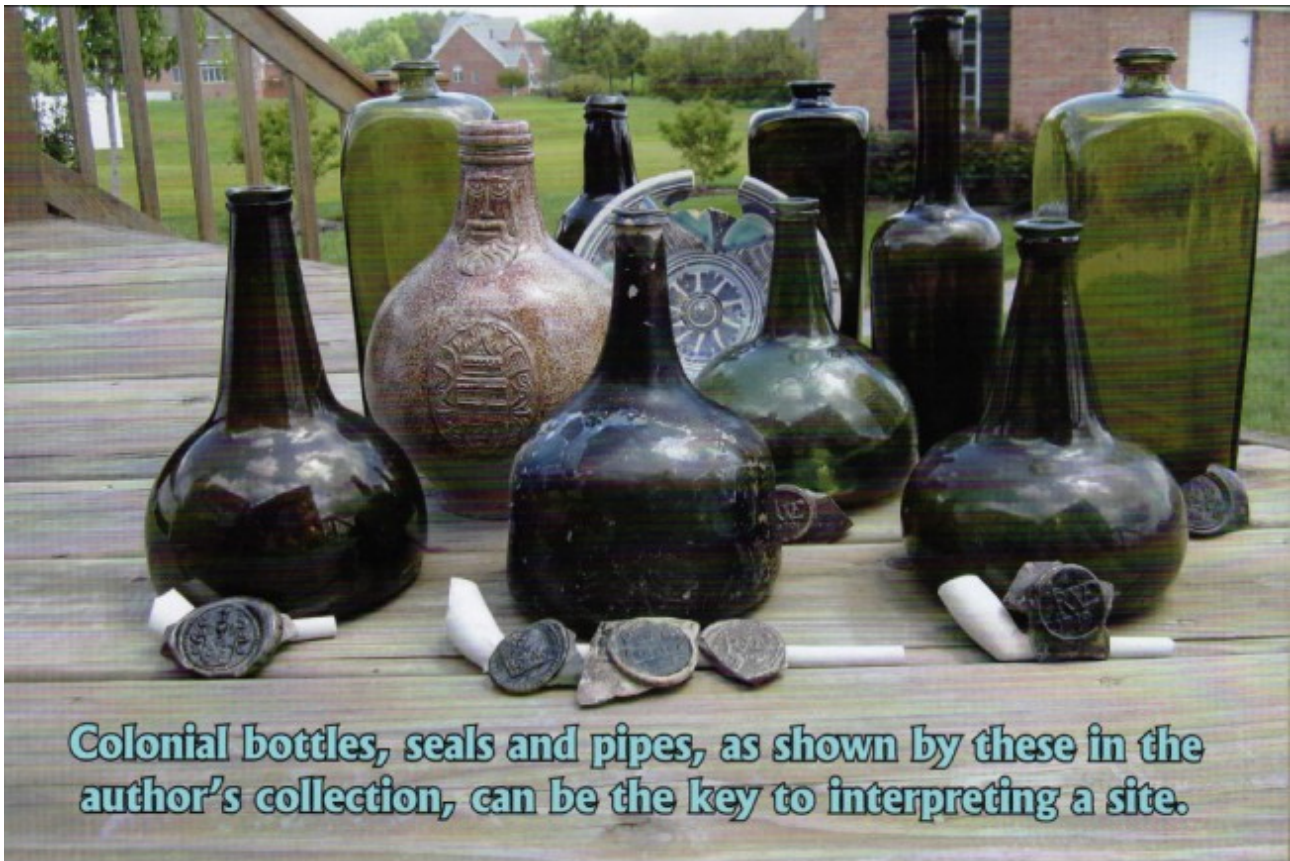


This family seal of Ralph and Elizabeth Wormeley ("RWE") is dated 1719.

The history of the black glass bottle began in the mid-1600s with the advent of the shaft and globe style vessel. And from that very beginning the practice of affixing glass seals (or "buttons" as they're sometimes called) to these bottles became evident as tavern and innkeepers, merchants, and prominent individuals wanted to personalize them. The finished effect was much like a wax seal used on letters and other documents of the period. But only a limited number of bottles were adorned with a seal by the

*(Continued on page 23)*





**Colonial bottles, seals and pipes, as shown by these in the author's collection, can be the key to interpreting a site.**

*(Continued from page 22)*

early glassmakers due to their added expense. These seals were molten globs of glass that were added to the shoulder or sides of the bottle and impressed with a circular seal matrix. Inscribed on this seal would typically be a merchant's mark, the name or initials of the purchaser, or the identity of the contents. A small percentage also bore a date which usually indicated when the bottle was made, as opposed to when it was filled, as they were designed for repeated use. A little colonial recycling! The wealthy gentry of the times were the first to use sealed bottles, and wine merchants eventually followed suit.

It's assumed that gentlemen and taverns adopted the practice of sealing to protect their bottles from theft, especially when sent to the wine-maker for refilling. For tavern keepers it also encouraged customers to return the bottles to the establishment where they were purchased and served as a form of advertisement.

Some of the early seals consisted solely of a single-letter stamp representing the family surname. However, I have yet to recover this variety from any of the rubbish pits I've excavated here in eastern Virginia.

*(Continued on page 24)*



*(Continued from page 23)*

The majority of seals used by individuals contained two initials, but occasionally three would indicate family ownership. The husband's Christian name would always appear first followed by that of his wife, with the surname initial centered between or over both. My digging buddy Stan Dameron and I have dug several of this type including one for Ralph and Elizabeth Wormeley ("RWE") dated 1719. This variety of seal slowly faded out of use during the 18th century. Sometimes the full name of the owner was used, and occasionally in combination with the date the bottle was produced.

A great example of this is the rare "Robert Carter 1713" seal I dug last year. The story behind my recovery of this seal is contained in one of my earlier articles which appeared in the Sep-Oct 2012 issue of American Digger magazine.

In addition to names and initials, seals were commonly decorated with the family coat of arms, crests, or other heraldic symbols. However, due to the complexity of British heraldry it can sometimes be quite difficult to determine which individual or family these symbols represent. Stan and I were successful in identifying a couple of these devices on seals we recovered, but needed help with several others.

Through a contact on one of the metal detecting forums I was able to enlist the expert assistance of Kev Woodward from the UK. Kev is very experienced with identifying the British heraldic symbols that frequently appear on wine bottle seals. Although I've learned quite a bit during our short relationship, I've only just scratched the surface so far. Some of the valuable assistance he provided on identification of specific seals will be discussed later in this article.

The various identifying marks discussed above can be very useful in dating the age of a colonial wine bottle, and hence, the age of the site where it was recovered. It can also help to determine the identity of its origin and who produced or purchased it. This information is critical in helping to identify who occupied or even visited an early colonial site where the seal was found. However, like all refuse discarded into early trash pits, these seals are frequently broken and indistinguishable from other glass shards.

It was not an uncommon practice for the wealthy colonists to purchase large quantities of wine in sealed bottles and have them shipped from England to Virginia.

*(Continued on page 25)*



At left is a photo of a Chicheley seal only seconds after it was discovered in the sifter. Shown below are seals recovered by the author and his hunting partner.

*(Continued from page 24)*

Based on historical documentation it's estimated the cost of sealed bottles averaged about 20 to 25 percent more than the cost of plain bottles. Before a gentleman could order wine in sealed bottles he paid an engraver to make and cut a brass die to be used to form the seal, and each new order required a new die. However, cheaper alternatives including a clay seal matrix or single letter stamps mounted on a wooden handle were sometimes used.

Sealed bottles served as a status symbol for the elite and a way to promote their high status in society. They were also used to commemorate big events such as a birth, marriage, anniversary, or a vintage year. This made me wonder about the significance of the "1713" date on the Robert Carter seal I mentioned above. After a little research I discovered he was born in 1663, so it's possible this dated wine bottle was purchased in commemoration of his 50th birthday celebration. Guess we'll never know for sure, but I like the idea.





A circa 1700s sealed bottle displaying a baron's coronet over a fox. It is from Ivor Hume's collection displayed at the King and Queen County Tavern Museum.



This "PIERMONT WATER" bottle seal was produced in Germany in the early 1700s. It was the author's first such find, and was eyeballed in a cultivated field 15 years ago.

*(Continued from page 25)*

Now that I've provided a little background on the origin, use, and interpretation of wine bottle seals I want to devote the rest of the article to presenting some of the more interesting ones that Stan and I have recovered over the last 2 or 3 years.

First I want to mention that nearly all seals included in this article were recovered by either me or Stan from just a single dump at an early colonial site here in eastern Virginia with the written permission of the owner. And I also want to use this opportunity to express my deep appreciation to my good friend Stan for graciously allowing me to share this site with him. We've only been hitting it a couple times a season, but it's something I look forward too with great anticipation for obvious reasons.

This site has a storied history and was occupied by a family of prominent Virginians who obviously entertained numerous guests over the years based on the size of the trash pit. The dump at this site is huge and was used over an extended period of time. However, most of the areas we've excavated so far date from the mid-1600s to the mid-1700s with a few exceptions. This is based not only on the bottle seals found, but on the wide variety of other glass, pottery, clay pipes, buttons, tokens, coins and other artifacts recovered and dated. In the first few years our searches were focused primarily on trying to find the elusive whole colonial bottle along with complete clay pipe bowls, large pieces of pottery, and other non-ferrous artifacts found through the use of a metal detector.

*(Continued on page 27)*



*(Continued from page 26)*

However, when the first bottle seal was randomly discovered about two years ago we realized we were missing out on some great artifacts by not utilizing sifting as our primary recovery technique.

Once we changed that practice we were quickly rewarded with many unexpected finds including a large number of intact bottle seals. Even during sifting these seals are easily missed due to the large quantity of broken glass, brick, oyster shells and other debris that can mask those small disks of glass in the sifter. For example, the Robert Carter seal I found was embedded upside down in dirt that was stuck in the concave section of a large, early onion bottle base. If I hadn't taken the time to look closely and make a lucky recovery that seal would be back in the bottom of the pit.

Now let's move on to some specific bottle seal recoveries. My first was made close to 15 years ago, and was eyeballed from the same cultivated field where my friend Chuck dug an unbelievable 1775 British gold guinea coin. This is my only seal that identifies the contents of the bottle, and surprisingly it was not wine or other alcoholic beverage. The iridescent yellow-green seal came from a Piermont mineral water bottle which was produced in Germany

between 1720 and 1770. The seal contained the words "PIERMONT WATER" encircling a star, and this particular design was used predominately in the earlier portion of that time period. That remained the only seal in my collection for many years.

Now fast forward to about 2 years ago. Once Stan and I realized we could be much more successful with bottle seal recoveries at our early trash pit site through sifting it began to pay off immediately. We started to dig an increasing number and variety of these artifacts with the most common being the Wormeley seal. At least four different styles turned up including those indicating family ownership as well as ones with the full name or initials of Ralph Wormeley. Some of these were dated as early as 1695.

Another common seal we were able to identify was that of Sir Henry Chicheley. He was a prominent gentleman from Virginia's early history and served as acting Governor from 1678-82, and we found a match for his family coat of arms on a heraldic website. I also found a marked stem in the same spot that came from one of his personalized clay pipes. That was quite an exciting connection.

*(Continued on page 28)*



This intricate bottle seal is thought to display the family coat of arms for British Trade and Plantation Commissioner Henry Brouncker. It likely made its way to Virginia during one of his visits in the late 1600s.



The griffin was a common family coat of arms and is frequently found on early bottle seals.



This seal possibly belonged to Jonathan Mathews, a London merchant involved in the early Virginia tobacco trade. The circa 1650-75 London merchant's token was found in the same pit.

*(Continued from page 27)*

Kev Woodward came up with some very interesting information about another seal that Stan and I thought might also be related to Chicheley. But he determined the coat of arms displayed on this seal was from the Brouncker family. However, his research indicated there weren't any Brounckers in the US until the 1860s.

But after further investigation Kev discovered that a Henry Brouncker was one of the Trade and Plantation Commissioners for the British government from 1673-85, and his job could easily have taken him to colonial Virginia. Since the site of the trash pit was a large plantation that was heavily involved in commerce it's quite possible Brouncker visited this location, or maybe used his position to sell his own wine. I guess we'll never know for sure.

Late this past winter Stan dug an awesome seal with what appeared to be the image of a dragon. We thought it would be fairly easy to identify this unique feature, but after not having any luck I again called on Kev for assistance. He quickly informed me that it was not a dragon, but something called a griffin. A griffin is a mythical creature that has the head, wings and talons of an eagle with the body of a lion and represents valor, bravery and vigilance. These are common crests, but the key to finding what it represents lies in what the griffin is holding in its beak as that will be unique to the family. After closer inspection it appeared the griffin was grasping a large fish with a barbed tail. But Kev could not find any references to that in any of his British heraldry resources.

*(Continued on page 29)*



(Above) This early 1700s bottle, which can be tied to the ancestors of Robert E. Lee by its seal (left), is an awesome find in spite of the missing spout.

*(Continued from page 28)*

So for now we're going to put this one on the back burner and hope some new information surfaces later.

On our last dig of the season in April, Stan dug another interesting seal which he very generously gave to me as I was getting skunked at the time. It was the largest seal found so far from this site and had the monogram "I-M" stamped on it. But it was soon brought to my attention by another one of my digging buddies, Joey Williams, that the "I" was actually an old English "J". He also steered me to a website that contained diaries and letters from Robert Carter that mentioned a London merchant named Jonathan Mathews was co-owner of the 60-ton trading vessel "Friendly Society" who made runs between



A few of the early bottle spouts Stan Dameron and author Bill Dancy have dug include a copper alloy wire closure attached just below the string rim which was used to secure the cork, as shown above. Based on anecdotal evidence, they believe the use of these wires has a strong correlation with sealed bottles. It could be that wire closures were an extra that was provided on these more expensive sealed bottles. While just a theory, based on their experience it may have merit. When a spout with the wire closure attached is found, it adds excitement and gives them motivation, as they know the chances for recovering a seal have increased.

London, Barbados and Virginia. There is further evidence from written letters in the very early 1700s that Mathews was involved in the tobacco trade with a number of wealthy planters in the immediate area where the bottle seal was found.

*(Continued on page 30)*





*(Continued from page 29)*

As was the case with Brouncker, it will be impossible to verify if this seal actually came from Mathews' personalized wine bottle, but it's a very intriguing story. I'm saving the best for last as this particular seal has a direct connection to one of Virginia's earliest families, as well as being in the ancestral line of one of the great Confederate generals of the Civil War.

A friend of Stan's, Kevin Fay, had recently discovered a nearly intact early 1700s onion bottle in the low tide muck on his property in a neighboring county less than five miles as the crow flies from the pit we've been excavating. Part of the spout is missing; however, it contains an awesome looking seal with a

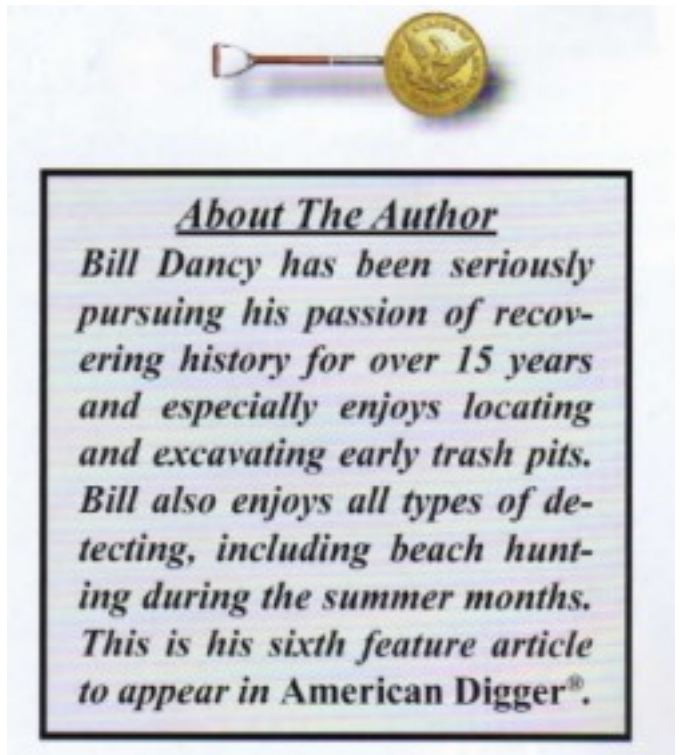
family coat of arms and crest. As was becoming the norm, we again went to Kev in hopes he could provide an ID for this seal. It didn't take him long to determine the coat of arms was from the Lee family, and amazingly the same branch of the family that Robert E. Lee eventually descended from more than 100 years later. It just doesn't get any better than that! Stan and I made a trip over to Kevin's to actually hold and photograph this amazing bottle first-hand, and we really appreciated him giving us that opportunity. Kevin also shared some other seals he had eyeballed on his property including two of Robert Carter's.

*(Continued on page 31)*

(Continued from page 30)

He also has a trash pit on his property, and I hope that we can assist him someday in recovering, preserving and documenting the early artifacts that I'm sure will be found there.

After getting hooked on the amazing lure of colonial bottle seals I think I've become just as fascinated with uncovering their historical origin and the stories they tell as I am with actually finding them. Stan and I can't wait to hit that pit again in the fall, shovel and sifter in hand, and see what additional history we can recover.



---

## [Bottle digging on youtube](#)



# ***News and Views from May 2016***

[\*\*\*Police raid nighthawks\*\*\*](#)

[\*\*\*Saxon Penny from reign of King Offa\*\*\*](#)

[\*\*\*Yorkshire nostalgia: Bronze age axehead\*\*\*](#)

[\*\*\*Fascinating archaeological finds in new book\*\*\*](#)

[\*\*\*Historical murder search focuses on Nant y Ffrith\*\*\*](#)

[\*\*\*Welsh "Time capsule" site found\*\*\*](#)

[\*\*\*Top Gear back on our screens\*\*\*](#)

[\*\*\*George V penny sells for £72,000\*\*\*](#)

[\*\*\*Britain's biggest gold nugget\*\*\*](#)

[\*\*\*Historic ring is found in field\*\*\*](#)

[\*\*\*Wedding ring horror and delight\*\*\*](#)





# 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



## Neonicotinoid decision pours further fuel on Brexit debate

NEWS

22 MAY 2016

🔥 540



## Purple potato packs a health punch

NEWS

20 MAY 2016

🔥 425



## Late-drilled spring cereals may benefit from nutrient boost

NEWS

20 MAY 2016

🔥 178



## Valley Grown Nurseries open new glasshouse in Lea Valley

NEWS

20 MAY 2016

🔥 466

**COUNTRYFILE**.com



SPRINGWATCH

**BBC iPlayer**

watch the latest episode



# Local Heroes

Detectorists are seen by the public as portrayed in the media, dare I say as the good, the bad and the ugly, ie;

- Those who are recovering our history for the benefit of future generations by following [the code of practice for responsible metal detecting in England and Wales](#) agreed by all parties including the NCMD, the NFU and English Heritage, by helping in the community and recording their finds.

And by reporting all finds as [Treasure Trove in Scotland](#).

- Those who are depriving future generations of our history by not following the code of practice and not recording their finds even though [recording is mandatory in the countryside stewardship landowners agreement](#).

- Those who are thieves who use detectors to steal from farmland and Scheduled monuments.

This new section of the magazine is to promote good practice and is dedicated to the ambassadors of the hobby of whom we are so proud. Their deeds have in the past been spread throughout the magazine but are now brought together to improve their presentation.

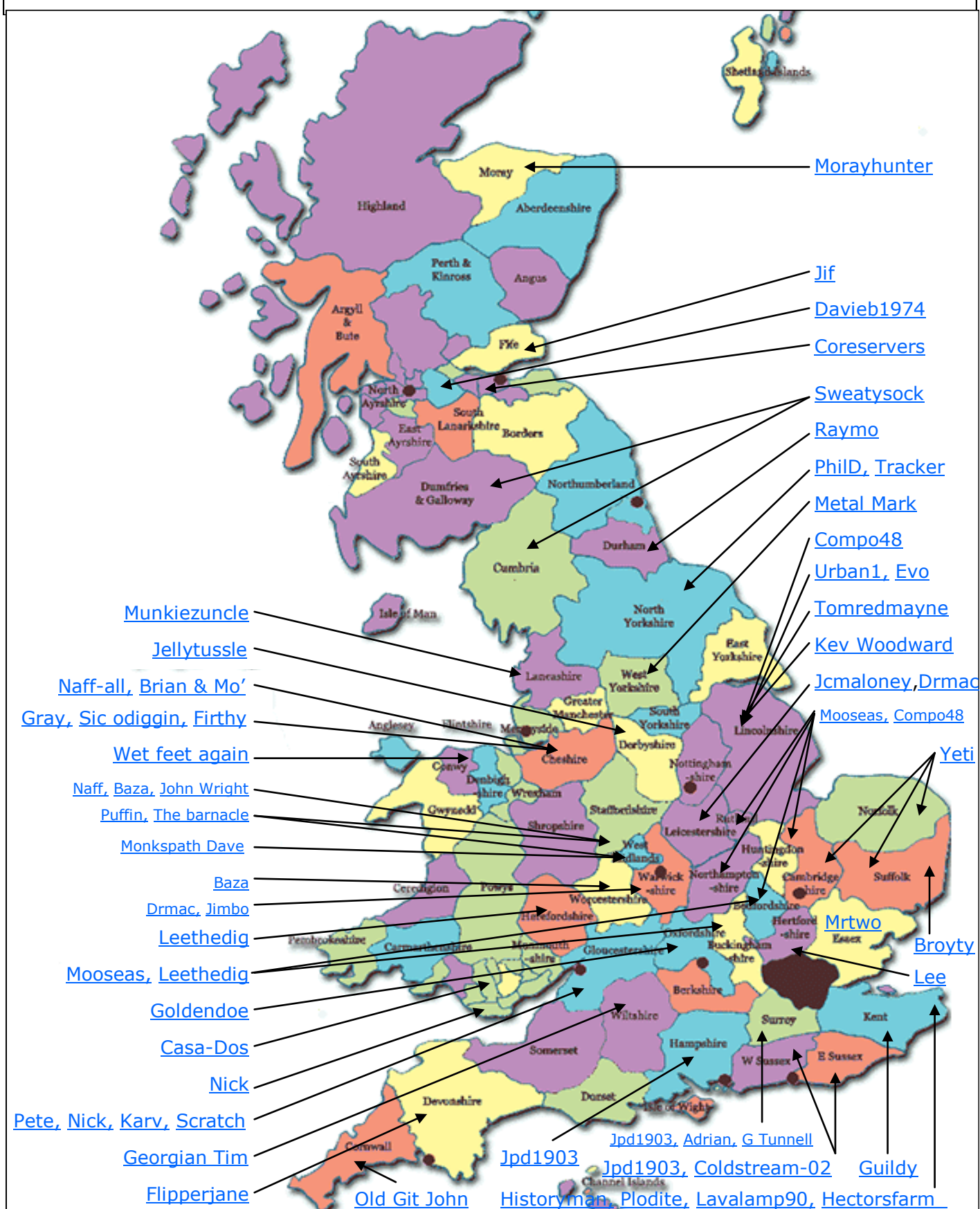
[Man finds ring in a field](#)





# Community Archaeology Volunteers on Uk Detector Net

Click on the names for more information



## Ways we can help the PAS

PAS funding has been reduced leading to fewer FLO's and so the PAS is looking for better ways to manage their work load as they are working at full capacity;

<https://finds.org.uk/getinvolved/guides/pressures>

They are taking on volunteer recorders;

<https://finds.org.uk/getinvolved/volunteering/role/id/12>

And are promoting self recording;

<https://finds.org.uk/counties/leicestershire/tag/british-museum/>

I would welcome any suggestions on how we can help PAS and the hobby get through this period of austerity.

My thoughts are that we can all help by having information available when recording, the more help we can give the PAS the better I.e. By;

**1.** Have a National Grid Reference of your find spot ready when you see the FLO, this saves getting a map out and finding the NGR. If you can give a 10 figure reference using a GPS it would be much appreciated;

[http://www.amazon.co.uk/s/ref=nb\\_sb\\_noss\\_1/276-8734508-8923167?url=search-alias%3Daps&field-keywords=garmin+etrex&rh=i%3Aaps%2Ck%3Agarmin+etrex](http://www.amazon.co.uk/s/ref=nb_sb_noss_1/276-8734508-8923167?url=search-alias%3Daps&field-keywords=garmin+etrex&rh=i%3Aaps%2Ck%3Agarmin+etrex)

Or download the Grid Reference App to your Android phone (set it for 10 figs); [https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=net.blerq&hl=en\\_GB](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=net.blerq&hl=en_GB)

Or use the Grid Reference Finder website;

<http://www.gridreferencefinder.com/>

**2.** If you can fill in the details of your find on a "Finds recording sheet" in advance this will save precious PAS time. Basic info; <http://atoz.forumukdetectornet.co.uk/PAS%20find%20recording%20labels.doc>

More info; <http://atoz.forumukdetectornet.co.uk/PAS%20finds%20recording%20sheet.pdf>

**3.** Better still if you are willing to purchase a set of jewelers scales;

[http://www.amazon.co.uk/s/ref=nb\\_sb\\_ss\\_i\\_4\\_8?url=search-alias%3Daps&field-keywords=jewelers+scales&srefix=jewelers%2Caps%2C188&rh=i%3Aaps%2Ck%3Ajewelers+scales](http://www.amazon.co.uk/s/ref=nb_sb_ss_i_4_8?url=search-alias%3Daps&field-keywords=jewelers+scales&srefix=jewelers%2Caps%2C188&rh=i%3Aaps%2Ck%3Ajewelers+scales)

And a digital caliper;

[http://www.amazon.co.uk/?ie=UTF8&keywords=caliper+measure&tag=googhydr-21&index=aps&hvadid=48450325458&hvpos=1t1&hvexid=&hvnetw=g&hvrandid=5959077009827215455&hvpone=&hvptwo=&hvmmt=b&hvdev=c&ref=pd\\_sl\\_9rw416xiuq\\_b](http://www.amazon.co.uk/?ie=UTF8&keywords=caliper+measure&tag=googhydr-21&index=aps&hvadid=48450325458&hvpos=1t1&hvexid=&hvnetw=g&hvrandid=5959077009827215455&hvpone=&hvptwo=&hvmmt=b&hvdev=c&ref=pd_sl_9rw416xiuq_b)

The weights and dimensions of the finds would be much appreciated saving even more time.

4. Or you can go the whole hog and self record, this requires you to undertake an initial meeting with your FLO to assess your level of ability and then up to 5 training sessions with PAS to ensure you are competent to do this as you would need to take quality images of the finds and ID them accurately as per others on the PAS database and enter them correctly, although not all sessions are necessary if you can demonstrate that you are able to self record to the PAS standard. Your FLO is only an email or phone call away to help and guide you if you are unsure of a particular aspect of self recording.

Volunteers guide to recording objects;

<https://finds.org.uk/volunteerrecording>

Flow of objects;

<https://finds.org.uk/documents/guide.pdf#page=7>

Please feel free to share this information to assist the PAS and strengthen our hobby.

Flickr link for PAS images;

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/finds/albums>

Local Heroes theme song;

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5maW-BTJ2LE>

Find my FLO

<http://rjw57.github.io/findmyflo/>



Welcome to the Portable Antiquities Scheme website  
The Portable Antiquities Scheme is a DCMS funded project to encourage the voluntary recording of archaeological objects found by members of the public in England and Wales. Every year many thousands of objects are discovered, many of these by metal-detector users, but also by people whilst out walking, gardening or going about their daily work.

[Register](#)  
[Search the database](#)

# Portable Antiquities Scheme

[www.finds.org.uk](http://www.finds.org.uk)



# PAS Upcoming Events

## Click on text



The map shows the United Kingdom with labels for the Isle of Man, United Kingdom, ENGLAND, and WALES. Major cities labeled include Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester, Cambridge, Oxford, London, Bristol, Cardiff, Southampton, Brighton, and Plymouth. Four blue location pins are placed on the map: one near Liverpool, one near Manchester, one in central England, and one near Cardiff.

[Upcoming events](#)

[Database search](#)

[Contact a](#)  
[Conservation](#)

[PAS on Flickr](#)

[Treasure](#)  
[Register](#)

[Click here to make a cash donation to PAS, to pay for packing & storing finds. For conservation & excavation of significant finds & to top up travel budgets.](#)

Grid Reference

12:26 AM

**Free app**

Figures

6 figures ☐

8 figures ☐

10 figures ☒

**1066 Battle of Fulford grounds to open to public as crowdfunding campaign begins in Yorkshire has been launched to open the Viking side of the site of the Battle of Fulford in Yorkshire, marking the 950th anniversary of the 1066 conflicts with a range of activities later**

[Work in 2015](#)



**Battle of Fulford 1066**

We need money to make the site of the first battle of 1066 accessible to the public. Fulford is the only battlesite of that year where we can be confident about the location. Since it is on public land, the site will be a permanent, accessible legacy.





York & District MDC have been heavily involved in the project from the start. On the left below is Chairman Paul Roberts and on the right is Wilf Pearse.



Below is John Leary



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kq61wPU8Wns>







Putting a Garrett Ace 250 double bucket contraption to the test on the spoil heaps, it worked, but ideally it's best to detect items in situ in the the trench before the soil is dumped in a tall heap.

[Garrett Pro Pointers](#) would be of great help too, enabling archeologists to do some metal detecting, by brushing over the surface as they excavate.

Also if the spoil heaps are laid out 15cm high max on all digs, detectorists





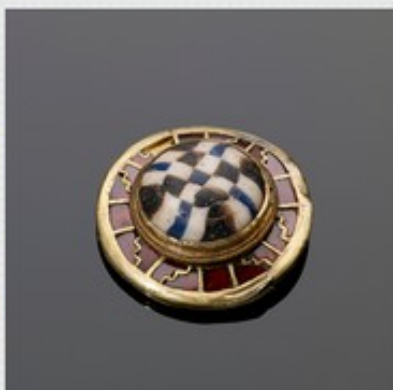
## The Science behind the Staffordshire Hoard

A large-scale conservation and research project into the Staffordshire Hoard was launched in 2010, by Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery and The Potteries Museum and Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent.....

[http://www.birminghammuseums.org.uk/school\\_resources/science-behind-](http://www.birminghammuseums.org.uk/school_resources/science-behind-)



The two largest cells have been replaced with red glass.



Millefiori glass stud with gold and garnet surround.



Roman glass millefiori detail on top.



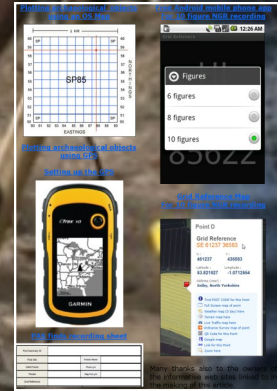
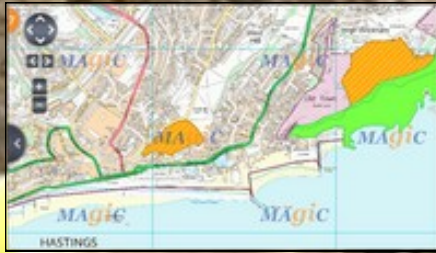
The government are planning to put a end to Archaeological surveys and wildlife surveys before development of sites.

This will mean the destruction of archaeological remains and wildlife habitats, the petition hopes to get this bill debated and overturned.

<https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/130783>



Click on the images for the .PDF



# Code of Practice for Responsible Metal Detecting in England and Wales



**The Treasure Act**  
Information for Finders of Treasure  
(England & Wales)

Conservation Advice Notes



Printed with funding from the:

Heritage Lottery Fund



UKDN Detecting Guide - by PhilD			
What do I need	Where can or can't I detect	What might I find	What should I do when I find something
<b>Equipment</b>	<b>Farm land permission req'd</b>	<b>Modern finds under 300 yrs old</b> Lead, iron, copper, alloy, silver & gold	<b>Recording find spots with an O/S map or GPS or online map</b>
<b>Permission from the landowner. Finds assessment</b>	<b>Beaches</b> Permit req'd for Crown Estates	<b>Recordable finds over 300 yrs old</b> Lead, iron, copper, alloy, silver & gold	<b>Recording with PAS</b> Recording Treasure Trove
<b>Club Membership can provide help</b>	<b>Mudlarking</b> Permit req'd	<b>Treasure Finds Informally</b> Organiser & FLO	<b>What recording can tell us</b>
<b>Consider NI, NI or FID membership &amp; insurance</b>	<b>Local Parks &amp; Council land</b> permission req'd	<b>Reasons to Avoid &amp; Charist burials</b> Stop digging & report to PAS FLO	<b>Archaeological objects including Treasure</b>
<b>Comply with the Responsible Detecting code of practice</b>	<b>Avoid SAM's &amp; SSSI's in England, Wales &amp; Scotland</b>	<b>Green Waste</b> waste sites take care	<b>Basins, cleaning &amp; conserving finds</b>
<b>Understanding of the Treasure Act or Treasure Trove (Scotland)</b>	<b>Avoid National Trust land and Nature Reserves</b>	<b>Diseases</b> waste sites take care	<b>Please consider donating your finds to a Museum</b>
<b>Understanding of local history</b>	<b>Avoid battlefields to retain their battle history</b>	<b>Obstacles - stop digging and find lots of metal</b> Balls tell the FLO	<b>Getting involved in archaeology</b>
<b>PAS Guide for landowners &amp; farmers &amp; Baffa Guidance Note</b>	<b>Avoid footpaths</b>	<b>Join UKDN &amp; our Local Advisers</b> will ID your finds & save you a PAS valuable time	<b>PAS Frequently asked Questions</b>



<b>Useful Weblinks</b>
<a href="#"><i><b>PAS - getting involved</b></i></a>
<a href="#"><i><b>PAS - Upcoming Events</b></i></a>
<a href="#"><i><b>PAS - self recording</b></i></a>
<a href="#"><i><b>PAS -Recording Timeline</b></i></a>
<a href="#"><i><b>PAS - Advice for finders of archaeological objects including treasure</b></i></a>
<a href="#"><i><b>PAS - Conservation advice notes</b></i></a>
<a href="#"><i><b>PAS - Guidance to landowners, occupiers &amp; tenant farmers in England &amp; Wales</b></i></a>
<a href="#"><i><b>PAS - News from the scheme</b></i></a>
<a href="#"><i><b>Grid Reference Android Phone App</b></i></a>
<a href="#"><i><b>Responsible detecting code of practice</b></i></a>
<a href="#"><i><b>Frome hoard time lapse video of excavation</b></i></a>
<a href="#"><i><b>Press coverage of the Frome hoard discovery</b></i></a>
<a href="#"><i><b>Burnham hoard excavation</b></i></a>
<a href="#"><i><b>Staffordshire hoard excavation</b></i></a>
<a href="#"><i><b>Staffordshire hoard at the BM</b></i></a>
<a href="#"><i><b>Definition of Treasure</b></i></a>
<a href="#"><i><b>To Report Nighthawking - If in progress ring 999, if after the event click here &amp; enter post code, the phone number for your local Police Station is shown on the bottom right hand side</b></i></a>
<a href="#"><i><b>Rallies &amp; Events - Searcher Magazine</b></i></a>
<a href="#"><i><b>Rallies &amp; Events - Treasure Hunting Magazine</b></i></a>
<a href="#"><i><b>Wheresthepath - For O/S &amp; Aerial Maps &amp; National Grid References</b></i></a>
<a href="#"><i><b>Uk Grid Reference and Post Code Finder</b></i></a>
<a href="#"><i><b>Getting involved in archaeology</b></i></a>

## New members in May 2016

Brian and Mo and the team would like to thank and extend a warm welcome to all the new members listed below who have joined UKDN in the last month. Please introduce yourselves so that the members can welcome you aboard and make you feel at home. [Click here to introduce yourself](#)

If you are not already registered with UKDN you can register by clicking on this link and see what you are missing [Click here to register](#)

Mikeaa
dynawide96
Jedi2016
Jdh3515
valdisc
Durham
Rob77
Kingospades
MTopDigs
Trickyross
TheTattooedDigger
ioang
Trish5566
INGLISTONE
PirateDetectors
rickyp123
The Polecat
Daz648
brimotest2
Kezza
dand

# 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](mailto:enquiry@ukdetectornet.co.uk)

## UKDN magazines to download

[Download magazines here](#)

## View online

[View our Magazines online here](#)

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.