

UKDN WORD

WORLD OF RESPONSIBLE DETECTING

Issue no: 131
July 2018



Jetton Feature



Photo Comp Winners



A Golden Hoard

Inside...News, Views, Articles, Reports and more

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

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to this, the 131st edition of Word magazine, dated July 2018. It's another packed issue with a great article by Kev Woodward on his finding of a hoard of gold staters hidden away in an animal bone. What a brilliant story and it's this type of story we are after ie Helping in the community, recovering something lost for a member of the general public, assisting a local dig as Kev was or just your every-day detecting story. If you have a story to tell then please get in touch with a member of the team through the forum.

What an amazing summer we are having up to this moment in time. We're having lots of sunshine and some really nice weather. It seems to be bringing the crops along very nicely especially as we are having periods of rain in between. In Cheshire the barley is coming along very nicely and we wouldn't be surprised to see crops being harvested within the next three or four weeks.

We've all got a few weeks of downtime yet to endure. We've just had all our equipment out and have given it a good ole clean. We've renewed our wellies as on examination we found them to be heavily worn and not likely to last the winter season. It's amazing just how much wear those boots or wellingtons will take just walking up and down ploughed fields.

Don't forget our sponsors, these are the guys who pay for the banners on the forum and by doing so keep the forum able to pay for the server and other fees. If you have to buy equipment be it a detector, wellingtons, trowel or even just headphones then please click on the banners spread around the forum and support the people who support us.

The forum is very quiet at the moment, especially as the football World Cup is taking place and the games are televised and featured on lots of channels. England are doing OK but we are sure bigger tests will be placed before them during the later stages. Obviously we wish them well and hope they get into the finals, semi-finals or even quarter finals.

Finishing off let's just ask that if you are one of those lucky people who manage to get on a piece of land during this lean period if you do find anything that's remotely interesting can you post it on the forum so we can all have a gander and a gloat over it. We are going stir crazy here !!!

Good hunting and be lucky every single one of you.



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>Zoomorphic or not?</i>	<i>Vesica seal for ID</i>
<i>Two artefacts for ID please</i>	<i>Jetton? for ID please</i>
<i>Hammered for ID please</i>	<i>Holiday finds</i>
<i>Don't lose your head over this ...</i>	<i>May's hammie and Intaglio</i>
<i>Possible new search permission.</i>	<i>Is it a lid?</i>
<i>Coin and possibly strap end</i>	<i>First Hammered</i>
<i>Can anyone give an ID on this coin please _Saxon ?</i>	<i>Any ideas on this?</i>
<i>Gold Hammered</i>	<i>Token or coin?</i>
<i>Hello I'm Steve</i>	<i>Flat axehead?</i>
<i>PAS finds recording guides</i>	<i>Bronze Age axe</i>

Jettons

Just What are They?

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

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

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

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



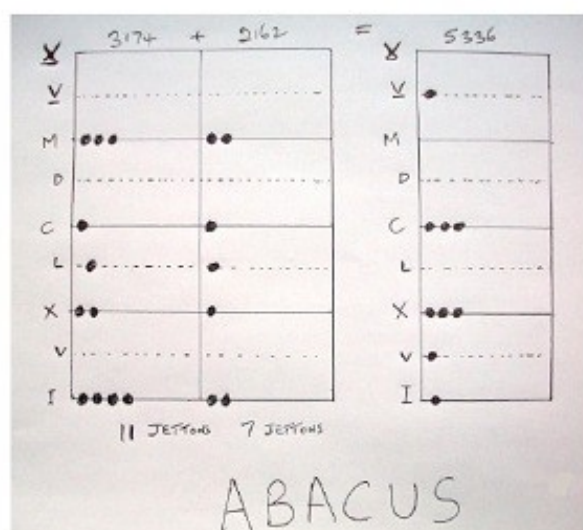
The photo above shows a modern Abacus – many are still used in the Far East. The medieval abacus was a board upon which the counters or jettons were moved around, see woodcut below.



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

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

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



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

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

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

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

How does it work

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

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

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

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

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

The Jettons

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



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



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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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THE DISCOVERY OF THE SEDFORD HOARD OF IRON AGE GOLD STATERS IN AUGUST 2003

By Kev Woodward



Some of the gold Staters shortly after excavation.

As I stirred in my tent cursing the dawn chorus of the cockerels resident at the nearby pub I looked at my watch - 4:25am! I managed to drift off into semi-sleep knowing that another day loomed helping to excavate a 7th-9th century Anglo Saxon cemetery with the Sedgeford Historical and Archaeological Research Project (SHARP). Thoughts of what I had to do that day filled my head. The first task was to locate and recover metal detected signals on the site prior to the imminent shut down week. Only two had not been investigated and I pondered what they may be. One looked promising; the other was probably a metal stake that had fallen into the copious amounts of silt. With these thoughts I drifted off to sleep to be violently awoken by a bad case of cramp in my right calf muscle at 6am. Imagine the scene as I leapt around my tent cursing the pain whilst trying to do it 'quietly' so as not to disturb others in their tents! It was around this time that I decided today had not started too well and hoped that things would improve - how right was that wish!

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Two hours later, suitably washed and fed the SHARP volunteers convened for 'morning prayers'. This is where, amongst other things, jobs for the day are allocated as required. Everyone suitably briefed we set to work. I retrieved my trusty twelve year old Tesoro Bandido from my tent and set about sweeping over the site. After marking two ferrous signals (later confirmed as coffin brackets) for later excavation no more signals came to light - not unusual as little metal is found on the site due to it being an early Christian cemetery with no grave goods. I decided to move down to the area where the two known signals were and had another sweep. Only the two known signals remained so I concentrated on the one I thought sounded promising. The silt was quite deep in this area and not very sweet smelling but the chance of unearthing a good signal on this site made it a lot more bearable. After a few minutes of shovelling silt I uncovered part of a plank that had sunk to a depth of about a foot and yes you've guessed, it had a nice shiny aluminium strip wrapped around its edge! So much for promising signals - this dented my hope that my day would provide some interesting fruits from my labours.

A bit disappointed I decided to clear the last signal before getting on with an excavation of a skeleton I found the previous day. This last signal was thought to be a metal stake used on the site in previous years to hold a water hose over the area. The signal had been found by my beloved wife Jenn the previous week but she had not been allowed to dig it at that time and had since gone home to return to work. After rechecking the signal it became clear that it would probably be the stake as the object appeared to be about fourteen inches long as all the signals were in a straight line.

The trench supervisor Terry joined me at this point and offered to dig the object as he had never seen the techniques employed with a detector, I was happy to oblige. After showing him the signal he removed the silt fully expecting, like me, to find the stake. Once it became clear that the signal came from beneath the archaeological layer our attitude changed and we pondered what it might be. Definitely non-ferrous and fourteen inches long was all I could advise. Some possibilities were put forward (all wrong in the end) so the decision to excavate it out was made. This decision was taken only because of the imminent shut down week and to clear the site in case of night hawks - yes the site has had some 'visitors'.

Using his trowel Terry removed soil to a depth of two inches then I swept the area again - the signal had not changed so more soil was removed by both of us. Two more inches down and I came across an animal bone lying on its side and removed it as it was not unusual for this site. I put the bone to one side and dug some more. Once Terry and I had cleaned up the area I swept over the hole again - this time things were different and my mind went into overdrive.

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The reason? There were signals in both spoil heaps and in the hole - lots of them! Now I've read enough stories like these to know things are starting to look good. I think I broke the world record for going from standing to kneeling. Within a few seconds I had an Iron Age gold Stater in my quivering hand. Once Terry and I had exchanged that 'we've only gone and bloody well done it' look we set about retrieving the others from the spoil heap. Within a minute we had five identical gold Staters with still more signals in the hole! I moved the detector head away so Terry could continue the excavation and in doing so it passed over the previously set aside animal bone. The detector gave off a strong signal which surprised me somewhat, so whilst Terry scraped away I investigated this new signal.

I moved the bone as I thought it was in the way of the signal, the signal disappeared! It dawned on me that maybe a Stater was lodged inside the bone so I passed it over the detector and I was rewarded with a strong signal. I carefully picked out some of the mud from the top of the bone to reveal two Staters wedged inside. It was at this point I noticed that the weight of the bone was excessive for its size. As I tilted the bone to examine it I could feel some more coins moving inside. The full magnitude of the discovery finally hit home as I tried incoherently to tell Terry about it. By this time we were both literally shaking with adrenalin but still had the presence of mind and discipline to realise that we now had to stop so a full detailed excavation could take place.

So after a few minutes getting our heads together and looking at the marvellous pieces of art in our hands we called over Gareth who was in charge of the excavations in that area. We showed him one Stater at first as others had been found in isolation in this area in previous years and a hoard had long been suspected. He confirmed that it matched the others and hoped for more someday. We then gave him the other four, the smile on his face growing as he examined them. Comments like 'we must be getting near to the seat of the hoard' were banded about. It was at this point I produced the animal bone and said 'will this do?' After examination of the bone the magnitude of the situation hit home as he realised that the whole area would need to be fully excavated and recorded before the end of the season, within the next three days!

The supervisors soon came up with a battle plan and it was all hands to the pumps, literally as the area gets waterlogged within hours. During the day earth was removed from around the pit, as revealed after the removal of the silt, and wet sieved. I remember the screams of delight when, on separate occasions, two more Staters were found by the hard working girls on the wet sieving station. We worked until the light faded removing layer by layer the soil from around and on top of the find spot.

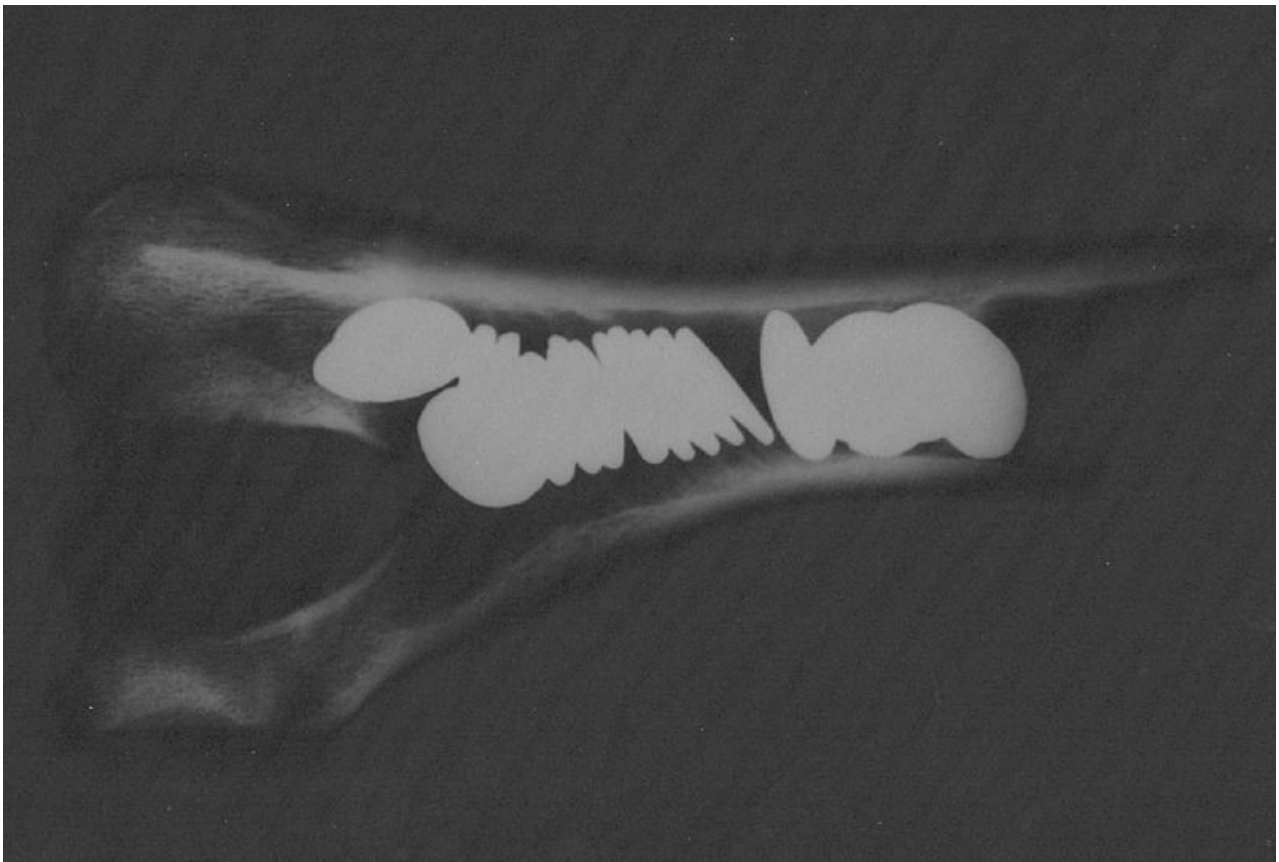
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Everything was drawn, photographed and recorded at each stage, in fact the team even finished drawing by torch light - you wouldn't see archaeologists doing that very often! Needless to say I had a huge grin all day and the adrenalin kept pumping through my veins, so much so I couldn't eat, and for those that know me that's unusual!

The strangeness of the day continued by way of an Iron Age horse burial being unearthed that afternoon by other members of SHARP on another part of the dig. Apparently it was a healthy eighteen hands tall and was killed by a strong blow to the forehead as evidenced by the hole left in his skull. It had been buried in a pit and positioned as though it was laying on its belly with all four legs tucked in and the head looking backwards resting on its shoulder.

The Director of the site was away from the area when the discoveries were made but made a rapid return to coordinate procedures and deal with the reporting side of things. As it had become impossible to contain the information that the hoard had been found it was decided to call everyone together to state what had happened and stop the rumour mongers from embellishing the story.



An x-ray of the bone showing the twenty gold Staters inside.

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The tally at the end of the first day was nine loose Staters, approximately eighteen to twenty in the bone (it had been x-rayed at the local hospital that afternoon) and an Iron Age horse burial, not bad for a days work on an Anglo Saxon cemetery!

The following day I was really looking forward to finding out more about the context in which the hoard had been buried. Unfortunately the media had other ideas and I spent the whole day being interviewed on different TV channels, radio and newspapers. By the end of the day I was quite prepared to thump the next photographer that wanted me to 'just move an inch to your left/right/up/down/in/out' etc. Whilst I was having my fifteen minutes of 'fame' the team continued to excavate the area around the pit to find the extent of it before excavating it out. This was hampered somewhat by the need to excavate an Anglo Saxon skeleton and some charnel which partially covered the top of the pit. If you have ever done this or watched it being performed you know how long that can take. There was a boost to proceedings as a tenth loose Stater was recovered from on top of the pit by Becky who had come to the dig from Malta, needless to say she was delighted with her once in a lifetime find. Towards the end of the day one of the Directors, Dr Neil Faulkner approached me and asked if I would like to excavate the coins from the bone the next day! I was speechless as I had assumed that it would fall to the experts at the British Museum to do.



The find area under intense archaeological investigation.

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After telling Neil this he replied that as this was contextually a unique find there were no experts - how can you be an expert in something that's never been found? With an argument like that on your side I accepted at once so we sat down to work out the details.

The following morning saw me leaving the campsite at 5:45am (couldn't sleep properly) to drive to the twenty four hour supermarket in King's Lynn. Items on my shopping list included distilled water, a syringe or pipette and if possible long plastic tweezers. Everything except the tweezers were purchased, I would need to find some from somewhere. After breakfast I was visited by a member of the human remains team who gave me a bag crammed full of odd shaped plastic and wooden small tools. I commented that I should be able to get into every nook and cranny with those and they replied that I should as their real purpose was for use in gynaecology! When pressed they came up trumps with some plastic tweezers as well, not long enough to reach the bottom of the bone but we'd sort that problem later.

Once everything was collected together the bone excavation team walked up to the village hall to join the SHARP photographers who were busy setting up their equipment. I choose the place I wanted to work and commenced setting up. The bone was supported in a bowl of sand and was covered by a plastic bag to retain soil removed from the bone for archaeo-environmental analysis. This worked very well holding the bone upright and steady. All the various wooden and plastic tools were laid out and an overhead light complete with magnifier was put in position, the whole thing started to look like an operating theatre and I was to be the surgeon! By this time the small finds team had set up to record all the coins as they were removed - cameras, drawing boards and finds forms seemed to be everywhere. We then had a break whilst the photographers took 'before' shots of the bone and the way everything was set up - this was for the hoard report that was published later in the year.



The 'surgery' begins.

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After another 'nervous' visit to the toilet all was ready and I could begin. The time I noted was just after eleven, where had the morning gone and would I have time to finish the job today? Then came the good news that another gold Stater had been found during wet sieving, that made the total found from the pit eleven, we were about to add a few more to that total. At this point I would like to thank Megan Dennis for putting together and heading an excellent team, she taught me a lot about those Staters that day than any article I have ever read. Megan has connections to the Celtic Coin Index so she knows one or two things about Staters.

After careful removal of the first level of soil in the bone three Staters could be clearly seen and were cleaned up in-situ. Which way the reverse side of the coins was facing was recorded and many photos taken before the first coin was removed. This one was fairly well wedged against the other and the side of the bone and took more pressure to release than I thought it would. Once out and washed it was handed to the small finds team for them to go to work on it. The second coin was now loose and after more recording and photos it too was removed. We continued in this manner for the next six coins as they were placed in the bone in a random manner. Very little soil was now in the bone and after cleaning out revealed a beautiful sight I hope I never forget. At least eight gold Staters stacked one on top of the other and all shining back at me like they were made the day before.



The first coins appear after the mud is removed.

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Lunch was delivered to the village hall and I attempted to eat something but the adrenalin had scuppered any appetite - I was in paradise, the only thing that could of made it better was if Jenn had been there to see the fruits of the signal she had found. I continued painstakingly cleaning and removing any soil from around the coins and then extracting them. During this process some invited visitors started to appear. The landowner came to see 'his' coins, a photographer and reporter from the local paper and a local radio presenter were allowed to report on the extractions as a 'thank you' for past years of support for SHARP. The radio reporter did a live broadcast describing what I was doing, so I let her be the first person to touch one of the coins since its burial two thousand years ago. She was speechless for about five seconds after I dropped the coin from the tweezers into her hand, I don't think that made very good radio and was apparently a first for her being speechless during a broadcast! Such is the power of Iron Age gold.

After each coin was removed more photos were taken inside the bone to record everything possible, whilst the small finds team recorded every detail on each coin, a truly magnificent team effort. As I was now getting towards the bottom of the bone the tweezers were not long enough to reach so the high-tech solution of taping on two wooden spatulas was employed. These worked well although working in such a small space and getting adequate lighting down the bone without compromising your view of the coins was getting difficult. Finally at about 5:30 pm the twentieth and final Stater was removed and recorded. As much soil as possible was washed out of the bone, which included a plant leaf, which gave something for the archaeo-environmental team to analyse. All the soil removed will be sifted through to find any seeds or pollen to add to the overall picture.

The excavation of the bone was over so we packed everything up. Walking back to the campsite I realised just how tired I felt, mentally drained after the last three days and the hours of concentration emptying the bone. Physically tired as I hadn't slept very well for the last two nights, but I knew that would change tonight. After a few drinks in the pub that night I proved my theory and slept very soundly.

The excavation of the area around the pit continued the next day and I continued helping to trowel back, some wet sieving and even the odd sweep of the detector around the area just in case! Being Friday we needed to finish early as a site tour takes place each Friday afternoon and we expected more people than usual and we weren't disappointed! After the site tour and a couple of presentations on other archaeological subjects Megan gave a précis of the hoard discovery and the processes that we had gone through.

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The finale was the displaying of the cow bone and the thirty nine gold Staters, a beautiful sight they made. I was 'volunteered' to sell some postcards of the hoard that had been printed that day, so I sat at a table at the exit to the marquee selling these postcards when one buyer asked if I would sign it! I jokingly replied that would cost extra and he gladly paid up! From then on every card buyer wanted it signed so there I was signing autographs in the middle of a campsite and I thought that this week couldn't get any more surreal. We made over fifty pounds in fifteen minutes, not a bad way to raise much needed funds as SHARP is a registered charity and is totally self-funded.

Work continued on the area around the pit the next day and after three and half days work we could finally start on excavating out the pit. This was made more difficult than it should have been as the roots left from a tree stump removed earlier in the excavation got in the way of easy trowelling. The tree had been planted on top of the hoard site early in the twentieth century. It soon became apparent that a small Anglo Saxon ditch had disturbed the bone, probably breaking it. The spoil from the ditch had been scattered along with nineteen of the coins! It was discovered that a cows scapula (shoulder blade) appeared to be pointing towards where the cow bone was buried, this could, however, have just been coincidence. After the pit was excavated the team were confident that no more coins would be found and a sweep of the detector confirmed this

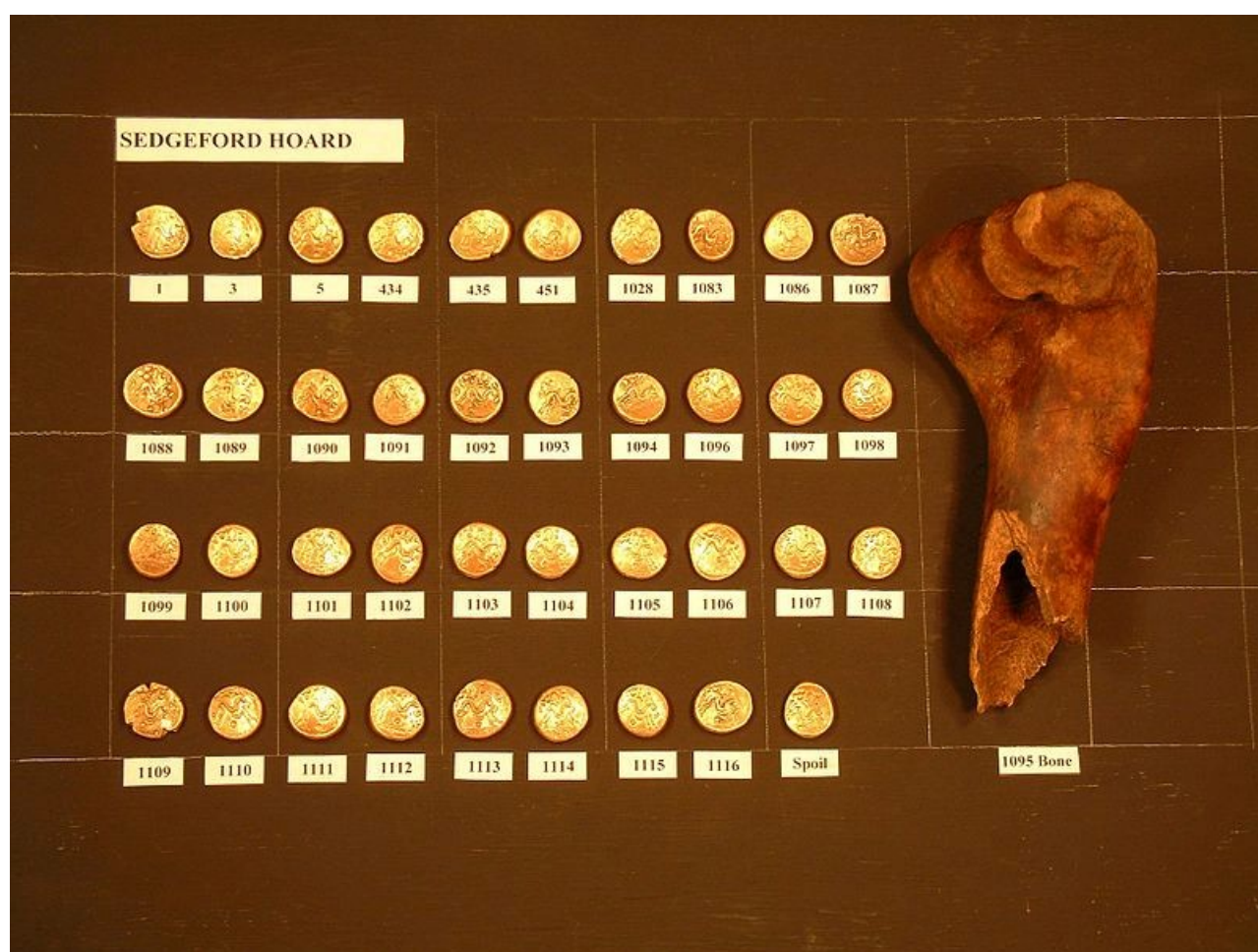
In summary, all coins were the same type, that is Gallo-Belgic E gold Staters imported from Gaul, minted by the Ambiani tribe in 60-50 BC. In my opinion as they were all the same they are unlikely to be family heirlooms built up over time, but more likely a one off payment or gift. As Gallic wars were being fought at around this time and mercenaries were employed to help fight the Romans, the romantic view is that this may have been connected to this practice. In reality we will probably never know. The total added up to thirty nine Staters, twenty in the bone, eleven found loose and eight found individually in past years. It is possible that more were found by the Saxons when the ditch was dug, if they did I wonder what they made of them?

The bone was identified by the animal bone specialists on site to be a juvenile cow's right humerus (lower end of the upper front right leg bone). It was placed in a small pit containing other cow bones (not leg bones). Theories about why it was buried there were broadly split into two camps, the ritual theory or the camouflage theory. I belong to the latter, a crafty way to hide your loot - and it worked for two thousand years! The fact that the hoard was found at all is purely down to the excavations on the cemetery because the actual depth from the modern ground level was in the region of four feet, the site is at the bottom of a slope so has accumulated a fair amount of hill wash.

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That it was found with all the archaeological disciplines on site, and I include the use of metal detectors as a skill within them, and the fact that the hoard was buried hidden within an animal bone, makes this find truly unique. The way people involved recorded every detail within their specialities to be put towards an overall picture was a privilege to witness and I was, as an amateur, not made to feel an outsider, in fact the opposite was true. The greatest honour was being given the opportunity to excavate the contents of the bone, no greater trust could have been shown.



The entire hoard shown three days after discovery.

The hoard has been purchased by King's Lynn museum (only half the value needed to be raised for the landowner's share, the project waived their half) and is on display there, complete with an audio recording of me talking about how it was found, but don't let that put you off!!

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The entire hoard shown three days after discovery.

If you ever find yourself in King's Lynn I can highly recommend visiting their museum which is sited next to the new bus station and is free to enter during the late autumn to early spring months or a small fee the rest of the year. A book titled 'The Sedgeford Hoard' has also been published by Tempus which shows in greater detail all that happened on that day and afterwards.

PAS record <https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/509995>



Photo on left is of the horse burial mentioned in the text.

See [Here](#)

Article © Kev Woodward 2018

UKDN FUN DSLR - Camera PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

Winner - Jimmytheferret

**Wartime re-enactor at Tutbury Castle
1940s weekend. Nikon D300S with
Nikon 70-200 F2.8**



UKDN FUN DSLR - Camera PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

Runner-up—Restyler

No Ball Tampering

Bit of a fun photoshoot, after trawling through the charity
shops for unusual props
Canon 80D / 24-105mm



UKDN FUN PP & P - Camera PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

Winner — Dig-It-Pete

**Beware of the Lurcher or Green Woodpecker
in this case. Image taken at full zoom
through kitchen window with a Panasonic
FZ200**



It's Summer time!

Make sure you enjoy the sun safely this Summer. Visit our website where you can download a PDF booklet full of hints and tips to protect you and your family in the sunshine.

Search 'Stay healthy - Be safe in the sun' on macmillan.org.uk for more information

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MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT**



**WE
COVER
UP**

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](#)

News and Views from June 2018

Idiots Destroy 32 Million years of History

Vintage coin about to be binned worth £100,000

Detectorist finds 4000 yr old gold in Yorkshire

WWII Soldier's Knife Returned to Family

Roman or Saxon' road perfectly preserved

Ötzi the iceman

Roman well in Cambridgeshire

Nighthawkers target Hadrian's Wall

Nighthawkers Steal Roman Skull From Dig Site

Magnet fishers fall in and drown in canal

Gold hoard found in French house cellar

Mindless youths smash iconic rock

Gran finds a rawlins crown in the loft rubbish

Buckle ID - A Guide from PAS

Helping in the Community

10 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

First Gold Ring but does it count?

By Nickkeeler

I subscribe to a service called "freecycle" in Bristol where people register stuff they don't want to bin to see whether someone else can make good use of it. On Saturday there was an entry from a lady who was looking for a metal detector, in her blurb she explained that a friend of her mother had lost her wedding ring in her garden and that she wanted a metal detector to try and find it.

I contacted her and she gave me the details of the lady who had lost the ring who lived a few miles away from me. I pitched up that afternoon and although the garden was very small it was quite hard going due to all the iffy signals. After half an hours searching I found it and the look on her face when I gave it back to her was a picture.

She was in the late 80's and told me that she had been married 64 years and had worn her ring every day so losing it was awful for her and she had not been sleeping since losing it a couple of weeks ago.

Her husband was also pleased as punch and shook my hand till I thought it would fall off. She did offer me money but I asked that she make a donation to the local hospice where my wife was.

All in all a good days work but not sure that it counts as my first find of gold as I knew it was there somewhere!

Nick Keeler





Operation Chronos is a National Operation tackling Unlawful Metal Detecting.

You can contact Operation Chronos via the following:

Pc 677 Andy Long, UK co-ordinator
chronos@essex.pnn.police.uk
Tel: **07890 513899**

Your local Police Heritage Crime Officer on **101**



Scan this QR code with a smart phone to visit the Operation Chronos webpages.



Nighthawking Unlawful Metal Detecting A land owner's guide



What is Nighthawking?

Nighthawking is a term used in the United Kingdom to describe illegal metal detecting on farmland, archaeological sites and other areas of archaeological interest, usually in order to steal coins and other artefacts for their historical and financial value. Nighthawking refers to the fact that such illegal activity is often undertaken at night to avoid detection and arrest. Although this is deceiving as it also occurs during the day. It can occur anywhere in the country, but counties such as Yorkshire, Essex, Kent, Lincolnshire, Norfolk, Cambridgeshire and Suffolk are particularly vulnerable due to the rich heritage and large amounts of arable land that exist in these areas.

What should you do if you find Night Hawkers on your land?

Whether day or night, if you find Nighthawkers on your land call the Police on 999, as there is a crime in progress. Do not approach them as this would scare them off or they may become aggressive towards you. Gather information by taking registration numbers of vehicles and descriptions of those involved and pass these details to the Police immediately.

[Crime in your area](#)
[click on Crime Map](#)



First wheat variety selection important in take-all reduction

News 27 Jun 2018 11:24

Researchers at Rothamsted Research have shown that careful selection of the first wheat variety in a new cropping cycle can reduce take-all and increase yields in the second crop variety.

[arable](#), [Arable Farming](#), [Crop protection](#), [Crops](#)



Parliament must help negotiate trade deals to protect UK food standards

News 27 Jun 2018 08:05

Parliament must play a role in negotiating new trade deals if food and animal welfare standards are to be protected in future, according to a new report.

[arable](#), [Beef](#), [Brexit](#), [Business](#), [dairy](#), [Legislation](#), [livestock](#), [Pig](#), [Politics](#), [poultry](#), [sheep](#)



Novel spore trap could revolutionise crop disease monitoring

News 26 Jun 2018 15:41

An automated spore trap has been developed which could revolutionise disease monitoring in agricultural crops.

[arable](#), [Arable Farming](#), [Crop protection](#), [Crops](#)



Mixed picture for pea harvest

News 26 Jun 2018 11:18

Factors including late drilling and possible continued lack of rain could see average to below average yields in vining pea crops this harvest.

[arable](#), [Arable Farming](#), [Harvest](#)



Complete our survey to win an iPad

Sponsored Article

News 26 Jun 2018 09:50

Complete our short survey about tactics for black-grass control and win an iPad.

[arable](#), [Black-grass](#)





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

CODE OF PRACTICE FOR RESPONSIBLE METAL DETECTING UPDATED

Finds Recording Guides

Guides by Use and Function



Clothing and Personal



Trade and Writing

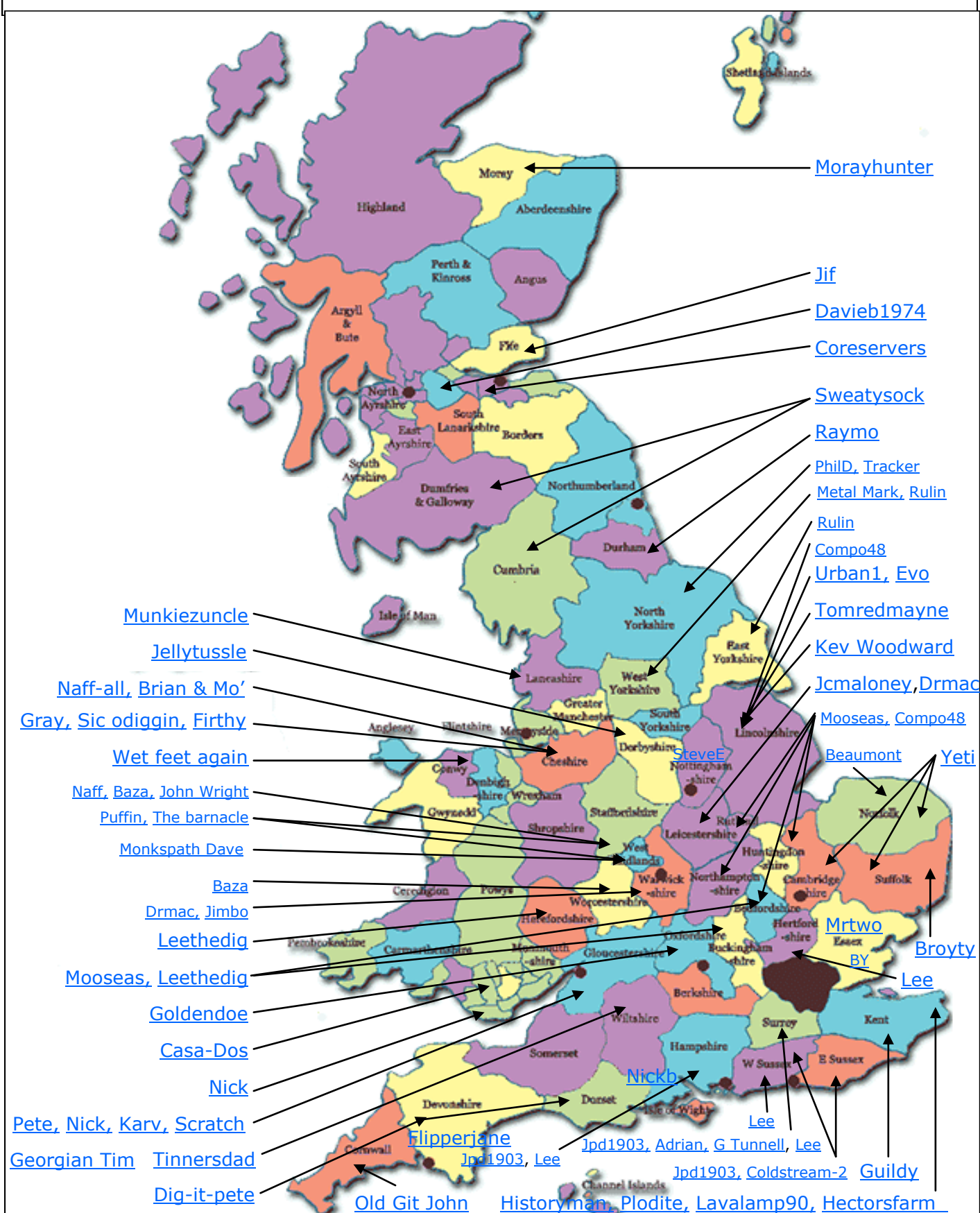


Horses and Transport



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

Or download the Grid Reference App to your Android phone (set it for 10 figs); https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=net.blerg&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

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

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;

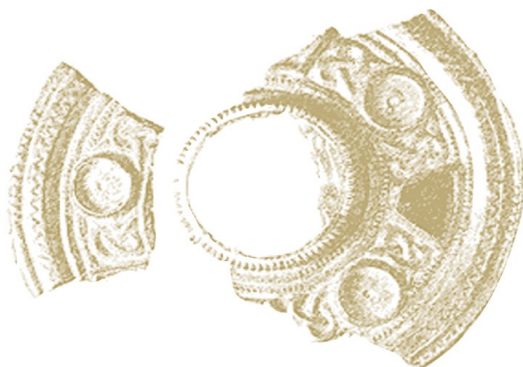
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/finds/albums>

Local Heroes theme song;

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

Find my FLO

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



[Register](#)

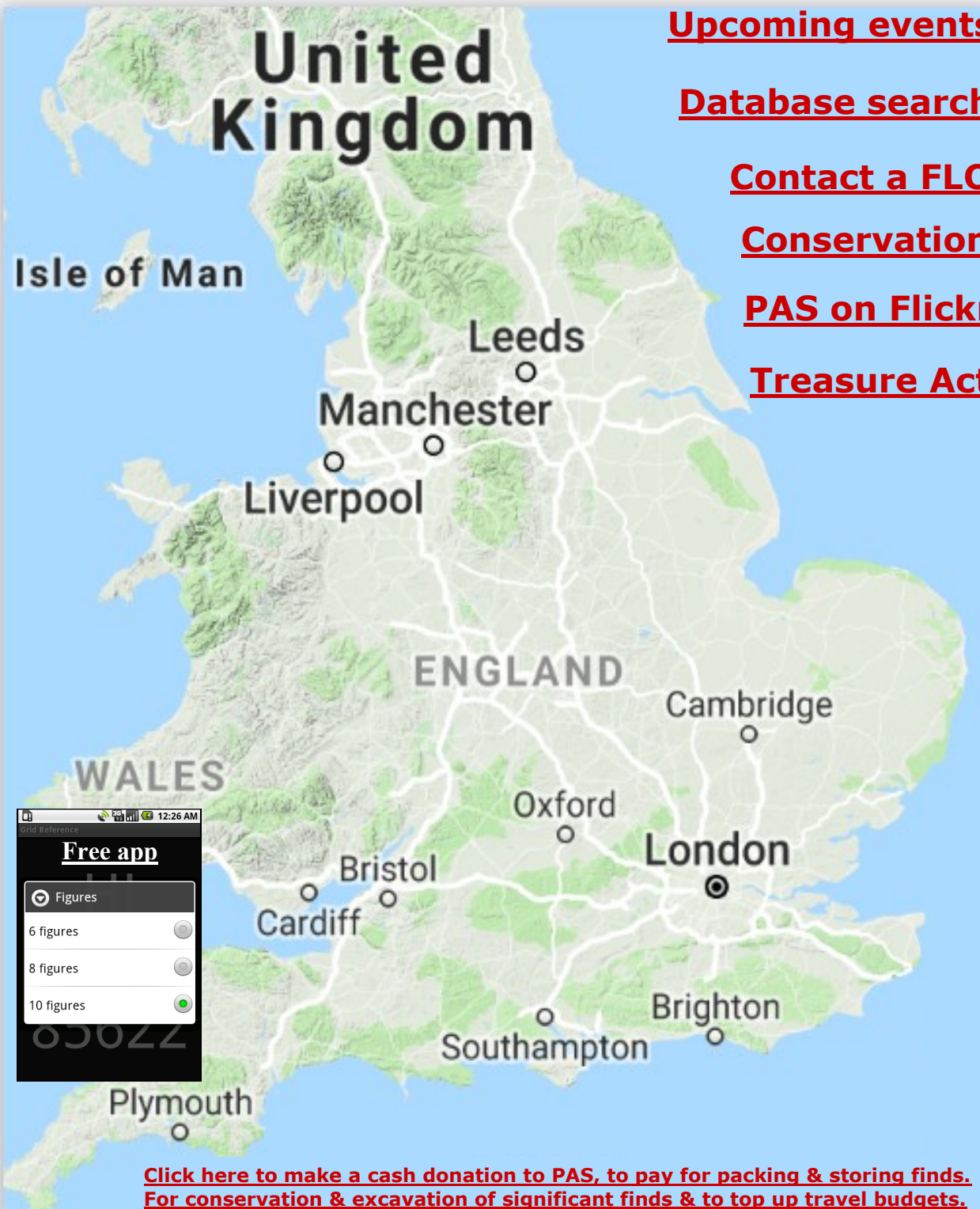
[Search the database](#)

Portable Antiquities Scheme

www.finds.org.uk

PAS Upcoming Events

Click on text



The image features a map of the United Kingdom with labels for 'United Kingdom', 'Isle of Man', 'Leeds', 'Manchester', 'Liverpool', 'ENGLAND', 'WALES', 'Cambridge', 'Oxford', 'London', 'Bristol', 'Cardiff', 'Southampton', 'Brighton', and 'Plymouth'. Overlaid on the bottom left is a mobile app interface titled 'Free app' with a 'Grid Reference' field and a list of 'Figures' (6, 8, 10) with radio buttons. The '10 figures' option is selected. At the bottom of the map, there is a red text box with a link to donate to PAS.

[Upcoming events](#)

[Database search](#)

[Contact a FLO](#)

[Conservation](#)

[PAS on Flickr](#)

[Treasure Act](#)

[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.](#)

PAS Geographic News

Click on map



PAS on Twitter

Portable Antiquities Retweeted

Vanessa Oakden @VanessaAOakden · 1h

Today is #NationalWritingDay FLOs & volunteers @MuseumLiverpool have written object descriptions for an amazing 27,928 finds on the @findsorguk database! Have a browse through some of the records here [finds.org.uk/database/searc...](https://finds.org.uk/database/search...)



The PAS Database is free to view and record and all find spots are recorded for posterity

Click on the images for more info



Code of Practice for Responsible Metal Detecting in England and Wales



Guidance for landowners, occupiers and tenant farmers in England and Wales

Metal-detecting, Field-walking and Searching for Archaeological Objects: guidance for landowners, occupiers and tenant farmers in England and Wales

This guidance had been jointly produced by the Country, Land & Business Association, the National Farmers Union and the Portable Antiquities Scheme, September 2010.

Best Practice

Conservation Advice Notes



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
Consent	Farm land permission req'd	Modern finds under 300 yrs old Lead, iron, copper alloy, silver & gold	Recording find spots with an O.S map or GPS or online map
Permission from the landowner. Finds agreement	Beaches Permit req'd for Crown Estates	Recordable finds over 300yrs old Lead, iron, copper alloy, silver & gold	Recording with PAS Recording Treasure Trove
Club Membership can provide local	Mudlarking Permit req'd	Treasure finds Inform Rally Organiser & FLO	What recording can tell us
Consider NCMD or FLO membership & insurance	Local parks & Council land permission req'd	Saxon Burials & Charcoal burrels Stop digging & report to PAS FLO	Archaeological objects including treasure
Comply with the Responsible Detecting code of practice	Avoid SAM's & SSSI's in England, Wales & Scotland	Green Waste wear gloves take care	Bagging, cleaning & conserving finds
Understanding of the Treasure Act or Treasure Trove (Scotland)	Avoid National Trust land and Nature Reserves	Diseases wear gloves take care	Please consider donating your finds to a Museum
Understanding of board recovery	Avoid battlefields to retain their battle history	Ordnance - stop digging call Police Lias of Student Bells tell the FLO	Getting involved in archaeology
PAS Guide for landowners & farmers & Rally Guidance Note	Avoid footpaths	Join UKDN & our Finds Advisers will tell you find & save you & PAS valuable time	PAS Frequently asked Questions



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

New members in June 2018

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](#)

sadler6172

mrd

Saxo45

Steves-Detecting

woody50

Mud Max

Robster889



Welcome to UKDN

Your Information Pack

Thank you for joining the UK's most responsible metal detecting forum. We hope it provides you with many hours of enjoyment. This document has been put together to make relevant information about all aspects of the hobby readily available to get you started as quickly as possible whilst adopting the best metal detecting practices.

UKDN (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.

We have a membership list of over 8000 users which is growing daily and UKDN is a very lively forum which, as it's founders **Brian and Mo. Cross** intended, is still FREE to all users.

We run monthly Coin and Find of the Month Competitions which are sponsored by the Treasure Hunting magazine whom we thank for their support. We also run regular free UKDN lottery competitions with detecting related prizes.

UKDN Aims

1. To 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, WORD which is distributed to, and read by, our membership and beyond. WORD Magazine includes UKDN based news and articles, as well as wider news, debate, and issues of heritage interest.
2. To 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 'best practice' for conservation, recording and co-operation.
3. To actively promote the 'Code of Practice for Responsible Metal Detecting' to all members of the UKDN on-line and beyond.
4. To 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 with 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 on-line community or through our on-line Magazine.

Invite a friend to join UKDN

If you enjoy your visits to UKDN, please consider forwarding this .PDF to a friend inviting him or her to join UKDN, making the forum even bigger and better, by clicking on this link;

[Join UKDN Here](#)

Illegal metal detecting on Scheduled Ancient Monuments, (known as Nighthawking when carried out at night), is smearing the image of our hobby. Should you know of this activity going on, please report it to the local Police, ring 101 or if in progress ring 999.

Detector Manuals

[Bounty Hunter](#)
[C Scope](#)
[Fisher](#)
[Garrett](#)
[Minelab](#)
[Tesoro](#)
[Viking](#)
[Whites](#)
[XP](#)
[Makro](#)
[Teknetics](#)

Magazines

[UKDN WORD Magazine](#)
[Searcher](#)
[Treasure Hunting](#)

Joining a Club

[List of Clubs](#)

Insurance

Highly Recommended, essential for Club members, inexpensive.

[NCMD](#)
[FID](#)

Detecting - Permission must be obtained

Detecting permission is required for all land, it is generally easiest to get on beaches, some areas are owned by the Crown Estate (terms & conditions apply) & some by local Councils who tend to prohibit it, but still try.

Permission on farm land means knocking on farm doors or writing to Landowners to ask permission to search the land (best obtained in writing in case of any later dispute should something of high value be found).

On Entry Level Stewardship (ELS) land you must strictly follow the Responsible Detecting Code of Practice in England & Wales (see below) so Landowners do not compromise the terms of their agreement.

Parks too are generally down to the Local Council who may be worth asking if you can convince them you will cause the minimum of disturbance to the grass, will remove litter, needles, glass etc , leaving it better than it was.

***Detecting is prohibited or special permission must be obtained, these sites are generally shown on the Magic Map, ask your FLO or HER (see over).**

[Beaches - Crown Estate](#)
[Farm Ownership](#)
[Farm Register](#)
[Farm ELS Rules](#)
[Parks \(email Council\)](#)
[Public rights of way](#)
[ELS/HLS Land,](#)
[Battlefields & SAM's, SSSI's](#)
[in England Map*](#)
[Nature Reserves Map*](#)
[SAM's in Wales Map*](#)
[SAM's in Scotland Map*](#)
[Thames foreshore](#)
[Rallies](#)

Codes of Practice

Please respect the Countryside Code. The Responsible Detecting Code of Practice is regarded best practice by those concerned about our heritage.


[Countryside Code](#)
[Responsible Detecting -](#)
[Code of Practice](#)

Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) Finds Recording

The PAS is a voluntary scheme to record archaeological objects found by the public in England & Wales. If recorded these finds have the potential to tell us much about the past, such as how & where people lived & about the types of objects they made & used. A recording accuracy of 6 figs min is preferred. Contact your local Finds Liaison Officer to record (see over).

Treasure our past & record it with PAS

[Recording via GPS](#)
[Purchase a GPS](#)
[GPS App for Mobile Phones](#)
[Recording via O/S](#)
[Bagging, Storing &](#)
[Conserving finds](#)

<h2>PAS or HER Finds Recording</h2> <p>Essential if you don't want to leave holes in the archaeological record. To record a find with PAS, contact your Finds Liaison Officer (FLO), who can generally be found at your local Museum (see contact list) . FLO's visit metal detecting clubs too which is a good reason to become a club member.</p>	PAS - Get Involved PAS Contact List Regional Map Advice for finders
<h2>PAS Database</h2> <p>The database contains over 400,000 objects recorded since the creation of PAS in 1997, the vast majority recorded by metal detectorists.</p>	Search Database Search Images
<h2>Historic Environment Records (HER)</h2> <p>You can also record your finds with your county Historic Environmental Records (HER). They also have archaeological records for your area including Tithe Maps & details of Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAM's).</p>	Contact Details Get involved in archaeology
<h2>Coin Identification</h2> <p>There are lots of internet sites that are useful for identifying coins, here are just a small selection.</p>	Milled Hammered Roman Roman Modern Celtic 
<h2>Maps</h2> <p>Essential for recording & plotting your find spots & researching you sites. The Google Earth with combined O/S map can give you a 10 figure NGR (National Grid Reference). With the Google Earth Version 5.0 you can download your find spots & routes taken with a Global Positioning System (GPS). Magic Map can show no go areas such as SAM's & SSSI's & show ELS agreement land. British History & Vision of Britain are historic maps.</p>	Google Earth & OS 10fig NGR Google Earth Pro Google Earth Fly To Bing Map Magic Map ELS/HLS Land & SAM'S British History Vision of Britain
<h2>Treasure Act & Treasure Trove</h2> <p>Care should be taken excavating treasure & consideration given to it being removed by archaeologists so it's provenance can be properly recorded. Do not clean the find, as this could affect the conservation & therefore the valuation. It must be reported within 14 days, take plenty of photo's & get an independent valuation before handing in if possible.</p>	Treasure Act England & Wales Treasure Trove in Scotland
<h2>Treasure Definition</h2>	See page 8 for definition
<h2>Treasure Reports</h2>	2000/1 2001/3 2003/4 2004/5 2005/6
<h2>Treasure Valuation Committee (TVC)</h2> <p>The TVC has regular meetings to value treasure items found, based upon past valuations & latest commercial information. Their findings can be contested, by submitting your own valuation.</p>	Valuation Info see page 36
<h2>UK DETECTOR NET Useful Links</h2>	UKDN Magazines UKDN Beginners Section UKDN Glossary

Landowner & Detectorist Search Agreement

I am seeking permission to search your land in compliance with the terms & conditions of your [Environmental Stewardship Scheme](#), [The Code of Practice for Responsible Metal Detecting](#) & [Guidance for Land Owners, Occupiers & Tenant Farmers in England & Wales](#) agreed with

Finds may fall into several categories

Rubbish

Most farmland is contaminated with lead and iron rubbish, some of which can damage farm equipment. This will be removed and the location of any large underground metalwork pointed out to you.

Portable Antiquities

Finds over 300 years old that are not [Treasure](#) will be recovered in a proper manner and reported to the [Portable Antiquities Scheme \(PAS\)](#) for recording on the [National Database](#) along with their find spots in accordance with the [agreed code of practice](#). Finds of significant value (£ agreed with your self) can be sold and the proceeds shared 50/50 should you wish []. Finds of lesser value I the finder shall own and [conserve](#) [].

Treasure

Finds will be recovered in a proper manner.

All finds of potential treasure are the property of the Crown and must be reported to the Coroner within 14 days of discovery.

The Coroner will decide whether the finds fall within the definition of Treasure as contained in the [Treasure Act 1996](#).

It will then be for the [Treasure Valuation Committee](#) to assess it's potential value and the disbursement of any reward.

If no museum has expressed an interest, the find

You will be kept informed of ALL finds made on your land by means of photographs via regular emails and details of all finds recorded by the PAS.

When all detecting is completed you will receive a memory stick containing records in chronological order of all



Agreed by the Landowner

Address

Agreed by the Detectorist

Address

Finds Liaison Officers (FLOs) and their work

The Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) has been extremely successful, thanks to the contribution of the many metal-detector users and other finders who have volunteered archaeological finds for recording. However, most FLOs are now working at capacity, and therefore unable to record all finds offered for recording. In some areas volunteers and self-recorders are invaluable, but it is nonetheless necessary for FLOs (Finds Liaison Officers) to develop strategies to decide what to record and meet finder's expectations.

The aim of this note is to summarise the guidance offered to FLOs by the PAS Central Unit (British Museum) on how to work under these pressures.

General

- FLO areas are diverse in their geography, the number of finders and the number of metal-detecting clubs etc, and therefore the PAS needs to adapt to differing local circumstances.
- All FLOs share a job description which is the basis of the funding agreement between the British Museum (which manages the PAS) and the host partners (which employ FLOs).
- Although FLOs work flexible hours they should only work their contracted hours. Therefore they need to balance their time in and out of the office (in order to dedicate enough time to recording finds) by restricting non-office based activities, such as visits to metal-detecting club, finds days etc.
- FLOs receive guidance on PAS policy from the PAS Central Unit via national and regional meetings, and by email. FLOs will normally refer to staff at the Central Unit for guidance on issues such as Stewardship Schemes, nighthawking etc.
- Most FLOs welcome volunteers or self-recorders, but due to practical issues can only take on a certain number at any time. They also must work within the rules set by their local host partners.
- FLOs attend training offered by the British Museum and the PAS Finds Advisers. However, they will refer to other experts about finds offered for recording as necessary. **Unfortunately PAS staff cannot invest time investigating objects that are unlikely to be recorded.**

Any misuse of social media or any other complaints should be reported to info@finds.org.uk or PAS, Department of Britain, Europe and Prehistory, British Museum, London, WC1B 3DG. Tel: 0207 323 8611/8618.

Finds Recording

- The core role of an FLO is to record archaeological finds to further our understanding of the archaeology of England and Wales. Outreach by FLOs is (normally) only undertaken to encourage the further reporting of finds (see above).
- FLOs record on average at least 1000 records a year and these take time to produce. They include a description of the find, find spot details, weight and dimensions, and a photograph or photographs. The PAS ID for the find allows finders to see it on-line and download a report should they wish to have one.
- FLOs will limit the number of finds they take in for recording, and this might vary from FLO area to FLO area. It is sensible for the FLO and finder to agree a time frame within which finds should be returned. FLOs will usually record finds on a first come first served basis, in order to be fair; occasionally there may be finds that require urgent attention that need to be prioritised.

Because many FLOs are working at capacity they need to be selective in what they record. It is at their discretion whether or not they record a particular find, based on local knowledge and

PAS Prioritising Recording Guidance

This guidance note is designed to help FLOs prioritise the recording of finds that advance archaeological knowledge.

General Advice

- It is strongly recommended that FLOs make full use of volunteers and self-recorders.
- Finders should be encouraged to show you all of their finds so that you, not the finder, can exercise discretion whether or not to record a particular find.
- Refer to the PAS guides (e.g. Lithics Recording Protocol) for specific advice.
- Familiarise yourself with the regional and national Research Agendas for your area.
- Keep up to speed with current research projects that use PAS data, especially the sorts of questions researchers are asking of it.
- Develop strong links with your local HER and your local network of heritage professionals, and make use of the Heritage Gateway; these sources of advice may prove important in terms of knowing whether a find or assemblage is important.
- It is good practice to make a note any local recording biases (e.g. only recording crotal bells that have interesting marks, or buttons associated with local militia).

The final decision to record a find will be based on your local knowledge and experience, supplemented (where necessary) by the advice of colleagues. If in doubt, ask.

Recording Priorities

- Priority will be given to finds with good findspots; at least a 6-figure NGR, though ideally greater using GPS. Exceptions may be made in certain circumstances.
- FLOs will selectively record post-medieval objects and coins (i.e. those dating to after 1540). Exceptions can be made for items of social or historical interest.
- Priority will be given to Treasure finds in view of the time constraints stipulated by the Act.
- Priority will be given to new assemblages, such as those which indicate previously unknown sites, and finds which advance knowledge of known 'sites' or landscapes.

Priority will be given to finds that hold greater potential for advancing knowledge of material culture (e.g. typology, dating, distribution etc.).

Priority Checklist (the more ticks an object has the more likely its importance)

- Does this find have at least a 6-figure NGR?
- Is it of national, regional or local importance?
- Does it help identify an area of archaeological potential?
- Does it shed new light on a previously known site?
- Is it an object type that is being researched, or has research potential?
- Is it potential Treasure?

Is it likely to advance knowledge of material culture (such as typology)?

Advice to finders

A cool way to record your find spot National Grid Refs

Download and install 'Grid Reference' app, a free mobile phone app which can give a 10 figure NGR if you have a Google account;

https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=net.blerg&hl=en_GB

On the find spot, photo or video your find with your mobile phone and then run the app;

Select 10 figure recording for maximum accuracy

Wait until the maximum number of satellites are acquired for high accuracy

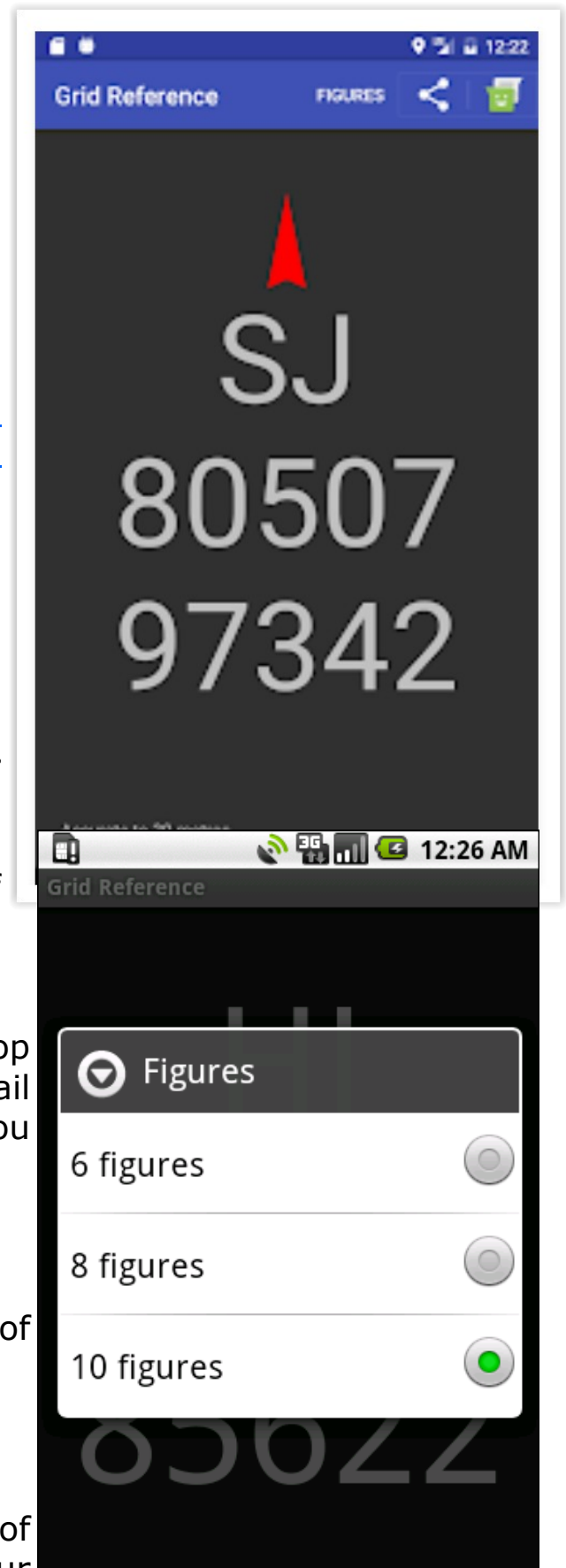
Click on the big letter M at the top of the screen - this lets Google email the grid reference to anyone you want to

Select your email address

Click on the paperclip at the top of the screen

Attach the photo of the find

Click on the red arrow at to top of the screen to send the email to your PC at home or mobile phone



Finds Recording Sheets

Find Summary ID			
Find Site			
Date Found			
Terrain			
Grid Reference			
Material	Known		Estimated
Find Identity	Known		Estimated
Size	Length/mm	Width/mm	Weight/g
Reference Source			
Artifact date	Known		Estimated
Reference Numbers	PAS		Other

Find Summary ID			
Find Site			
Date Found			
Terrain			
Grid Reference			
Material	Known		Estimated
Find Identity	Known		Estimated
Size	Length/mm	Width/mm	Weight/g
Reference Source			
Artifact date	Known		Estimated
Reference Numbers	PAS		Other

Find Summary ID	Find Site	Date Found	Terrain	Grid Reference	Material	Find Identity		Size	Reference Source	Artifact date	Reference Numbers
						Known	Estimated				
						Known	Estimated				
								Length/mm			
								Width/mm			
								Weight/g			
									Known	Estimated	
									PAS	Other	

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.