

UKDN WORD

WORLD OF RESPONSIBLE DETECTING

Issue no: 133
September 2018



Photo Comp Winners



Mirror Feature



Dessert Spoon

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

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group +

UKDN would like to thank Jimmytheferret 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



Kev Woodward

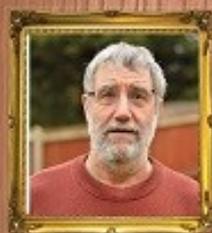
Here since 2005
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Popsandme

Here since 2009
Detecting since 2009

Moderators



Chasm_norwich

Here since 2014
Detecting since 1985



Baldric

Here since 2004
Detecting since 2003



Hectorsfarm

Here since 2012
Detecting since 2011



Firthy77

Here since 2006
Detecting since 1970



Dendro_Tom

Here since 2014
Detecting since 1985



.....to the 133rd issue of WORD magazine, dated September 2018. A bit of a smaller issue this month due to PhilD not being very well and unable to do his normal pages. Nevertheless, we have two very tasty articles in these pages, as well as all the usual stuff. There's an article from Kev Woodward on Cased Mirrors, and then another by Clive Lewis on the finding of an attractive silver item.

We take great pleasure in reporting that, this month, the forum has seen a great surge on daily numbers visiting the forum. This is not a temporary surge - it is a trend the admin team have noticed for a while, and we aim to make sure that we stay on trend.

We have some great news as we go to print, in that our Deus Summer Draw has been a roaring success. We haven't reached a final figure yet as the Draw does not close until midnight on 31st August. But, already, I can see that we have raised at least £700 for Macmillan Cancer Care. We must say a huge thank you to each and every one of you who have bought tickets, and those who have chipped in with extra prizes. You are all amazing people and we are so, so, grateful.

Isn't it great to see the crops out and most of us now able to get out and about on the fields? Finds are already being posted on the forum and some are just stunning. As proprietors of the forum, let's just remind you of why we feel our forum is better for detectorists than Facebook and Twitter pages. OK, the social media sites might be good for instant contact or showing your mate a coin or artifact that you've just found, but with UKDN you can post it up there for a full ID along with moneyers name etc., and link to it in 10 year's time. Yes, 10, or even 15 year's time.... as everything posted on UKDN stays there for you to recover whenever you want. Think about it..... UKDN is the way to go if you want to preserve your coin and artifact ID's for long term future reference.

We will be spending more time promoting the forum during the next few months. We want you to help us by posting, or responding to posts put up by others. Let's not forget that the forum is a community and UKDN is a community with some brilliant and knowledgeable members. Let's cherish what we have all created and help make it grow even more. We ask those members of old who have suddenly appeared back on the forum to buy a ticket for the Deus Summer Draw..... "Hi Guys, it's great to see you back on here please take a look around. It's still the same old place with great and knowledgeable detectorists still making amazing finds."

Good Hunting everyone during September.



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>Todays finds</i>	<i>Finds from last few hunts</i>
<i>Recent finds</i>	<i>An evening session on the silver</i>
<i>Couple of partifacts for ID please</i>	<i>Two hammered coins</i>
<i>New HF Coil</i>	<i>Hammered for Id please</i>
<i><u>Ornate lead token</u></i>	<i><u>Rejoined</u></i>
<i><u>Harness Pendant</u></i>	<i><u>Weekend Penny.</u></i>
<i>Hammered Challenge.</i>	<i>Swap G2+ for Deus HF 9" Coil</i>
<i>For the hard ground</i>	<i>Early Saxon Sceat today!</i>
<i>2 bits of silver found today</i>	<i>Silver thimble</i>
<i>Charity shop bargain</i>	<i>Agroat, cut quarter and a farthing.</i>

CASED MIRRORS

The latest 'Finds Bag' article by
Kev Woodward



Although not a common detecting find these small and often fragmented medieval items are now being recognised and recorded in ever growing numbers.

The Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) now have around four hundred examples recorded showing that the early theory that these were a rare item, only affordable by the wealthy, to be incorrect. Comprising of two 30-40mm diameter compartments joined by a small simple hinge, one or both containing a small glass mirror. Unfortunately the thin lead coated glass rarely survives and those found have all been excavated items. All the

detectorist can hope to see will be the remains of the cement used to fix the glass in place. This cement has been tested and it survives as calcium carbonate, a white hard substance, which can be seen on the example on the left, recorded with PAS.



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Due to the small fragile hinge pin most of the mirror cases found by detectorists are only one of the two halves that they were made of. By far the most common type has a punched dot decoration in the form of a crude cross. Both the base and lid were stamped with the same decoration and some appear to have been coated with tin.



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As more mirror cases are recorded another emerging type is being noted, a couple examples of which are shown below, as a complete item and also as they are often found with some of the decoration missing.



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As these mirror cases are small, around 30-40mm in diameter, they are made slightly convex to magnify the reflected image. However, they must still have been very difficult to use, especially in anything other than bright light. The small size must have been limited by the technology or lack of it, to make the mirrors big enough, usable and at a cost that was not prohibitive. The more they are recorded the better the distribution map will be. It will be interesting to see if there are any regional clusters or even void areas around the country. Maybe some areas were more vain than others!

The lids and bases, when found separately, can easily be confused with the lids from a nest of 'cup' weights similar to the one below. The easiest way to distinguish between the two is to look at the hinges. Mirror cases always have a single lug and opposite a double lug of a thin construction, whereas the cup weights lid has a robust single hinge like the one illustrated below.



Set of cup weights lid showing the more robust hinge

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Some examples of mirror cases have a side loop, presumably for suspension, although at present no mirror case has been found with a chain or other suspension material attached, so this remains unproven.



Mirror case with additional suspension loop

I have seen mirror case lids recorded or noted in several archaeological publications as pendants, harness mounts and even Roman seal box lids, which shows that even these days they can still be mis-identified. If you are lucky enough to find a lid, base or hopefully a complete mirror case then please get it recorded with PAS so that not only can the various types increase but also their distribution, only this way can researchers now and in the future have the best evidence available. Detectorists are leading the way in providing new evidence for finds research, be a part of it and be proud of what we are doing.

All images courtesy of PAS

Copyright Kev Woodward

Getting my Desserts



I have had permission to search this field for at least five years. In that time it has been ploughed; various cereals have been grown on it; and it has been laid to grass. Recently it was used as a venue for a country fair. It has a lane running down one side, with some cottages, and the main road cuts across the top. When I first gained the permission, two of us spent a couple of days searching and, at the end, we walked away, shaking our wise old heads, with a collection of buttons and pre-decimal coins plus the usual assortment of ring pulls, cartridge case ends and crushed drinks cans. The only item of note that I found was a 50p piece and that was corroded beyond use. Official conclusion was that the field was devoid of interest and, apart from an occasional visit to top up my stock of ring pulls etc., I only gave it desultory attention.

Shortly after Easter this year a friend and I found ourselves at a bit of a loose end. There were none of the organised digs, that we usually attended, which excited our interest. In some desperation, I suggested that we visit this field but I emphasised that there was "nothing to be found". However, a good pub lay nearby so at least we could console ourselves with lunch. Together we set off.

On that first visit, I turned up a halfpenny that was beyond repair and my friend found a Victorian sixpence in very good condition. Looking back, I can now see that the writing was on the wall. Allowing for those times when either the grass grew too long or the drought made the ground like concrete, we have made some half a dozen subsequent visits to this field. In that time, while I maintained my reputation for finding pre-decimal coins, buttons and loads of junk, he found a William III silver coin bent to make a love token, several hammered coins, all in good condition, and even a quarter stater! He took to calling this site 'The Field of Dreams'.

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As word got out, organised digs became a nightmare for me. You can imagine the stick that I took. The questions began to follow a pattern.

“How long have you had this permission?”

“What have you found on it?”

“What did he find?”

My responses were followed with roars of laughter, which only attracted others keen to find out what was going on. Even on the field, I was given scant peace as strangers approached me to ask if I was the chap who took his friend to one of his own permissions. As the weeks went by and the wretched fellow, now demoted to the rank of ex-friend, found additional items, the interrogation continued.

“Has he found anything else?”

Wind forward to our most recent visit, which was a few weeks ago. I set up my Deus, with its HF coil and using the Sid’s Hammie Finder program and, after bidding each other good luck, set off to search the field. After an hour or so, without even the consolation of a shotgun cartridge end, I was losing heart and wandering aimlessly while waiting for my ex-friend to come towards me with that sheepish expression on his face which I knew to portend bad news. I was jolted out of my reverie by a solid ping in my headphones.

The screen read 83, which is not normally encouraging, but, in the absence of anything else, I decide to dig it out. Lifting the turf, the Deus gave a reading of 94 which often means a pre-decimal coin. “Better than nothing,” I thought.

A few inches further in the ground I brought my pro pointer to bear and realised that the object was too big to be a coin. Convinced that I was wasting my time, I pushed my fingers into the earth and touched what I believed to be an iron rod. I decided to haul it out and dispose of it later. Imagine my surprise when a dessert spoon came to surface. Such was my gloomy mood, that I muttered something about it probably being plate, before turning it over to find a clear set of hallmarks. The thing was silver!

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I hurried across the field to share my find with the person who, under the circumstances, I felt it fair to regard as 'friend'. To his credit, he was delighted. He said, "All I find is a few silver coins but you find a dirty great lump of the stuff." I was thrilled even though it was in a sorry state. As the pictures show, it was black and bent with the bowl folded right over. In the middle of the handle, roughly where my fingers first touched it, can be seen a dink where something has hit it while it lay in the ground.



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Deciding that it was worth restoring, I contacted a man who knows of a very good silversmith and trusted the item into his care. While it was away, I did some research into the hallmarks and found that it had left the London workshop of two silversmiths, William Eley and William Fearn, in 1804.



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Not being very knowledgeable about crests, I contacted Kev Woodward who quickly established that it belonged to a family who used to live less than ten miles from the site where the spoon was found.



Now the spoon has been returned and the transformation can be seen. It is simply unrecognisable from the item that I found. Along the side of the handle, there remains a small indication of the original dink but I am happy to see that as it is part of its history. Otherwise it is in remarkable condition suggesting that it was lost shortly after its manufacture. People like to speculate on how it came to be in this field. Was it, for example, used at a picnic? Rather more colourfully, was it dropped by a housemaid who was eloping with a footman and wished to have something of value to help them start a new life but, unfortunately, dropped it in their haste? I'm not sure I really care. All I can say is that my breakfast porridge has never tasted better as each morning I look at it and gloat.

Copyright Clive Lewis

UKDN FUN DSLR - Camera PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

Winner - mrmacca

**Its my nut.. taken with Canon 6D and
Canon 70-200 f4 is I at my local park**





Runners-up

Restyler - What is it about Girls, Guns & Tight T-Shirts?

**Took this one at the recent 1940's weekend at the Black Country Living Museum
Canon 80D - 24-105mm**

Jimmytheferret -

Nikon D300S with Nikon 70-200 F2.8



UKDN FUN PP & P - Camera PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

Winner — Dig-it-Pete

**Green-veined White Butterfly in the garden
feeding on a Geranium nodosum flower.**

Panasonic FZ200.



UKDN FUN PP & P - Camera PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

Runner-up — Old Git John

Kodak bridge, St.Mawes Estuary



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 August 2018

Heatwave reveals England's lost prehistoric sites

York's Viking Sock....

New Stonehenge mystery....

Humans were visiting Staffa in the Bronze Age

Iron age roundhouse remains found in dig

St Patrick's dig finds 'medieval burial site'

Human skeletons found beneath a Cornish church

169 million old £1 coins not returned

'Enormous' 3.7-acre Roman settlement preserved

Early Roman 'horseshoes' dug up from Vindolanda...

'Pompeii continues to give us treasures'

Swedish Crown Jewels are STOLEN

Ancient WELSHMEN helped build Stonehenge

Stone Age mass graves on Scottish islands



Operation Chronos is a National Operation tackling Unlawful Metal Detecting .

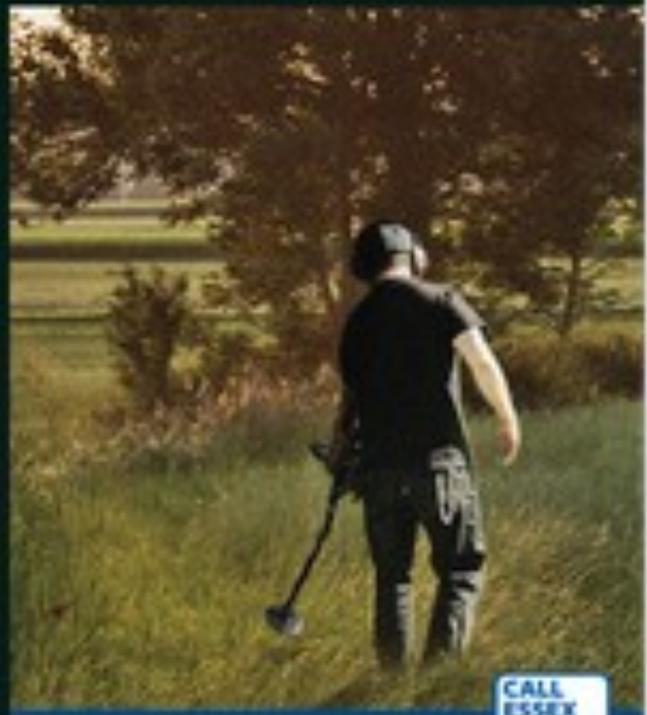
You can contact Operation Chronos via the following:

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.



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](#)



Heatwave causes short and long term production worries for UK farmer

News 28 Jul 2018 06:00

As the UK continues to swelter in the heatwave, Alex Black asks AHDB what the effects will be on agriculture.

[arable](#), [Business](#), [farm life](#), [livestock](#), [Prices & trends](#)



Straw prices reach 'unprecedented' levels in the UK

News 27 Jul 2018 13:40

Livestock farmers were keen to secure supplies of straw, driving up prices at recent sales.

[arable](#), [Business](#), [farm life](#), [livestock](#), [Shows & Sales](#), [Weather](#), [Welfare](#)



'I commend our hard working farmers' - Theresa May gets behind #Farm24

News 27 Jul 2018 13:34

Prime Minister Theresa May is supporting Farmers Guardian's Farm 24 social media event which recognises the passion farmers have for the food they produce.

[arable](#), [farm life](#), [livestock](#)



Talking Roots with Darryl Shailes: Heat expected to cause issues

News 27 Jul 2018 10:58

Well the Open Gardens went well and it was good to meet a few of the locals we hadn't met before.

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



Keeping an eye on the grain market: July 27 update

News 27 Jul 2018 10:33

What to watch: Traders will be watching the UK harvest, with early results pointing to lower yields of winter barley with quality 'better than expected'

[arable](#), [Business](#), [Prices & trends](#)





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](#)

[Metal detectorist reunites swimmer with wedding ring lost](#)



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&hvrand=5959077009827215455&hvpone=&hvptwo=&hvqmt=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.

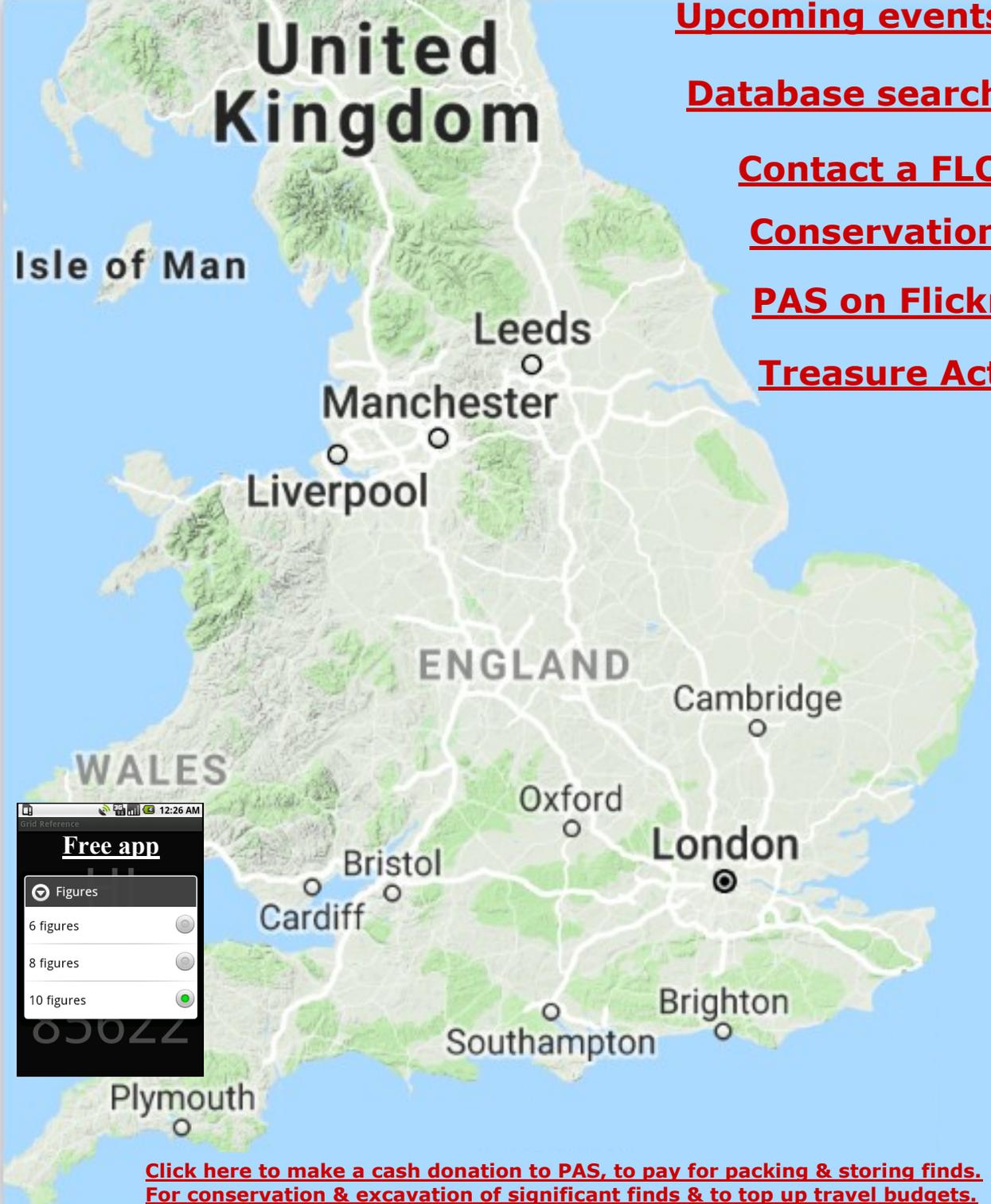


Portable Antiquities Scheme
www.finds.org.uk

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

PAS Upcoming Events

Click on text



The image shows a topographic map of the United Kingdom. Major cities are marked with circles and labeled: Leeds, Manchester, Liverpool, Cambridge, Oxford, London, Bristol, Cardiff, Brighton, Southampton, and Plymouth. The regions of 'United Kingdom', 'ENGLAND', and 'WALES' are also labeled. In the bottom left corner, there is a black overlay for a 'Free app' with a 'Grid Reference' field and three radio button options: '6 figures', '8 figures', and '10 figures'. The '10 figures' option is selected.

[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



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

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 August 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](#)

Cyberman
Mikeymetal
tdmacc
gram100
Miky12345
AMARND1
raggedy
Dirt-Digger
Barneybee
Longronsilver

BELGY19721
Shellking22
fishypaul
Ifyousayso1946
Kolbe
Goose
aje99999
Volman
jamesjunk
Jack 65

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

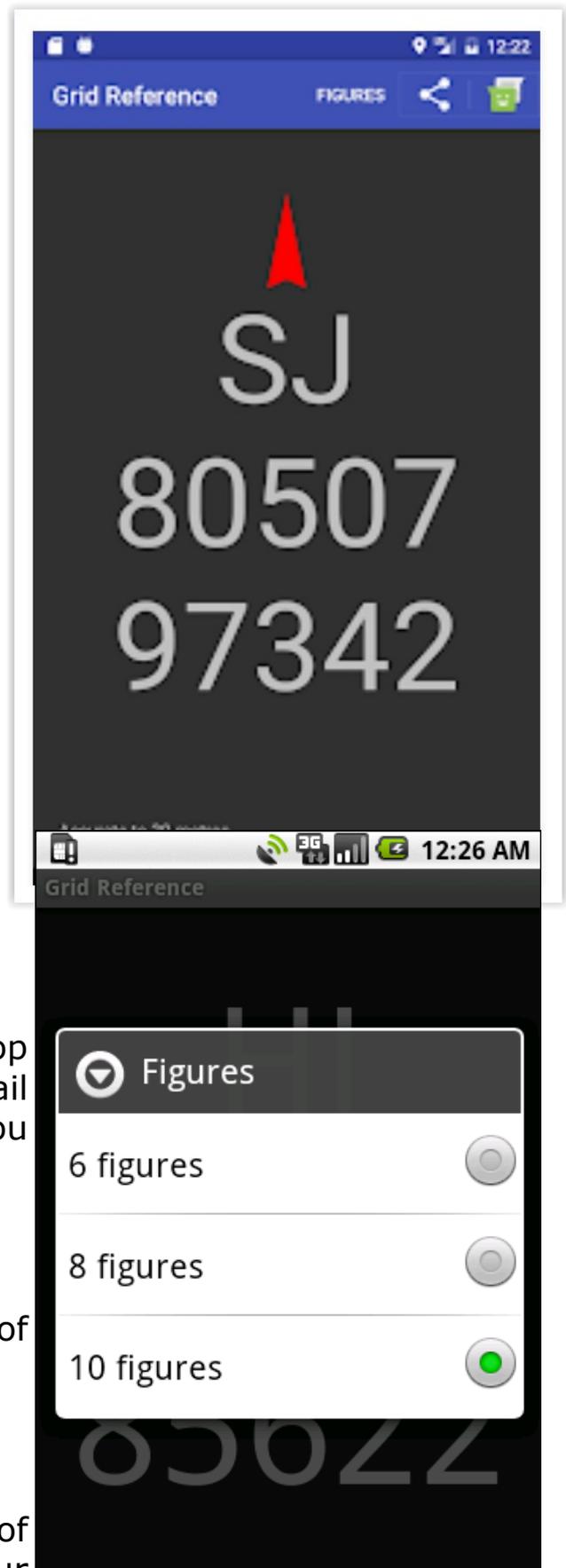
Click on the big letter M at the top of the screen - this lets Google email the grid reference to anyone you want to

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 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	Known	Estimated					
Find Identity	Known	Estimated					
Size	Length/mm	Width/mm	Weight/g				
Reference Source							
Artifact date	Known	Estimated					
Reference Numbers	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.

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enquiry@ukdetectornet.co.uk

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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.