

The UKDN



ISSUE 13 September 2008

World Of Responsible Detecting



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Welcome.....

..... to the first edition of our second year of the UKDN Newsletter, we can't believe how fast a year has gone since launching this ambitious project. We are, of course, indebted to the team who run the Newsletter, but also to all those who have contributed in making it both interesting and relevant to detecting in the early part of the 21st Century. Please do consider sharing your thoughts with the rest of the site, we're always looking for new material and Corinne and PhilD are waiting right now for your articles and ideas!

UKDN is at present also going through not only an up-grade, but a total rebuild in parts which will make the site the Rolls Royce of forums. We hope you like what we are trying to achieve and of course ask for some patience in the meantime. We're once again grateful to Karv for his hard work in helping us achieve our goals for the new improved UKDN. Keep watching and certainly go to your profiles and try out the new board styles.

With the rally season now in full flow we hope that 'finds-a-plenty' are being discovered, we'd love to see as many as possible placed on the board for our waiting Finds Advisers to identify where necessary and for others to marvel at. Please do feel free to enter your finds in the Find of the Month competition, you never know you may just win!

Finally a big thanks to you for frequenting UKDN, we're always aware that together we all make it a great place to visit during the course of busy lives.

Brian, Mo and the UKDN Team.

FRONT COVER - Cod Fangler (Graham Breeze) - Artefact of the Month

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September 2008



CHRISTMAS RAFFLE FOR BRAND-NEW GOLDMAX POWER

Hi Everyone,

The UKDN Team are proud to announce that from Sunday 7th September until Sunday December 14th UKDN will be selling raffle tickets at £5 each for a brand-new Goldmax Power, Retail Value approx £669 !!

This prize has been very kindly donated by Regton Ltd and we are sure we would all like to thank them for their generosity.

Tickets will be taken singularly i.e. £5 buys one number NOT a strip of numbers and will be taken from a brand-new book of 1000 numbers starting with number 1 for first £5 received. Each ticket sold will be recorded on the forum. If you do not wish your name to be mentioned please tell us and we will mark it "anonymous"

Payment can be made by numerous methods including cheque/ PO/cash by post, or payment by Paypal. Paypal payments will incur the small Paypal admin fee so the actual Paypal payment will be £5.37

The draw will be made on 14th December and the ticket will be drawn by someone not part of UKDN. (more to follow soon). The prize will be shipped out to the winner the following day.

Brian & Mo', have pledged that all monies raised by this raffle, after raffle book and prize postage costs, will be put in a special "Prize Fund" and will be used to purchase further prizes for UKDN fun events such as more raffles or lotteries. Monies will not be used for any other purpose except UKDN.

You will receive an email the day the Christmas Goldmax Raffle begins with a link to the thread containing more details. Please do not send any monies until the raffle commences on Sept 7th 2008.

We hope you take part and enjoy the fun.



Find of the Month - Coin

Robert The Bruce Halfpenny

detectavin63 (Vince Butler);



Hooray, we thought, our farmer friends are out cutting the barley. We couldn't wait to get out swinging the Minelabs, so we duly arranged a day we could both make it. The time came and we met up, how wrong we were, the stubble was so hard going that it kept giving false signals but we carried on regardless.

We had the usual lead and bits of junk and much to my surprise out popped this small hammered.

I called over to Damo and he came over, it was then when he got quite excited, I could see by the stars on the reverse that it was a Scottish coin but I didn't know who, well done Damo for the spot on id, it is a Robert the Bruce Halfpenny, also to come out on that trip was a Boy Bishop lead token and a cut half, so not a bad haul for hard stubble, role on the cultivated soil... Happy hunting to you all.... Vince.

Find of the Month - Artefact

Roman/Early Medieval Finger Ring



One afternoon in July as I was driving from work I noticed that one of my fields had been cropped and was now in stubble. Even better it was one where I had found a gold mourning ring last year and it often turned up some interesting finds from Roman through medieval to modern.

I phoned my mate Dave and agreed to meet him at six that evening. When I got there he was miles down the field and had obviously been there some time.

He showed me a couple of finds, a couple of late bronze coins. As we chatted, I happened to mention that we had between us, found three rings on this one field and none on any others we had covered. Dave had found a bronze Roman ring last year and I had found the gold mourning ring and a heavy bronze merchants ring. We decided we would call this the Ring field and at that I set off along a ridge towards the top of the field.

My Troy Shadow X3 was the detector of choice that day due to the small search coil which is ideal for fresh stubble.

I had only been detecting about ten minutes when I got three distinct signals in one sweep.

I dug the first and it was the dreaded coke. The second was a Victorian penny. The third signal was very strong and I thought it was either a nice coin near the surface or a piece of lead.

The pinpointing on the X3 is excellent and as usual the first spadeful of soil contained the signal. As I reached down to break the clump of earth I saw that wonderful gold colour and as I brushed away some of the soil there in front of me was a fantastic gold ring. It was very small (only about 12mm diameter) but beautifully shaped and I could see what appeared to be a turquoise stone set back in the mount.

I shouted Dave who came over and couldn't believe his eyes. "Its Roman" he said.... That didn't surprise me because everything Dave finds is Roman, from coins to old electric switches!

The ring has caused some interest due to its unique torc shaped shoulders, but the turquoise stone indicates that it is probably medieval. Hopefully all will be revealed before too long as it is now being examined as a treasure find.

Graham.

Checking For Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs)

by **Petethedig**

We all appreciate the need to help protect the sites that have been important enough to have been scheduled. However how many of us are actually aware of scheduled sites on the land we detect?

Below is some useful information on how locate this sites so that they can be avoided.

For England:

To check your sites for Scheduled Ancient Monuments use this website if they are in [England](#).

<http://www.magic.gov.uk/website/magic/>

Instructions for use:

- 01). Click 'select topic'.
- 02). Click on 'design my own topic' and select.
- 03). When window opens select box called scheduled monuments (England), then click 'done' in the top right of window.
- 04). Click in the circle below called 'place'
- 05). Type in the nearest place(village or town) to your field.
- 06). Tick the 'Terms of Use' box.
- 07). Click Open Map.
- 08). Run the cross (Your mouse pointer) over to your field and click.
- 09). This will zoom you in each time you click on the area involved.
- 10). On the map you will see brown lines enclosing areas that are scheduled and therefore **off limits to Metal Detecting**.

Blue Triangles will show sites of interest. If you continue to click on the blue triangles and zoom in they will reveal what they are.

It is also worth checking (by ticking the box when you select 'Scheduled Monuments) areas like:

Environmentally Sensitive Areas (England)
Local Nature Reserves (England)
Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI's), (England)
World Heritage Sites
Forestry Commission Woodland (England)
National Parks

If any of these sites do appear on land you have permission for we advise you contact your Local Natural England advisor or the the local management of the sites you may wish to detect to make sure detecting is permitted.

Checking For Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs)

by Petethedig

For Scotland:

See the details here as you have a different process to go through; Scotland you go to

<http://jura.rcahms.gov.uk/PASTMAP/start.jsp>

you have to register (for free) -
and this gives you info on SAMs, sites and buildings



Helping in the Community

One Saturday Afternoon

by 2e0bax (Sean)



Its Saturday afternoon 4.50pm and the phone rings, "Hi Sean", "hi mum" I replied. "do you remember Susan who used to live next door?" I thought to myself... I hope this isn't bad news and it wasn't. It was for her neighbour as he was cutting his hedge and somehow his gold signature ring must have got caught in the cuttings when he was removing them. Without him knowing the ring was no longer on his finger where it had been since his father had given it to him on his 21st birthday. Now I don't how old he is as I didn't ask but it had been on his finger for some years!

They must have been looking for about an hour before I was rung up and with them living not far away and I was playing around some antenna wire lengths for my other hobby, I quickly got my detector and was there in their garden within 10 minutes.

Still had the discrimination on half way from last using my CScope 660 last week in Wales on holiday, I decided to leave this as it was, but after about 15 minutes I found I was loosing depth over some of the shrubs so I went into all metal and there were all sorts as you find in this mode, but 5 minutes later there it was and not in any shrub but just under a scattering of soil!



I had learnt something here and that was I missed it with the recommended discrimination for use in heavy contamination like beaches and that would help explain why I hadn't found any gold rings on beaches.

My best find with this machine - a gold ring, so I was happy but not as happy as the old couple, what do we owe they said? Oh it doesn't matter but how about a couple of pictures with my phone for the UKDN monthly news which is a metal detecting forum I am a member of?

Of course!, so their son took 2 pictures with my phone camera, I was handed 10 bottles of beer for my trouble! My kind of currency to trade with in such circumstances.

Sean

September 2008

Spotlight on..... Simonthesearcher

Simon Law (aka Simonthesearcher)

I live in the lovely county of Wiltshire, about 2 miles as the crow flies from Stonehenge in the town of Amesbury which is a very historic place. If you take a drive through the town you can see the wonderful sight of Pizza Hut, KFC and loads of other fast food joints, which is just as well you see, because now the Americans and Chinese people wont have to go hungry while taking the sights of Stonehenge in. They can walk around the circle of stones while munching on greasy chicken and salty pizza , brilliant don't you think?



Just down the road from my house is where they found 'The Amesbury Archer' and also Roman graves, so what do they do about it? Whack a damn great housing estate on top of it, who needs ploughed lands when I could go from house to house asking if I could detect there gardens? I drive past the new housing estate everyday and see lorries carrying top soil away, now if we could just find out where there going with the soil it would be brilliant to detect on.

Spotlight on..... Simonthesearcher

Have you ever been in the middle of a very large field, found something of interest and thought, now what on earth is this thing doing in the middle of nowhere?, could it be from those lorries dumping topsoil from building sites? If I found a Saxon brooch on my normal place of detecting, what with all the building and moving of soil, its not to say that it was actually lost near to where I found it. So I record this Saxon brooch and we now know the Saxons were in the area, or were they?



Detecting is a way of life for me, although I haven't been involved with the hobby for that long, about 4 years now. It has taught me a lot about the history of this country, from the different Celtic tribes to military insignia of the two world wars. Any detectorist worth his salt would do a little research on the area he or she is going to detect on. I researched the area I detect on and found that a Medieval livestock market was held on a part of the ground I go on. Also the Home Guards were based on an old cricket field I can go on in the 1st and 2nd World Wars, how cool is that? In fact I think its so cool that I want to stop writing this and get out there, but it can wait. A lot of what's buried has been there for centuries so

Spotlight on..... Simon the searcher

Just recently I have been detecting with a Southampton chap called Daviduk, on a bit of land that he has got the go ahead to detect on. Now I must admit it's fun detecting with Dave, my only problem with it is it seems for every Viccy penny I dig up, Dave seems to follow with a Roman brooch or Roman coin, only joking Dave, I'm pleased for you mate, oh and by the way, how's Southampton footy team doing lately?

So what I'm saying is that I don't mind detecting alone as I seem to go into some sort of trance and most of the time I'm completely oblivious to anything or anyone which is one of the reasons I don't do the rallies, I would appear to be very strange while in that trance like mode. Jokes aside, I would like to do one of the rallies at some stage and I will, when one is close by.

Beach detecting is different I reckon. I've only tried it once so I can't say too much about it. What I can say is that for some reason my detector seems to detect items at a ridiculous depth and I ended up digging what looked like bomb craters, only to find a foil ice cream wrapper.

I'm sure a lot of people have a lot of success on a beach, but if you call coming home with 20p as your total amount successful, then I think I will give it a miss. Also half the people on the beach want to know if you've found a chest filled with Pieces of Eight, the other half are thinking — here comes the village idiot. I do most of my detecting alone, not because I'm a Billy-No-Mates, it's because I'm not allowed to take anyone on the ground I've got to detect on and don't relish the idea of being kicked off the ground for doing something I'm not supposed to do, because if I did it would be back to the 20p beach for me and frankly, I



Spotlight on..... Simon the searcher

I see quite a bit of debating on the forum about which is the best detector and we all reckon that the one we have is the best. Now I'm here to tell you your all wrong, I have the best one, end of discussion, so all these debates can come to an end. Some of you will call it an Exploder, some of you will say its too heavy and some of you will say its too complicated and you know what? I agree, it is heavy, it is complicated, but if you're your strong and clever it's a brilliant machine, oh yes, I nearly forgot, its got a hefty price tag on it too which surely makes it the best. The explorer SE with the SEF coil, can you get any better? I think not. I can hear some of you chuckling away thinking you sad, sad man but hey....it has found me treasure you know, which I seriously don't think my first detector which was a £12 auction purchase on the Internet could have done. I do own a Whites Prizm 4 machine, now that might be able to find treasure, if I ever use it again that is. I think a detector is like a car, it's a personal choice and I'm sure most of them are quite capable in capable hands, although I still think mine is better than yours.



We all have our favourite finds and mine has to be the 15th cent gold ring with 20 diamonds set around it (I just love saying that). Well it has been declared as treasure and I'm pleased to say that my local museum would love to have it on display. So please people, record your finds. Who knows, maybe you've got something unrecorded that is potential treasure. My best coin to date is my Celtic Durotriges Crab coin. Only 5 or 6 ever found and all on the Isle of Wight, until I came along and confused everyone by finding one in the Salisbury area. And to top it all the word CRAB was done backwards, a nice coin I think. But the gold coin still evades me. However, I have a feeling this year is going to be the gold coin year. That's what I love so much about this hobby, you never know what your going to find. You get a signal and think is it a coin?, is it a brooch?, and when you finally dig it up you think to yourself, how bloody difficult is it to pick up your shotgun cartridge after you have pummelled some poor defenceless bird with lead? And while on the subject of lead, what's with all these millions of leadlumps left lying about? So, if your reading this and thinking about taking this hobby up, go for it, it's a brilliant hobby, your going to become an amateur historian, your going to want to get into the middle of a field come snow, rain or a tornado and I can assure you, it wont put you off. Your going to find a coin or a defact that's been lost to the world for the last 1000 years and if your lucky, well you might even find treasure, but remember one thing Mr beginner, your detector will never be as good as mine. Simon Law



Hobby National Bodies - 1 The NCMD

The National Council For Metal Detecting

...is the hobby organisation recognised and consulted by national and local government as The Voice of Responsible Metal Detecting. It consists of a countrywide network of metal detecting clubs, grouped into regional bodies, with local officers and committees elected to protect, promote and encourage the well being of clubs and their individual members. In addition, the regional bodies arrange exhibitions, rallies and other social events, provide advice and information, and elect knowledgeable and enthusiastic delegates from their number to represent local interests at the table of the influential National Council Executive Committee.

Associate Membership is a facility provided by the NCMD, which allows individual detector users, who are unable or unwilling to join local metal detecting clubs, to benefit from becoming part of the NCMD organisation.

Benefits include representation at Council meetings by experienced people with the good of the hobby at the forefront of their considerations, free Civil Liability insurance cover for £10 million with no excesses payable on claims, NCMD membership cards, regular postal newsletters, and official copies of audited accounts so that you can see where your money is being spent.

The cost ? A commitment to the aims and objectives of the NCMD, an agreement to keep to the agreed Code of Practice, an affirmation that you are free from conviction for any offence connected with metal detecting activities, and £5 per NCMD year (1st April - 31st March). There are no signing-on fees and no special terms.

There is also a facility for whole clubs to enjoy membership of the NCMD via its Central Register. For application forms and further information please contact: Trevor Austin, General Secretary, 51 Hilltop Gardens, Denaby, Doncaster. DN12 4SA

Tel: 01709 868521

website address - <http://www.ncmd.co.uk/index.htm>

forum address - National Council for Metal Detecting forum

For your information and interest it is worth noting that Trevor Austin, General Secretary of the NCMD represents the interests of all MD's on the TVC. (Treasure Valuation Committee)



Hobby National Bodies - 2 The FID

The Federation of Independent Detectorists

Quarterly postal bulletins, keeping you up to date with all the news, your own personal identity card with your photo on it, if you live in the United Kingdom you also have free public liability insurance for £2,000,000

FID will accept any responsible detectorist (whether beginner or experienced) as a member, there is no waiting list, and they will answer snail mail by return of post. The joining fee is £5, plus an annual membership fee of £3.00, There is a discount for senior citizens and the unwaged of £2, simply send a photocopy of your pension or benefit book with your application.

Just send your completed application form and self addressed envelope to : Colin Hanson, Detector Lodge, 44 Heol Dulais, Birchgrove, Swansea, West Glamorgan, SA7 9LT

<http://fid.newbury.net/html/fid.htm>



Hobby Magazines

Treasure Hunting



The Searcher



Hobby Associations

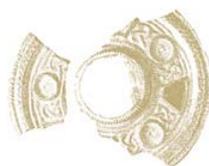
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FID



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www.finds.org.uk

Click logos to go to websites.

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