

The UKDN

Issue 23

July 2009

World Of Responsible Detecting



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Message from UKDN Admin

Welcome

to another fantastic edition of The Word

A BIG thanks to the team who has put this edition together and of course those who have contributed. As per usual we have some treats and delights install for you, so take some time, sit back and relax with a nice cold drink and read the latest news and views!

Once again we've all come to that 'twiddling our thumbs' time of year where there is little or no land available to detect due to crops or grass growing. Why not take this time to have a look back over your finds and see if you have anything you would like to have identified by the Finds Advisers on the site. This may also be a good time to collect all the finds you have and go visit your local FLO to have them recorded, in doing so preserving the future of our great hobby. As the saying goes, "Use it or lose it".

Don't forget that if you have been a member of UKDN for over 3 months then you too can put your great finds in the Coin and Artifact of the Month competitions. There is also an opportunity to participate in the 'Photographic' competition each month, so please do let us see some of those fantastic pictures you've taken or go and have a look at the ones posted, they're fabulous! Lastly keep an eye open on the forum for the latest lottery competition, everyone can have a free entry to win a prize of our choosing.

At the end of July we are planning a big UKDN Auction (our 5th) for you. The purpose of this is to raise funds for the server and maintenance costs. Despite what you may hear and read on other forums and media, Brian & Mo', who own UKDN, need to raise over £1000 per year to pay for the server costs. Rest assured that despite what others may say, no-one is making any fortunes out of UKDN. The auction will go toward raising the sum required and you will be able to see exactly how much it raises.

Donations of goods and services for auction would be much appreciated.

Our technical Team is still working on software upgrades and hope to announce a new launch soon.

Many thanks from Brian, Mo' and The Team.

FOM Artefact - Quatrefoil Ring

Winner — Old Git John



After a long lay off, of almost 6 months, without any serious detecting, following a serious shoulder injury, at the beginning of May I decided to visit a field, down West, where I had gained permission to detect on, but had not been able to.

I thought, if I don't go, I'm going to go nuts. So, armed with my trusty DFX, off I went, arriving down there at about 6/45 am. Within 5 minutes I was ready to go walkabout and headed down the field, something I would not normally do. I prefer working a field from side to side. That way, I take no notice of either moving up, or down the land.

About 30 metres from the bottom I got what I can only describe as, an iffy signal. One of those which, quite often one would walk away from, but, I had been out of it for a while, and a rusty nail would have been welcome. So, I decided to dig it, and after digging down to about 15 inches, out came the quatrefoil ring, a big one to boot. My first thought was that it was bronze, with a lovely patina, even when cleaned under the tap, it retained its colour. I did not care, I was in fact a bit "chuffed", and still had no real idea of what I had until I posted it on various forums. Then the thoughts changed to, "No, people like me don't get finds like that"

Someone said they thought they could see silver in the ring, but still I could not. So, I decided to give it a very quick blast with the electrolysis kit. Two at 15 seconds each, was all it took to bring out the silver, and now I was excited.

I am awaiting feedback from our FLO, as to how good, or not, it is, but have decided that, if it does not find its way to a museum, I am going to give it to the farmer. After all, had it not been for his kindness, it may well have remained in the ground, for who knows how long.

I have suffered a great deal of pain for my efforts, but I am glad I went. I may just wait a bit longer next time, unless of course, I manage to get that T2 I want.



FOM Coin—Newark Siege Shilling Winner—Musceteer1 - (Andy Marks)

It was a day in early May and the weather was overcast but dry and I had managed to finish work early so I decided to contact Mick Kemp (swarfy) to see if he wanted to go detecting on some land I have got in the Chelmsford area, he agreed so we arranged to meet in the afternoon.

When I arrived on site and checked the fields which were all pasture, the grass had grown since my last visit, so we would only be able to detect on patches of grass that were short enough. Mick arrived and we started detecting which was pretty uneventful with hardly any thing found between us.

I then decided to detect a piece of grass which the mower had cut shorter and that's where I found the Newark shilling , I had seen one of these in the Spink's book but at that time did not realise quite how rare this find was.

Andy.



Photo of the Month Competition Winner

Piker - Paul Butterley

Taken with a Panasonic DMC - FZ28



Goldfinch

Paul Butterley

Spotlight on: Old Git John

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When I was first invited to contribute to the Spotlight in the Newsletter, I thought, "Why me", but then after reading other articles, I thought, this about the friends we all have, both on UKDN, and in the hobby we all love, metal detecting. So, I thought, O.K. Give it a go.

Here it is, warts and all.

My introduction to detecting happened when I was about 16. One of my brothers, who had a C-Scope, in the days when it was necessary to have a license, invited me to go out with him, metal detecting. Frankly, being a 16 year old horny young lad, I was entirely bored, and found the experience less than interesting. I never considered it again, until over 30m years later, when I made contact with his twin, whom I had not seen for thirty years.

I went to visit Tony in Bristol, and he offered to take me to one of his sites. As I did not want to spoil our reunion, I agreed to go, and was loaned Tony's spare detector for the day, an Explorer XS. I was lucky enough to find an Edward 1st. Hammered penny. At that moment I was hooked. When I returned from Bristol, the detector came with me.

I was out virtually every day, and done quite well I suppose, finding bits and bobs every trip out. I decided to buy a detector of my own. My brother gave me loads of advice, on which detector to buy, but, I decided to get a brand new one, and went for a C-Scope 1220R, which was a huge mistake. I just could not get along with it. I sold it, at a huge loss less than 6 months later, and bought my brothers XS from him. My world changed.

Being retired I was out almost every day detecting, and "beginners luck" was with me. One of my early finds was a livery button, from Sir Francis Basset, who was High Sheriff of Cornwall 1629 to 1635.

The Bassetts had a coat of arms, Sir Francis had his own crest, and it was on this button.

Due to the local connection, it remains to this day, my favourite find, not because of any great value, but because I was able to research it, and gain some good knowledge about it. It is a fairly rare button.



Spotlight on: Old Git John

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My first ever rally was the last Thornham one, where I met some wonderful people, who have become special friends of mine. That is something about our hobby which does not show itself in other pastimes. We become mates of folk we may never meet.

One of my best finds was a "Little Joey coin weight", found about four year ago. Probably quite common, but again, something which turned out to be, just a bit special.

My detecting career, has been one of ups and downs, just like everyone else. My all time downer being, when I suffered a serious injury to my right shoulder, not long before last Christmas. I am still waiting to find out whether or not, it can be repaired, but, whatever happens, I cannot let go of our hobby, or the wonderful friends I have made within it.



Spotlight on: Old Git John

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I would like to take this opportunity to say, a big thank you to everyone in detecting for all you have given me in the last 7 years.

Thank you, from the bottom of my heart.
Old Git John



Can you handle the truth?

The truth is it's not a handle!

You know how sometimes you pick up something from the ground and, even though you're not exactly sure how old it is, you just know what it is, because it looks just like a modern version of the same thing. And you think about how amazing it is that basic designs haven't changed over the centuries. The trouble is you could be wrong!

This is a classic example, and indeed, since it's Roman, a classical example.



Can you handle the truth?

The truth is it's not a handle!

Turn your head on one side and now look at it again. In fact what we have here is a late Roman belt fitting. There's a bit of a clue in the fact that the triangles at the top and bottom look a bit like your classic late Roman propeller belt stiffener, and they've got the same kind of bevelled edges you find on some of those.

This piece, however, was most likely the Roman version of the bit on a belt you tuck the belt end behind after it's gone through the buckle.

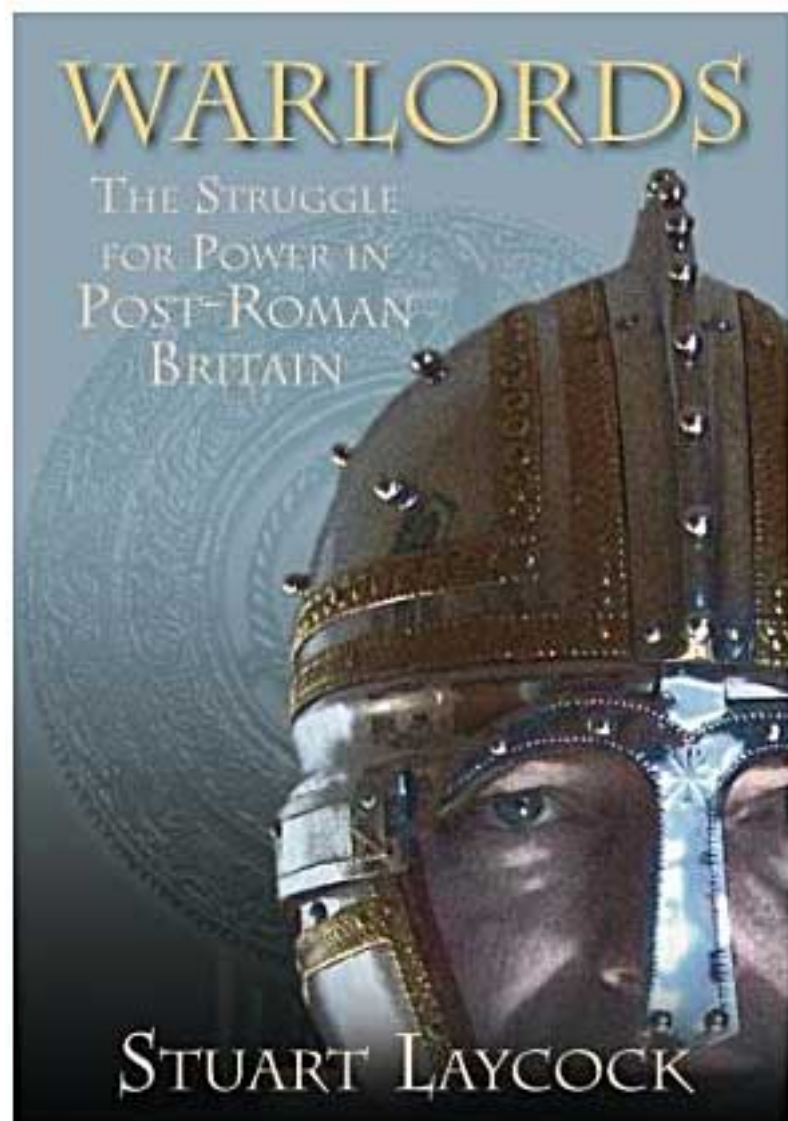
So there you have it. Even if you think you're 100 per cent certain about what it is that you've just found, it's always worth thinking again.

Can you handle that?

Stuart Laycock

**Warlords: The
Struggle for
Power in Post-
Roman
Britain**

*Stuarts latest
book published
by The History
Press. Take a
look at it on
amazon.co.uk
sometime!*



THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE RING (with apologies to Tolkien)

One of the things I, and I'm sure many of you, seem to find quite a few of are pigeon leg rings from racing birds. Not surprising really as many of them get tired and land in fields to rest or feed and then die there for one reason or another be it exhaustion or being caught by a predator.

Most of these rings are the plastic-coated aluminium types of various colours and are quite modern. Sometimes the older, pure aluminium, types do crop up and these can be of some value to collectors.



This type is from 1962 and issued by the National Union Homing World, NUHW, one of two pigeon-racing magazines that issued the leg rings for the racing world.

Occasionally, though, we find the other type of bird ring which is the type put on by registered bird-ringers to study the migration patterns, territorial boundaries, lifespan etc. of birds.

These ringing projects are carried out in countries all over the world and the information they get out of recovered rings is of great value in understanding our bird populations.

I have only ever had two of these whilst metal-detecting. The first was several years ago from a lapwing which had been ringed in Sweden in the 1960's and found in a field in Lincolnshire 40 years later.....!!!!

THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE RING (with apologies to Tolkien)

The second was more recently, again in a field here in Lincolnshire.

I find these things fascinating because, like most of the things we find as detectorists, they can tell a story and, unlike many of our finds, they are easily traced because of the information printed on them.



As you can see, this one says ESTONIA MATSALU with the unique reference number relating to that bird underneath.

A quick Google found that Matsalu is a national nature reserve in Estonia with a bird-ringing centre. They have been ringing birds there for several decades and you can contact them directly via their website, however, rather than try to send the ring details to them directly, I went to the EURING website.

<http://www.euring.org/>

This co-ordinates all the European bird-ringing centres and is a central point to send any information on bird ring finds. On their website, you can enter the details of any ring you find from any country on a single form and this is then forwarded on to the relevant ringing centre.

THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE RING (with apologies to Tolkien)

I filled in the online form and sent it off. Three days later I had an email reply directly from Estonia with the following information.

Ring: ETMH...100559

RINGING INFO

Species: *Sturnus vulgaris* - Common Starling

Sex: Unknown

Age: pullus: nestling or chick, unable to fly freely, still able to be caught by hand

Circumstances: Caught and released

Date: 11.06.1978

Place: Järvamaa county, Ambla parish, Ambla borough Geographical co-ordinates: 59° 11' 27" N, 25° 50' 19" E

Ringer: Eero Klaus

RECOVERY / RECAPTURE INFO

Species: *Sturnus vulgaris* - Common Starling

Sex: Unknown

Age: age unknown, i.e. not recorded

Circumstances: Ring only found with metal detector

Date: 21.03.2009

Place: Lincolnshire, UK

Geographical co-ordinates: 53° 27' 0" N, 0° 7' 0" E

Finder: Tom Redmayne

So, a starling born in Estonia in 1978 met its end in Lincolnshire. That's a pretty impressive journey.

THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE RING

(with apologies to Tolkien)



So, if you find any bird rings, log on to the Euring website and fill the form in. Not only are you helping a fascinating and important worldwide study, but how many other finds can tell you their story in such detail?

Who knows, I'm sure there are journeys to be uncovered far greater than the one I have discovered.

Tom Redmayne

A Saxon Cemetery

By coldstream-02

08/10/08

Wednesday morning.

I had arranged to pick Bob (stanleyman) up at between 10.00 and 10.30, and I hate being late so I set off from my home at 9.30 knowing it was only a 10 minute drive up the bypass to Bobs place. I knew I would be sitting outside Bobs house waiting for him to show, and I was!

Eventually Bob came out and we exchanged the usual pleasantries and set off. After a half hour drive we arrived at the farm, and deliberated as to which field to detect on as because of our location we only had the immediate choice of two. We had spent some time on both but not much, so it was really a question of which field was more productive. We settled for the field that had a gradual rise to it because we had already had some nice pieces from it including a half of a Papal Bulla and a Roman Coin plus some other medieval artefact's and a couple of hammies.

We set off walking to our elected field and after a 2 minute walk we arrived at the gate. We had a quick scan around as every detectorist does to select a starting point, because as every detectorist knows you get a feeling for the field, because of its layout. I suppose you try and work out where the most activity would have taken place therefore increasing your finds rate.

Bob decide he was going to set off across the slope where some of the medieval artefact's had been coming up. I decided I was going to start on top of the rise, where we had been a few times before and never found anything, probably because it had gradually been pushed down the slope over the years. So why I elected to start there still eludes me to this day. As I walked up the slope I noticed the abundant Oyster shells which as we know smacks of Roman occupation and indeed we knew of a villa site quite close to us but we had only had the one Roman coin between us. The top of the rise was strategically important from a military point of view as you could only see either side of it when situated at its highest point. So I was hoping that the Romans had placed a sentry post there, and some bits had been lost by them. But surely any losses would of been pushed down the hill over time? So why was I bothering to start on the top? Who knows because I certainly cannot explain it.

I switched on my detector (I have a Quattro) and selected the factory mode of relic which I believe gives you a bit more depth, and off I went. One or two "iffy" signals came and went and I had only been swinging for 10 mins and BANG a signal that was so crisp and loud my immediate thought was this has got to be a big silver coin or a massive hot rock, because my Quattro tops out at 40 on the reading, and this was a consistent 40. I tried all the other modes and everyone was the same. So I started to dig!

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copyright of
East Sussex
County Council
- thank you for
allowing these
to be shown on
UKDN*



These 2 pics were taken with Bobs mobile literally when we realised we had a burial on our hands.

The Pic of the bowl is the first ever photograph of it!

Quite something really, and I was the first person to touch it since being buried with the female over 1400 years ago.

The spade is a normal Garden spade and I put the knife in the pic to try and help with perspective. Ive just measured the knife and its exactly 11 ins from top of handle to tip of blade



A Saxon Cemetery

By coldstream-02

The depth reading on the Quattro said 12 inches plus and it wasn't wrong. I got to around 12 inches and the signal was still in the hole, so I took out some of the edge around the hole in case I had missed it. Nah still in the hole so I carried on down. Now I was getting into some chalk, and didn't realise this was the bedrock as some of it was broken up.

Then I got my first glimpse! A slightly curved piece of metal was peering back at me, hmmm I thought, that's interesting, this is deep and not rusty and its definitely not a plough shard! I worked my way around the curve gently cleaning the soil away, and a loop appeared. So I initially thought this could be where a handle of a pot terminated. Pot I thought! deep! top of a hill! No surely not!

Have I got a hoard below me? But why a metal pot?

I shouted at Bob and beckoned him over, whilst he was making his way toward me I decided to recover the loop and see what he thought. As he stood over me Bob said "well thats deep and I think its going to be a plough shard" and he then passed his machine across the hole. "Yep plough shard " he said, so I brushed away the soil and said thats no plough shard Bob. After a few seconds of silence he said "well looking at that rim I think its an old wheel hub". OK I said well I don't I think its a jar of some sort! "Nah" he said "If I were you I would fill the hole in and forget it". Those words will stay with me till my dying day.

If someone was to ask me how I knew it was going to be something special I could not give a sensible answer, I just knew it was.

As Bob walked away I said to him I think this could be something special. He replied that if it was him he would fill it in and carry on detecting.

Undeterred I carried on excavating around the rim and eventually revealed what looked like the top of a small bucket with the handle visible. I wonder if that will move I thought to myself and proceeded to try and do just that. Well it moved as if it had been placed in the ground the day before. You must remember I did not know at this point that it was over 1400 years old. Bob was intrigued that I was persistent at getting to the bottom of this find and wandered back over. " Its an old bucket" he said roaring with laughter. Well I said Ive seen something like this before and I think it could be Saxon. " nah its an old bucket or paint kettle" he said, and I must admit the top did resemble a paint kettle.

But why was it so deep? It was below the depth of the plough, and Bob had always said that if you going to find a hoard then it will be deep, so I was still a bit hopeful that it could indeed be a pot of coins. But why a metal pot?

A Saxon Cemetery

By coldstream-02

So with controlled eagerness and anticipation I emptied out the centre of the pot hoping to see a glimmer of gold or silver suddenly flash into the light. This was to no avail though so my anticipation came crashing down around me. I got to the stage where I was ready to remove the pot and Bob had wandered back over. As I removed it Bob said "paint kettle told you that at the start"

It was at this point I thought yeah he's right it is but something was nagging at me. I put the "paint kettle" on the ground by the side of the hole and waved my Quattro over the hole again. Another Signal!

Bob there's another really good signal here I said. Well its probably the remnants of your paint kettle he said almost collapsing with laughter. I scraped away a bit of earth and revealed a dome shaped object. There's definitely something else here I said I think it could be another pot.

But this one seems to be made of pottery and I have still got a brilliant signal . The dream was back on! Pottery, and a good signal its got to be surely! I found some smaller pieces of pot and placed them on the side of the hole whilst gently scrapping around the dome shaped object when suddenly it shifted. Oh I thought it must be broken into pieces, and I picked it up and put it on the side of the hole along with the other bits. Bob was examining some of the smaller parts and said "I think this is bone".

All of a sudden he burst out with an unmentionable expletive and said this is a *ing skull !***

Dont be ridiculous I retorted its Dark Green. I am telling you he said its a skull. So I looked and sure enough you could plainly see the eye sockets. It was at this point I stopped digging, and started wondering about what I had uncovered. We took our time to make sure it was a skull or part of as we knew we could be opening up a can of worms. Once we were sure we made the call and told the farmer. Are you sure the farmer said because another fellow has been going over that field for 10 plus years and he has never found anything like that.

Yeah we are sure I said you need to get the police and we will call the County Archaeologist.

coldstream-02
with the burial
during the
excavation



Images copyright of East Sussex County Council



This Pic is as the skull was being
revealed.



Images copyright of East Sussex County Council

Stanleyman at the grave during the excavations

A Saxon Cemetery

By coldstream-02

So the Police and archaeologists were called and we pondered on what we had here.

Bob was worried and would be the first to tell you so as he could possibly lose his permission to detect if the farmer thought he was getting a load of grief from it, but it was too late to turn back now. Thankfully Bob remained jovial though concerned and said "I told you to fill it in and walk away". We sat down awaiting the arrival of the police and the archaeologists and started chomping on our sandwiches.

As I am writing this I suddenly became aware that neither of us had washed our hands and we had both held a portion of skull in our hands! Somewhat bizarre!

We finished lunch with the reckoning that perhaps there was more than one burial here. So Bob put his machine in all metal and started scanning the immediate area. At this point I placed the bone fragments and bowl into a carrier bag and placed them back into the hole and said a few words of apology to whoever this was along with "bless your soul" a few times. I could see Bob was a bit peeved at the fact that I had potentially found something rare and exciting and he would be the first to tell you he was, so I was hoping that he would also find something.

Well blow me 15 mins and some 16 to 18 inches down Bob proclaimed he had found a shield boss. So I went over to him and peered into the hole and there it was in all its glory a magnificent shield boss and in stunning condition considering it was iron. So had we stumbled across an ancient cemetery? Bob's Shield boss was almost in perfect alignment travelling West with my discovery and some 30 feet separated them - so this then posed the question was there more between the two? Things were starting to get a little exciting.

Bob carried on removing the earth from around his shield boss until it got to the point we decided to leave it alone. So here we were with a shield boss and a bowl and some bone - we knew we had either an ancient unknown cemetery or a burial site on our hands and it had to be old ! Was this going to be the one! The detectorists dream find ? We agreed to carry on detecting until someone showed but strangely neither of us could tear ourselves away from that immediate area. We waited for ages for someone to show or ring but nothing seemed to be happening ,then all of a sudden my phone started ringing, and it was Ms Laura Burnett our FLO, which was a surprise as I thought she was on holiday.

What I had not realised was I take an old phone out with me when detecting and I had forgotten to give my number to anyone . Well you don't expect something like this to occur do you. So after a bit of detective work she had tracked down my number and rang me to tell me the county Archaeologist had been informed and would be in contact as soon as his meeting was finished. So I ended the chat with Laura and the phone started going mental .

First the farmer then the police then the archaeologists and it kept ringing and ringing .Funny how you become everyone's best friend when something like this happens.

A Saxon Cemetery

By coldstream-02

Eventually after about 2 hours two uniformed Police officers came wandering up the slope toward us.

When they reached us one said "I understand that you have found a piece of skull that was placed into a metal bowl and buried wrapped in a plastic carrier bag". That sent Bob and me into fits of laughter, as they obviously thought they had a murder scene on their hands. "Nah" we said we to your dispatcher that we thought we had found an ancient burial site but we wrapped it all up in the bag in case it was important.

We had a good laugh over that and the officers had a look at the skull and we explained that the green staining on it could have only occurred over hundreds of years, so they were happy with that and as it was over 100 years old they wouldn't have to investigate it.

So now we awaited the County Archaeologist and the officers said farewell and off they went. After about thirty minutes they reappeared at the bottom of the rise, and this time one of them was carrying a large bag. "they've come back for you bob" I said jokingly "wonder what they want now" came the reply. T

he officer approached and said sorry to tell you lads but when we got back to the car we got a message telling us to come back and seize the remains etc, in case its evidence. Well we were horrified at this thought and said cant you just wait until the County Archaeologist has verified that its over 100 hundred years old first.

I could not work out who would give them an order to take away potential evidence from what they believed could be a potential murder scene. Surely they would tape the areas off and get the Forensic bod's in? It just did not make sense. I mean isn't it reasonable to presume that if there is part of a skull in the ground then the rest of the skeleton will be there? Well they had their orders and were going to follow them but admitted that stuff that got seized would just be tossed into a small cupboard and left for weeks if not months and sometimes came out in a worse condition than it went in.

So we started chatting with the officers and soon got onto first name terms and one of the officers started asking about the detectors, how much did they cost etc, and Bob said would he like to have a go. Yes came the reply, so Bob ran through the basics and showed him what signal to listen for. Off he went on his first ever detecting session, meanwhile I got chatting with the other officer and it turned out we had both been in the Guards, he in the Scots Guards and me in the Coldstream Guards. It was because of our cooperation I believe they refrained from taking the bowl etc. Anyway after about 15 mins we noticed the detecting officer had not tried to dig any signals. So we asked him if he was getting any signals, he said he kept on getting a signal and then it was gone, like a light switch on and off .

Well Bob and myself looked at each other and burst out laughing, have you got steel toe capped boots on mate we said, he looked at us and burst out laughing as well.

This one is when you could see her properly with the bowl in situ.



Images copyright of East Sussex County Council

A Saxon Cemetery By coldstream-02

Eventually 2 more figures appeared and made their way over to us, this was the County Archaeologists second in command and another person. So they took one look at the "paint kettle" and said Saxon!

I was doing a secret little jig in my head when they also said but we cant be 100% sure as we have not seen this style before. They went to the hole and removed some earth and revealed a tooth, which confirmed the burial but he also said he believed it was a youngster which impacted quite hard! Then they looked at Bobs shield boss and said without a doubt Saxon or earlier and there would be a warrior beneath it . I could see Bob doing his own little secret jig.

So Bobs had been determined as at least Saxon and yet mine would have to wait for confirmation. But if it was a Saxon bowl it was going to be a rare find.

The County Archaeologist turned up and they all deliberated and the conclusion was that we had indeed found an unknown Possible Saxon Cemetery. I took this moment when we were all stood around the hole where the bowl had come out of to reflect on how this persons family possibly felt all that time ago when attending the funeral, and how strange it was that this person had another gathering of people around their grave but this time for completely the opposite reason!

Continued next month!



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RECORDING THE PAST: HOW DIFFERENT EUROPEAN COUNTRIES DEAL WITH PORTABLE ANTIQUITIES

MONDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 2009
BP LECTURE THEATRE, BRITISH MUSEUM

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

This conference aims to gain a wider understanding of how different European countries deal with portable antiquities (archaeological small finds) found by members of the public and promote best practice amongst finders. The key questions that speakers will address are: whether there is a legal requirement for finders of portable antiquities to report archaeological objects and whether the state claims ownership of them; whether it is permissible to search for such finds with a metal-detector or by other means; how many people (in that country) are known to search for archaeological objects (legally or not); how many objects are reported each year; and whether the systems in place (in that country) work as well as they could or whether improvements could be made. It is hoped the conference will help identify the main strengths and weaknesses of the different approaches adopted by countries across Europe, in order to draw conclusions as to how best to preserve an archaeological record of finds found, develop best practice, and find ways to educate the public about the importance of such finds for understanding the past.

- 09:30 Registration
- 09:45 Welcome: Neil MacGregor, Director, British Museum
- 10:00 Dr Roger Bland (British Museum, London), *The English and Welsh approach to portable antiquities: a perfect system or fundamentally flawed?*
- 10:25 Dr Alan Saville (National Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh), *Little and large: portable antiquities and treasure trove in Scotland.*
- 10:50 Dr Cormac Bourke (Ulster Museum, Belfast), *Found objects: the Northern Ireland experience.*
- 11:15 coffee
- 11:45 Dr Eamonn P Kelly (National Museum, Dublin), *Portable antiquities in the Republic of Ireland*
- 12:10 Dr Johan Nicolay (University of Groningen), *Metal detection in the Netherlands: the law and reality.*
- 12:35 Dr Martin Segschneider (Archäologisches Landesamt, Schleswig Holstein), *Methods of cooperation with metal detectorists in Schleswig-Holstein - first results and experiences.*
- 13:00 lunch (not provided)
- 14:00 Dr Mogens Bo Henrikson (Odense Museum), *Detectors and Danefæ in Denmark*
- 14:30 TBC
- 15:00 Dr Andrej Gaspari (Military Museum of Slovenian Armed Forces, Ljubljana), *Purchase, compensation or reward? Abolition scheme for the illegally excavated archaeological artefacts between law and practice (experience from the Republic of Slovenia).*
- 15:30 coffee
- 16:00 Gábor Lassányi (Aquincum Museum), *Metal detecting and the antiquities law in Hungary.*
- 16:30 Prof Aleksander Bursche (Instytut Archeologii, Uniwersytet Warszawski), *Metal Detecting in Poland – law and reality.*
- 17:00 Discussion
- 17:30 Close

Bookings: please send a cheque for £15 payable and your contact details to *The British Museum* to Claire Costin, Department of Portable Antiquities & Treasure, The British Museum, Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3DG. Tel: 0207 323 8618. Email: ccostin@thebritishmuseum.ac.uk.

Newark Siege Money

Siege of Newark battle details - [Click Here](#)
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Siege coins at Coinarchives - [Click Here](#)

Siege Money of the Civil War - [Click Here](#)
 - [And Here](#)

YouTube Siege of Newark 1 - [Click Here](#)

YouTube Siege of Newark 2 - [Click Here](#)

YouTube Siege of Newark 3 - [Click Here](#)

YouTube Siege of Newark 4 - [Click Here](#)

YouTube Siege of Newark 5 - [Click Here](#)



Portable
Antiquities
Scheme
www.finds.org.uk



Useful Websites



Sixpence



Ninepence



Shilling



Halfcrown

Bibliography;

Glynn Hopkins, The History Learning Site, British Civil Wars, Coin Archives, Hammered Coin, The British Museum, YouTube and The Portable Antiquities Scheme.

I would like to thank the PAS for allowing me to use images off their database and would recommend that people record their finds with PAS for the benefit of future generations and the hobby



Google Earth as a Recording & Research Tool



Google Earth as a Recording Tool

Since its introduction Google Earth has evolved into a very useful tool for metal detectorists to obtain their find spot grid references for recording finds with the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) thus contributing to our National Heritage.

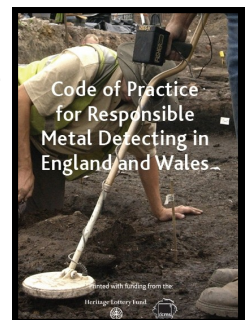
It is also a place where find spots and find details can be recorded electronically on a map for future reference and back up copies easily made so that the information is not lost or destroyed.

[To download Google Earth click on this link](#)

We would like to thank Google Earth for providing such a useful facility for recording find spots.

Find Spot Grid References Required by PAS

PAS uses British National Grid (BNG) references to record find spots on its database, [currently listing over 360,000 objects](#). PAS prefer the find spot references provided to be as accurate as possible so that the maximum information can be gleaned by academics. Accuracy levels of 12 figure (Differential GPS - accuracy 10 cm), 10 figure (over the counter GPS - theoretical accuracy 1 metre), 8 figure (accuracy 10 metres) and 6 figure (accuracy - 100 metres) are preferred. The finds can only be found once so it is imperative that they are recorded or vital pieces of the jigsaw of our past will be lost forever. Please note that find spot information should not be passed on to other parties without agreement of the Landowner/Occupier. [PAS Advice for Finders Leaflet](#).



The importance of recording finds with the PAS to a high accuracy

None recording tells us nothing and just distorts the record of our past, recording to 'Parish' level can at best flag up a new type of coin or artefact. PAS would like a minimum of 6 figures and prefer 10 figures if possible. Accurate recording can benefit our heritage in many ways;

[Domestic utensils](#) and [pottery](#) remains show areas of occupation. Tools and worked or repaired objects and materials show the location of workshops, technologies and resources used in manufacture, patterns of production, and the geography of local and overseas trade and communication.

Artefacts compete to be the only existing complete example and the most fully recorded example. Their format, design, function, use, wear and repair show us how they changed over the years.

[Jewellery](#) shows us the dress style of the area and period. Coins show us how the [Emperor](#) or King dressed and even how he wore his hair.

Even the humble [grot](#) or [brooch](#) can show us the date of a site and places where trade took place.

[Votive offerings](#), [curse tablets](#), [weapons](#), [musket balls](#) and [grave goods](#), show us how and where our ancestors worshipped, cursed, fought and died.

A concentration of objects found in the a small area might lead to a new archaeological site such as a [settlement](#), [temple](#), [fort](#), [camp](#), [workshop](#), [burial](#), [cremation](#), [battle ground](#) or [market place](#) etc being discovered, or show where a [hoard](#) was buried.

Another advantage of finding objects in a small area is to be able to date the site (made easier by dating any coins found), so dating other objects found in the same area that previously were undated. Dating objects on one site assists in the dating of objects on other sites too. Knowing where nothing is found is also valuable 'negative evidence' for the [Finds Liaison Officer \(FLO\)](#).

Detecting finds throughout Britain are daily adding to and even re writing our history for the benefit of future generations. [For further information visit the PAS website.](#)

Obtaining British National Grid (BNG) 6 figure references from O/S maps for PAS

[How to read an O/S Map](#)

[How to plot a National Grid Reference](#)

[O/S Get a Map \(gives 6 figure grid references\)](#) click on find spot, reference at bottom of screen.

Obtaining BNG 8 figure grid references from Google Maps for PAS

[Zoom in, switch to Satellite mode and click on your find spot for a BNG 8 figure reference](#)

You may wish to print off the Satellite view of your site using [Gadwin Print Screen \(freeware\)](#) You can then mark your find spots on it in the field and get grid references off Google Maps at your convenience. Also note that if you type in a 4, 6 or 8 figure BNG reference, the map will automatically centre on that location. Also see [Where is the path map.](#) (morning recommended)

Obtaining Lat/Long grid references from Google Earth & converting them to BNG for PAS

Hover mouse or centre Google Earth map on the find spot & read off the bottom of the screen.

[Type the Google grid reference into this converter](#)

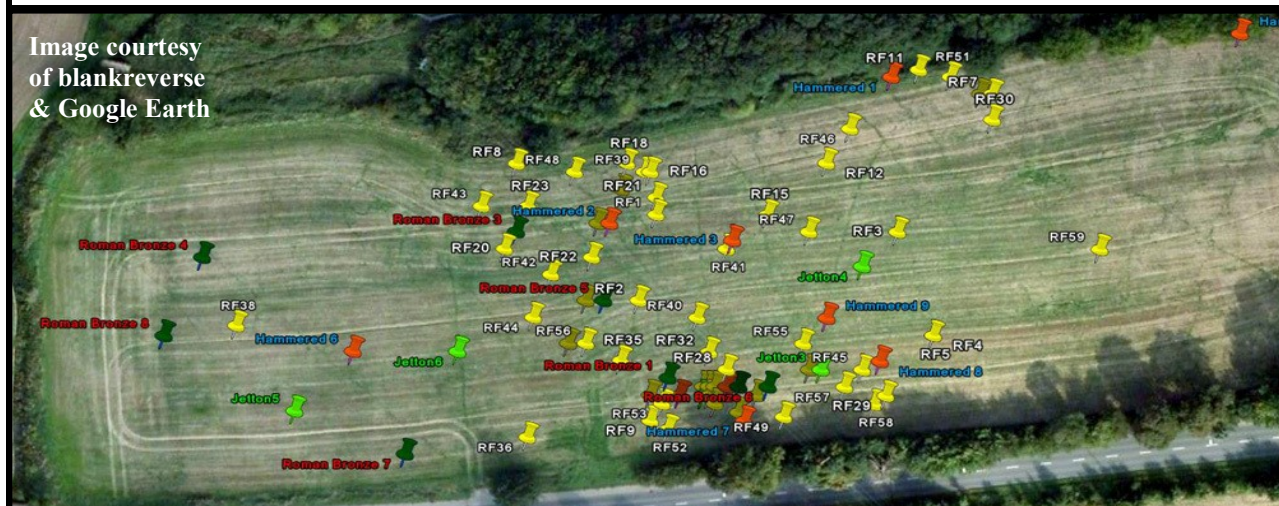
Inserting a find spot place mark into Google Earth automatically & adding find details

[Click on this link & enter your find spot NGR ie SE2389984365 then click on 'Fly To'](#)

Click on 'Add Placemark' icon at the top of the screen, add a title & find details in the drop down box & click on OK. This will put a place mark at your find spot. You can then look in 'Places' & 'Temporary Places' & uncheck the box to hide the other marker or right click & delete it.

Inserting a find spot place mark into Google Earth manually & adding find details

Click on 'Add Placemark' & one will be placed in the centre of the map, drag this to your find spot location and add details of the find ie description & PAS number in the drop down box. This example uses red for Roman coins, blue for hammered, yellow for farthings & green for jetons.



Google Earth as a Research Tool

This section shows how Waypoints (find spots), Tracklogs & Routes can be transferred via a USB cable between a GPS & Google Earth & where to obtain the necessary equipment & software. Waypoint patterns can indicate hot spots worth re visiting after ploughing or long lost pathways.

The GPS can create a 'Tracklog' (footsteps) of each outing which can be downloaded onto your map to show areas covered & not covered to enable the field over time to be covered thoroughly.

The aerial image of your site can show up crop marks indicating underground remains such as places of habitation. Click on 'View' & tick 'Historical Imagery' to show recent field changes. Historical maps can be overlayed on top of the modern day map highlighting field changes over the past, showing up old field boundaries & footpaths no longer shown on modern maps. Place markers representing these inserted into Google Earth can then be uploaded into the GPS to 'Go To' a place or to follow a planned now invisible 'Route', just follow the arrow on the GPS.

[Care should be taken not to damage any archaeological feature & not to dig below the layer of plough soil.](#)

Please ensure such features are not part of a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM) as it is an offence to detect on these without written permission from the Secretary of State. The boundaries of SAM'S can be determined from the map below so that a suitable distance can be kept;

[SAM's & SSSI's in England are shown on the MAGIC Map - Zoom in 4 times to see them](#)

[SAM's in Wales](#)

[SAM's in Scotland](#)

[ELS/HLS Agreement Land](#)

Some Garmin GPS's & Accessories

[Garmin GPS Comparitor](#)

[Garmin Reviews](#)

[Garmin Etrex Owners Manual](#)

[Garmin Geko 201 Owners Manual](#)

[Garmin Etrex & Accessories at Amazon](#)

[Garmin Geko 201 & Accessories at Amazon](#)



[The GPS will need a cable to connect it to the PC](#)

Alternatively, USB cables for the eTrex & Geko 201/301 are available for £14 to £20 on eBay.

Using GPS in the Field

The GPS can be carried in a belt mounted camera case or attached to the shaft of the metal detector using the bicycle handlebar bracket available for purchase and mounted so that it points upward at all times.

The tracklog can be set to record a dot on the map automatically at regular intervals of time or distance. A setting of 10 feet was used in the images below. A find spot is recorded by clicking Mark & OK, this creates a Waypoint record of the BNG NGR & Elevation.

For more information see [Plotting archaeological objects using GPS](#)

Uploading your find spots to Google Earth

Google Earth can import GPS data direct or can load .kml or .kmz files & extract data from them. Just plug your GPS into your PC's USB port, switch it on, open Google Earth, click on Tools, GPS, Select Garmin or Magellan as appropriate and click on Import.

For more information see [Importing GPS Data](#)

This will display your Waypoints and Path taken on the Google map and create a temporary file called 'Garmin GPS Device' (or Magellan) in 'Places'. Note that the file should be re named and 'saved to my places' before exiting Google Earth or it will be lost. Should the Path or multiple paths due to multiple files not be shown, hover the mouse over the 'History Timeline' at the top of the screen, slide the RHS bar to the far right and the LHS bar left until the Path appears.

Uploading your find spots to Google Earth via GPS Trackmaker

This has the advantage of being able to see your find spots in OS BNG format, useful for recording them with the PAS (Google Earth shows them in Lat/Long formats). Simply click on the Globe on the top toolbar, this will display your Waypoints and Path taken on the Google map and Trackmaker will create a temporary file called 'GPS Trackmaker' in 'Places' in Google Earth. Note that the file should be 'saved to my places' before exiting Google Earth.

[Download GPS Trackmaker](#)

Uploading your find spots to Google Earth via GPS Utility

Another programme, similar to Trackmaker but a .kml file must be saved and uploaded to Google Earth manually, available in a freeware (limited tracklogs) and shareware versions. Plug in & switch on the GPS, in the GPSU click on GPS, then Connect, then download all.

Uncheck any waypoints or routes not required & click on OK. In the GPSU click on File, Save As, in Save As below type select Google Earth (kml), give it a file name & save it.

Then in Google Earth click on File, Open and opening the file will create a temporary file in 'Places' in Google Earth. Note that the file should be 'saved to my places' before exiting Google Earth.

[GPS Utility programme for handling GPS information & downloading to Google Earth](#)

[Download GPSU - Standard Edition](#)

[Setting up](#) It's important to set the COM port & select the map application on the GPS to Garmin or NMEA. See the links FAQ's for further information.

Recording find spots using Sat Nav (TomTom ONE XL)

To check the location of a find spot;
Tap Help Me then Where Am I, this shows the GPS co ordinates which can be written down.

To add a find spot as a Point of Interest (POI),
First add a POI Category;
Tap - Change Preferences, Arrow Right,
Manage POI's, add POI Category.

Then to add a POI, Tap - Change Preferences,
Arrow Right, Manage POI's, Add POI,
Select the Category, Arrow Right,
My Location and give it a name.

To download the find spot to Google Earth;
Connect the Sat Nav to your PC and [Click Here](#) to open an online OV2 to .kml Converter.
Click on Browse, Computer, select the Tom Tom directory, Open the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland folder, locate, the OV2 file, Select convert to .kml, opening the file will send it and your find spots to your Google Earth and create a temporary file in 'Places'.

[Find spot grid references can be converted to BNG NGR's with this Convertor](#)

[TomTom ONE XL Owners Manual](#)



Overlaying Old-Maps & O/S Maps on the Google Earth Map

[1:50,000 O/S map](#)

[1:25000 O/S map demo](#)

[O/S Maps](#) (O/S Shop - maps for purchase)

[1840's county map](#)

[Search for an old village map](#)

[Old-Maps](#)

[Anquet mapping](#) - downloadable maps available for purchase.

[Zoom in & MAGIC map will show if there are any SAM's/SSSI's in England to be avoided](#)

Copy & save a portion of the above maps to the hard drive using [Gadwin Print Screen](#).

To overlay the saved images onto the Google Earth map, click on the 'Add' icon and then click on image overlay, select the image with the browser and give it a title in the drop down box .

The image can be re positioned on the map by dragging the green cross at it's centre, rotated by dragging the green diamond and stretched by dragging the green lines on the edges. When finished click on ok. Should you later want to re adjust the position of the image, right click on the overlay in 'Places' and click on 'Properties'. Maps may be overlaid on top of each other.

The image below shows a portion of an old county map and a 1:50000 map overlaid on the Google Earth map, maps may overlap each other and their individual transparencies may be varied by means of the slider facility or switched off by un checking their boxes in 'Places'.

For more information see [Using Image Overlays](#)

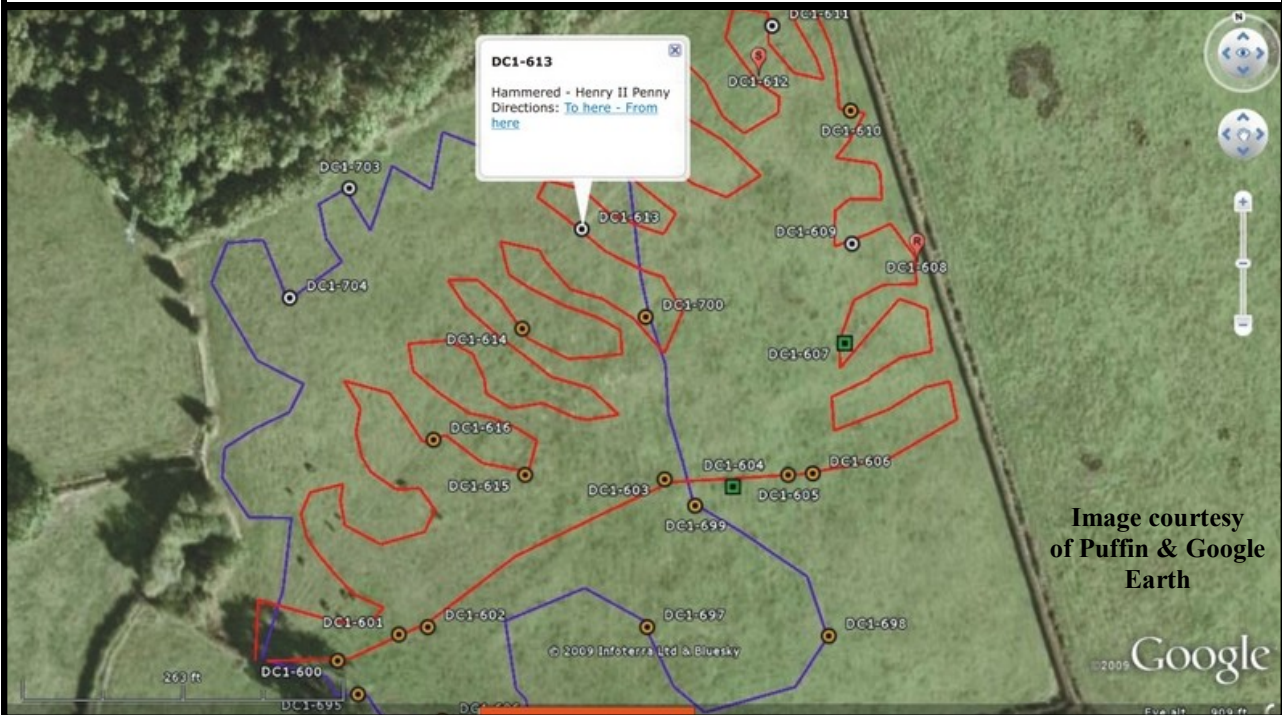
Adding sound to placemarks

Click on this link [Vocaroo](#) to add a sound recording to your placemark, record your message, check it's ok then click on 'post on the internet' and copy the full HTML code. Then run Google Earth , click on the placemark you want to add the recording to, click on properties and paste the HTML code into the description box and click ok. Click on the placemark to hear the recording.



Recording waypoints & tracklogs

To show you just how useful Google Earth is for research & recording I've created a fictional search on a field. I've never searched this field but I have walked across it to see the crater caused by a massive war time explosion. The image below represents two tracks recorded with a GPS unit set to record at given intervals. Along the recorded track you can see small icons, these represent finds recorded as waypoints on the GPS unit. These icons can be changed within Google Earth to represent different finds, so the visual pattern of hot spot areas can be identified. In this case an 'ordinary' find is a coloured dot, coins are white dots, PAS recorded finds are squares. Roman & Saxon finds could be marked using 'R' or 'S' icons, the choice is fully yours. The icons are allocated reference numbers which can be edited, you can also add a description & a photograph to each find spot & by clicking on the icon these will be displayed in a balloon.



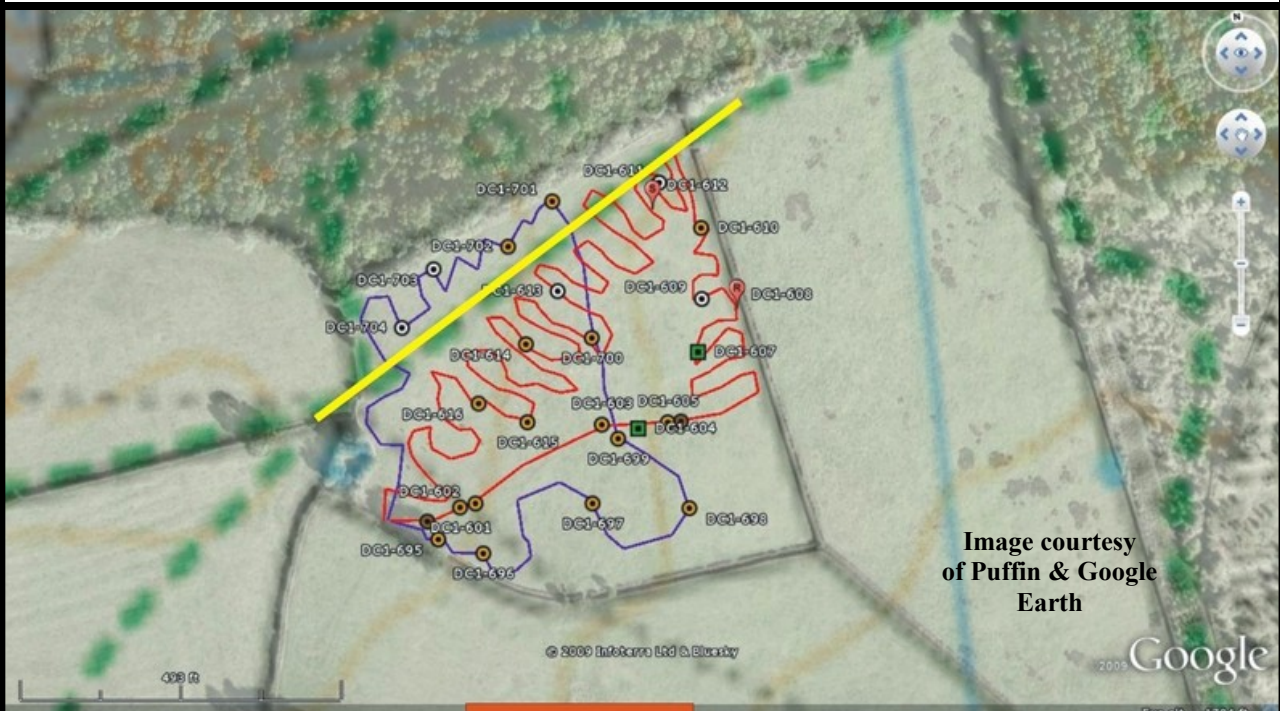
Old Victorian Map overlay showing old field boundaries, waypoints & tracklogs

The image below shows a Victorian map imported into Google Earth & overlaid on top of the field in question. There is about a hundred years between the Google Earth image and the map. It can be seen that the landscape has changed on the right of the image, a monster WW2 bomb crater has permanently changed the field boundaries & footpaths in the area. The yellow line is the Victorian footpath, always worth a search if you can locate it on the ground. You could set the GPS unit to locate the path start and stop points beforehand by getting the coordinates from Google Earth, then locate & mark them in the field once you get there. In this case you can also see a well in the lower part of the field, where there is water, there is the chance of a find.



O/S Map overlay showing waypoints & tracklogs

The Google Earth image below has a OS 1:25.000 map overlaid on the same field. Because of the little war time bang, the farmhouse & six million gallon lake that once stood at the end of the footpath vanished completely, so the Victorian path became redundant & a modern path was routed to view the resulting 200 metre hole. This is highlighted with the yellow line over the green dotted path. The well is no longer visible, but from the example it can be seen that the route of paths can & do change within a short period of time. The same principle can also be used to identify old field boundaries, crop marks & buildings that are no longer there. So don't take what you see on the ground for granted, as can be seen from this example & the use of Google Earth.



That's all in this article by PhilD & Puffin, we hope you have found it useful & have lots of fun with Google Earth.

Support UKDN and the PAS

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

<http://www.forumukdetectornet.co.uk/phpBB2/index.php>

Contact UKDN

enquiry@ukdetectornet.co.uk

UKDN newsletters to download

<http://www.forumukdetectornet.co.uk/phpBB2/viewforum.php?f=166>

If you would like to **contribute to the newsletter** please contact either UKDN as above, Phil D via PM, or Corinne Mills at Corinne.mills@ourpasthistory.com

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 newsletter, which is distributed to, and read by, our membership and beyond. The newsletter 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 practise' 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 detectorist's 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 newsletter.