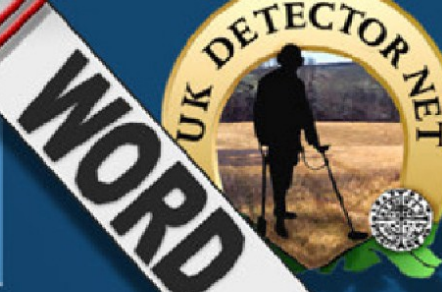


# The UKDN



ISSUE 30  
FEBRUARY 2010

World Of Responsible Detecting



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## 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

### 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](mailto: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.

# Message from UKDN Admin

**Welcome, once again, to the UKDN Word** and welcome in particular to the mass of new members we have gained since Christmas. No doubt many of you have seen the reports on the Staffordshire Hoard and bought a metal detector and come to this site.

Welcome to you and can we point you to the Beginners Section on UK DETECTOR NET Forum at <http://www.forumukdetectornet.co.uk/phpBB2/viewforum.php?f=24> here you will find all the information you need, legal and general, to help you get started responsibly.

We brought in a new Moderator, **Coreservers**, and trust you will all help make him feel comfortable in the new post remembering that these members give up their time just to help make the forum run sweetly for you all.

The UKDN Web Site has been totally revamped. If you've not seen it for a while or never seen it then visit [www.ukdetectornet.co.uk](http://www.ukdetectornet.co.uk)

If you have not yet purchased a metal detector then please consider buying it from any of the manufacturers and dealers who support us. You can see a list by going to the UK DETECTOR NET Web site at <http://www.ukdetectornet.co.uk>

As mentioned last month this year is 410 AD year so the newsletter focus throughout the year will be on the Romans. In particular we are looking for articles based on the Roman period or even just photographs of a wonderful Roman find you may have made.

On a final note we will be holding our next UKDN Free Lottery on Thursday 4th February so pop in then and take a look.



## Coreservers becomes new moderator

During the last week in January we brought in a new Moderator - **Coreservers**.

Coreservers, Alan Campbell 45, lives, works and detects around Midlothian.

Roman Britian is his favourite historical period, as Roman silver coinage is an interest he is very keen on. He is currently trying to have his autobiography published and is writing a book of detecting memoirs, to be published as an Ebook.

We thank Alan for giving up his time to help us keep UKDN on an even keel and trust you will all take time to welcome him on the forum.





## George III Spade Guinea

By Gaz - (Gareth Lloyd)

Hi everyone, hope all of you had a great Christmas and will have a lucky New Year!

My luck seemed to start early this year when I was invited along with several other fellow club members to detect on some new land. It all started from when my club, WHRADA had it's 25th anniversary rally in Over Stowey, Somerset last year now. Some of you may have attended, it was a great day out in which the weather was fantastic. Some great finds emerged as well as a couple of small hoards.

As news of the rally spread, some interested neighbouring landowners attended to see what the day was all about. One owner in particular was so impressed with the how the day went, he contacted WHRADA to invite us to see if anything of interest would emerge from some of his land. In one day, some of the most interesting finds came out. Many of which have been donated to a finds box which Jerry (JBM) will present to the landowner as a memento of the day.

In the morning, I found my best hammered penny ever. Tom Redmayne has identified it as an Edward 1st Class 4a Canterbury penny. I've given that to Jerry Morris for the landowner. Des and myself had stopped for a bite to eat at lunchtime and decided to move to a second field. Just as we got out of the car to kit up again, Des said, "c'mon then, let's go and find that gold!" It's a bit of a standing joke because neither of us at that point had hit any gold. Ten minutes later.....BANG!

I had a cracking signal on my ETrac. The grass was quite long and not ideal for getting good sweeps, but I sliced three sides of a plug and turned it over. I just seem to remember that the sun was behind me and as I looked at the plug, I saw half a coin gleaming. My heart began to race because things don't usually come out of the soil that colour. I called over to Des to which he paced over quickly! "What do you think that is mate?" I said. Without question he replied, ".....that's gold mate!" He carefully lifted it from the plug to which we saw it in all it's glory!!

A George III 1787 22ct gold spade guinea. A dream come true!

At the end of the day, we all gathered at the owners house to show our finds. Steve (Buzzy) and Jerry (JBM) had already mentioned to the owner that it had been found as I called them with the news.

I was preparing myself for either going halves with the owner to keep my first gold or him saying that he wanted it.

With my heart pounding I handed the coin to him. He thought it was absolutely fantastic. That's when I thought....."Oh dear, here it comes!" He then handed it back to me and said, "Well done, you did the hard work, you keep it!"

## A true gentleman!

Gaz.

## George III Spade Guinea By Gaz - (Gareth Lloyd)





## Find of the Month Artefact - Medieval Harness Pendant

By dicktec (Rich)

Two months previous to finding the pendant I'd sold my Goldmaxx as the kids were getting more demanding, so I felt the right thing to do was sell it, to spend all my free time at home. Wrong move! Two months of the withdrawal was getting to me, the desire to get out finding was too much.

I ended up buying a secondhand T2. Whenever I use a new machine I always try it on the same two fields,. The field I found the pendant on has a track running up to a field with thick high edges either side, where the track ends and meets the field. You can still see it extending to the end of the field, even though its ploughed every year, in the past it's produced the odd hammered, a roman brooch and quite a few medieval buckles.

The day I found the pendant, I got up at 11.30 am after my nightshift. I took the missus to work for 12.00, so i'd got 3 hours before i'd got to pick the kids up from school. I got back home to pick the detector up; she had left me a note of things to do, so the choice was - go detecting with my

new T2 and take some flak later or tidy the house,.

No contest, I couldn't get on that field fast enough.

I walked towards the end of the track from another entrance onto the field. This part of the field has never produced a lot of finds, so it was more of a hurried walk to get to the hotspots. The second signal in, I put the spade in and turned over the spoil. I could see a green shield shape, which I recognised as an heraldic pendant. My next thought was to hope that the crest was intact. I turned it over and saw a beautiful rampant lion with some red enamel still remaining. Finding something that is personal like an heraldic pendant makes finding something that bit more special to me, as it relates an object to a name to me 600 years apart.

Cheers Rich.



*UKDN Members  
Find of the Month  
2009 winning  
artefacts*









**Winning Artefact - Anglo Saxon Gold Ring - Roto-op**





***UKDN Members  
Find of the Month  
2009 winning  
coins***











**Winning Coin - Addedomoros Gold Stater - Digger33**





## FIND OF THE YEAR—COIN

Addedonorous Stater

### DIGGER 33

The coin was found on a field that shows some crop marked enclosures and a round barrow. We have had 3 silver and a few bronze iron age coins from the field but little else. On the day it was found I had not got anything but junk all morning and had been sitting in the car at lunch time dozing with a bit of a headache. After a while a lad on a trials bike came past the car on the track way and woke me up.

Feeling a bit refreshed I decided to carry on detecting so chose a line on the field that showed some deep chalk that had been picked up by the plough. I only followed this for about 30 paces when the signal rang out, so spade in and flick out the earth as normal and there it was - a lump of the soil was showing the edge of a gold coloured object!! I somehow just knew what it was from its thickness and curvature.

I screamed at my mate who was about 100 yards away and ran full pelt towards him. Upon landing I gently peeled off the soil from the horse side while my mate watched and we both gasped at the fantastic quality of the horse and design, I then I did the same for the other side and the strange double crescent device caused an equal gasp. I remember saying that it looked like a very rare type at the time and this has proved to be the case. This is my 7th gold coin of my detecting career and definitely the best thus far.



## FIND OF THE YEAR— ARTEFACT

### Saxon gold ring

#### Roto-op

Roto-op wrote an article for the newsletter about his "Field of Dreams" and also a feature about the winning artefact which you can read by clicking on this image to the right...



He also tells us:

Still waiting for report from the National Museums of Scotland, since the ring came up I've found a Anglo/Saxon/Swedish sword pommel, a couple of hair pins and a strapend of Norse manufacture, so they could all be connected but to early to say again waiting for the NMS.





# FIND OF THE **YEAR**—HOARD

## Edward III Hoard of gold and silver hammered

### Silver Fox

Silver Fox (Brian) wrote an article for the newsletter about his hoard which you can read by clicking on this image to the right...

He also tells us:

We went back to the field the next week and re dug the hole out , but deeper this time and found [just] 1 more coin a **GOLD NOBLE** and some more pot .The coroner said they will let us know when a date has been set.



## Kestrel in flight

### Coenwolf



Kestrel taken at Gayton Sands nature park, Parkgate on the Wirral ,with a Canon 40d fitted with a Canon 400mm L series prime lens—hand held ,no image stabilisation

To see more of Coenwolfs photos click on the Flickr link below



UKDN FUN PHOTO-



## Red Rocket

### Out and About in the Red Rocket By Brian & Mo'



Perhaps readers of The Searcher have been wondering what has happened to the 'Red Rocket' series of articles. It is more than one year since they appeared in the magazine. We're glad to be able to report that all is now well after a series of disasters threatened to put the Red Rocket in the knackers yard for ever !!

It all began late last year when we set off for another adventure. Because we'd had a lot of trouble with the points on a previous trip Brian was taking no chances. The morning before our departure he took off the distributor and took it down to the local garage.

"Give this the once over", Brian told the mechanic, "I can't go more than 35 miles without having to adjust the points."

The mechanic took the top-plate off the distributor and watched stunned as all the insides fell onto the workshop floor. Surprised that the Red Rocket could even manage 3 miles never mind 35, the mechanic spent the next hour reassembling and repairing the distributor.

Once it was back in place, Brian could tell as soon as the engine started that the Red Rocket was running better than it had for many months.

We packed the van next morning, a Saturday, and headed off for the fields which were just coming out of crop. We'd gone no further than one mile from our house when the Red Rocket engine suddenly dies. Examination found the points closed shut and the top plate loose !

#### No Turning back

Did we have to go home? How could we carry on? We were adamant that we would not be turning back even at this early stage. We'd only be going

back to sit at home and wonder what we might have been finding. Brian secured the plate screws and adjusted the points and the Rocket fired up with a little reluctance.

Off we went again towards and onto the M62. Doing 35 mph on a motorway is no joke and more than a little risky. Brian spent more time looking in the rear view mirror than out of the front, ready, if necessary, to bang on his flashers if a 42 ton truck appeared not to have noticed the slow speed of the Rocket.

We had to pull off the motorway twice, once to adjust the points and then again to call into a garage to buy some spare points. Slowly but surely we edged our way towards the fabled land of farm fields, Roman coins and mucky, instead of oily hands.

The stretch of the M62 that crosses the Pennines is the highest piece of motorway in Britain. The approach to the highest point involves several 'long pulls', stretches of stiff climbs which brought the speed of the Red Rocket to about 25 mph.

Most readers will know that the Red Rocket is so -named because its top speed is a fabulous 55 mph when it has a strong wind behind it, it is not loaded up and is running in tip-top condition. Can you imagine our surprise when, on running down the motorway hill on the other side of the top the speedo nudged to 55, then 60, then 65 and then gingerly towards 70?

With a whoop and a cry we both shouted "C'mon Baby" as the engine screamed and we felt as if we were doing 135 mph. Brian lost his bottle and took his foot off the accelerator.... Bang, bang, bang, went the engine as the big ends rattled and our speed dropped rapidly.

## Intensive care

To cut a long story short this put the Rocket off the road for a long time. A new engine was required and when people asked Mo' where the Rocket was, she would answer, "It's in intensive care."

Over the next few weeks we attempted to get an engine from the towns around Huddersfield but couldn't. The Rocket had to be brought back to Runcorn.

We had to resort to popping out in the car for our detecting but because of work and commitments couldn't travel for days away or for long distances. Nothing of real interest was found on these local trips.

It was nearly three months later when we had the Rocket parked up outside the house again and were busy loading it with food and detecting equipment.

The new engine did not perform as well as expected and 55 mph was its top speed, not that Brian had any inclinations to exceed it.

It was now early in 1993 and luckily we could still find land on which to detect. The one field we had wanted to get on, from where we recovered two Saxon brooches, a pair of Saxon tweezers and some hammered coins, was seeded once again. This was to be the second year we had missed getting back onto it.

We ended up on a field where, some years earlier, Mo' had found a hammered coin. The farmer told us that when he had cleaned a ditch out at the far end, he had found a mass of Roman pottery. It was certainly worth a try.

The weather was glorious and up and down we tramped. It was a full hour before anything metal turned up although we had both picked up the odd piece of Roman grey ware. We think it was here that Brian's Spectrum first switched itself off in disgust. The Spectrum is fitted with a battery safe-guard supposedly to save the batteries should the machine be put away still switched on. Apparently if the electronics do not sense a signal within a certain amount of time the machine will switch itself off.

Brian shouted to Mo', "My machine is so fed-up it's switched itself off!" This happened on several occasions that day.

Mo' found the first coin, this was a battered Sestertius, possibly of Faustina. It gave us renewed enthusiasm to continue on this relatively quiet part of the field.

## Before lunch

Some two hours later, just before we had decided to break off for lunch Brian got a loud signal on his Spectrum. Digging down he unearthed a Roman head. It has been identified as possibly being of Minerva and may have been used in a Roman house.

There is a fitting in the centre of the back where it was attached to something. It is a shame that half of the face has suffered by being buried, the surface patina has come away and corrosion has set in.





We broke off for lunch and then continued until it went dark. Only one more Roman coin came up, this was found by Mo' and was a reasonable dupondius.

We slept in a lay-by that night and were up early the next morning. The days were very short and we didn't want to lose too much daylight. We decided not to go back to the field where the Roman head had come from. It was important that quantity of finds was taken into consideration. Whilst the field was worth searching if we lived locally, we had to admit that finds were few and far between.

### **A strategic point**

We decided to look at some land on one of the few areas of high ground in this part of the country. It was a well-known fact that in early times this area was well-used mainly from a security point of view (you could see for miles from there) but also because the lower land was probably quite boggy.

Seeking permission proved to be difficult, other detectorists had pestered the farmers a lot and one or two had given sole detecting rights to the odd detectorist or group of detectorists. We finally gained permission from a kindly old chap for two fields which our research had shown had a scattering of pottery on.

We were already into the afternoon and were on the first field within five minutes of gaining permission. This was a busy field in that it was full of modern rubbish. We found numerous fly and coat buttons, nondescript pieces of machinery, bits of twisted metal and the usual Vicky and Georgian grotty copper coins. No chance of the Spectrum turning itself off here.

Mo' found the first interesting item, a Tudor clothing fastener. It looked a bit rough when it first came out but has since cleaned up not too badly. It appears to show a face.

We persevered with this field for the remainder of the short day, promising ourselves that the next day we would try the other field. It was growing very cold after the clear skies of the day and believe it or not we were tucked up in bed at

5.30pm, the stove and a glass of whisky warming us up.

The next day was bright and sunny and the fields were covered in a white frost, soon to be melted by the warm sun. By eight o'clock we were on the second field which proved to be much quieter than the first. It was so quiet that after a long while Mo' shouted and jumped about. "Ha, Ha, I've got a signal here, I've got a signal. You can buy it if you like, for 50p."

This is the sort of banter we enjoy, it's great when even though you're not finding much and the weather is cold or wet, you can still keep your spirits up and have some fun.

The signal wasn't much and Brian was glad he didn't buy it but half an hour later Mo' turned up a short-cross hammered. We believe it to be a Richard I penny.



Nothing else of note came from this field nor indeed for the remaining three days of this trip, except for a couple of medieval buckles and a battered crotal bell.

The Red Rocket got us home safe and sound, much to our surprise. It was the first trip in a long time where Brian had not needed to change the points.

We were anxious to make up for lost time and shortly after we were off again.

The first few days were very barren and we were beginning to think that maybe it was about time we sought some more new land. We were now often searching fields we had searched for three or four years on the run and although we know you can never get everything out of the ground, finds do become more scarce .

We decided to try a field where we'd had a couple of Roman grotty A4s when we first started coming to this area. Luckily the field was still free and the landowner at home. We gained permission to search and then, on the way out, bumped into a local character we had met some years before.

Not having seen him for several years he invited us in for a cup of tea and a piece of cake. He should have been a chat show host because he could talk the hind leg off a donkey. He was a German who had been brought to this part of the country as a POW and after the war, had decided to stay as there wasn't much for him to go back to.

As a treat for us he gave us several large chunks of his home-made brawn which he makes from the flesh of a pig's head. It looked and tasted absolutely gorgeous. We thanked him, anxious to get on the fields after such a long stay, Brian had been watching the sun gradually going down as the old chap told us his humorous tales.

### **Old Yellowbelly confirms**

We headed towards the area of the field where we had found those Roman coins several years ago. Finding a few pieces of grey ware we knew we were in the right spot. We found several more A4s over the next hour or two. Then Mo' found a head which we felt could be Roman and that it was probably a decorative fitting off something. Old Yellowbelly on a recent visit to our house confirmed this.



*Thought to be a Roman head.*

That evening, in the dim light of the Rocket interior, we tucked into the brawn, making big brawn butties from a French loaf we'd bought. We really enjoyed them, very appetizing and filling. It was only when we got up the next day and when Mo' was putting up some sandwiches that she shrieked with horror. Sticking out of the brawn that was left were pigs whiskers! The thought that she might have eaten several of these in the dim light of the previous evening has probably put her off brawn for the rest of her life!

A while later saw us on the same field diligently trying to wheedle something else out. In the afternoon Brian got a signal and unearthed what was obviously a Roman silver coin. But it was coated in a hard crud with only a small part of the silver rim showing.

That evening we visited Mal and Jean Jubb and Wilf Butler called to see us and offered to take the coin and attempt to clean it.





## An interesting find

The next morning Wilf said to Brian that he had found something special, a double-headed Roman denarius. On examination it had the head of an emperor on one side and the head of a different emperor on the other. We'd never seen or heard of anything like this coin and Brian immediately had visions of being able to get rid of the Red Rocket once and for all.

That day was spent socializing with members of the Doncaster Club and nothing was found by either of us. The following day we had a last fling on three fields searched in a hurry by us a few years ago. We found a total of seven small Roman bronzes here, two medieval buckles and a battered Roman denarius. This was found by Mo'.



*The double-headed Roman denarius*

One side bears the head of Antoninus Pius whilst the other shows his adopted son Marcus Aurelius. Apparently the coin is a commemorative issue and is only classed as scarce. Strangely within three weeks of our return from this trip we saw two more of these coins that had been found by detector users.



*A battered Roman denarius*

the  
searcher

<http://www.thesearcher.co.uk/>

## Search for gold wedding ring

### Donnydave (Dave Watson)

I noticed a message on the UK DETECTOR NET forum from Brian & Mo asking if anyone could help find a lost ring in Dronfield, Derbyshire. I visited the post a couple of times and noticed no one had offered to help yet, so I brought it up on Google earth to see how far away it was from me, and it looked a straight forward journey of 31 miles. This is my average travelling distance to my own search area, so I decided to offer my help.

Brian Cross forwarded the blokes contact details and then I noticed a few more forum members had also offered their services so I arranged a search for Thursday morning and contacted three other members in case they were available to help. The more the merrier was my idea, but the weather turned for the worse and the snow we had all experienced over that couple of weeks turned to black ice on the roads.

I contacted Paul the guy who had lost the ring and he confirmed he was housebound as well with black ice, so I called the search off. After speaking with Paul over the phone it seemed he wasn't sure where the ring had been lost, in the back garden, on the route of about three quarters of a mile to the nature reserve or on the nature reserve itself. I was thinking this could be a long search session.

Thursday turned out not too bad—the snow had started to thaw, so I contacted Paul again and arranged to meet him on Friday morning at 09.00 hours at his house. After taking my dog for a quick walk, I set off for Dronfield with the aid of my sat-nav with Paul's post code keyed into it. The weather was turning again - it rained all the way into Sheffield and as I approached the M1 the traffic was grinding to a halt, the rain turned to snow, the motorway warning signs were show-

ing fog patches, and the rest of the journey was bumper to bumper - but the sat-nav got me there in just over an hour ,and on turning into Paul's cul - de - sac, it was still full of frozen snow.

Paul met me with a strong handshake and introduced me to his lovely wife and got dressed for the wet weather. We searched his small back garden first. There was a dozen positive signals but they were all under the ground so I left them. We then set off for park. He asked me to detect the pavement as we went. This was a first for me as I have never detected along a public road. I dug half a dozen signals from under the hard packed ice - all were tin foil or something hidden under the tarmac. The progress was slow, so I suggested we go straight to where he had made snowballs for his dog and check the rest of the pavement later.

On entering the park, it was still covered in four inches of crusty snow and we were met by a pack of dogs of every breed. Paul seemed to know them all by name. But here it was easier to detect, because the snow could be moved by my boot. It was here I discovered Paul was wearing steel toe caps. I checked all the signals with my Garret pin pointer and everything so far seemed to be under the surface, Paul then told me the park was built on an old landfill site.

We were approaching the far end of the park and I started having doubts about finding this ring - then Paul stopped and pointed to wooden post and said this was about two foot high with snow here and I made a snowball for the dog, so I gave it a good low search and I got a good cracking signal showing 58 on my T2 screen, I probed with my pinpointter and I couldn't believe it when the ring appeared in my hand, I handed it to Paul and said here you are we can go home now.



He just grabbed me in a bear hug and broke down sobbing a little, so I gave him a hug and said "come on pal time to go home". I would like to mention that Paul is ill with a serious illness but he is still working hard for a living, a great example to all of us. On the way back he was showing his new found ring to all the lady dog walkers he knew. They said "We wondered what you were doing, we thought you were looking for coins".

I said to him "Put it away safe". It seems he had put on some weight and started wearing the ring on his little finger, but it was slightly too large for that index, and that's why it had slipped off. To keep it safe, he put it back on the original finger and got it stuck! It was turning blue by the time we got back to his house , but he managed to remove it.

I stopped for a short natter and a welcome hot coffee. He mentioned he would be investing in a detector and joining our ranks. Just before I left for home, his wife came in from shopping and was amazed that we had found it from such a large search area.

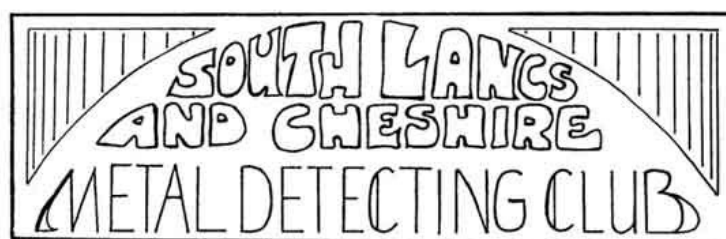
Donnydave



The South-Lancs & Cheshire Metal Detecting Club has been in existence since September 1978 and for a long period in the 1980's and 1990's the club newsletter was written by both Brian Cross and John Fargher. The front covers were designed by Dave Berry, club member and resident artist. The newsletter front cover became a classic of good humour, hobby relevance and fine design and each month the club members looked forward to what Dave was going to put on the cover. Many club members could see themselves captured by Dave and featured on the cover, Brian & Mo' for example, courting at the time, often saw themselves below a heart carved in a tree or Brian would be featured wearing Wellingtons on the end of suspenders.

Dave has kindly given us permission to feature some of the classic covers and for this we thank him.

Cover Explanation: **One of the club members, Arthur Owen, nick-named Pope Arthur, was always finding hammered coins even in those very early days, hence the micky-take with the trowel. Another member Bill Elson, kept finding sovereigns, usually on club rallies. Obviously all taken in good humour.**



NEWSLETTER  
OCTOBER  
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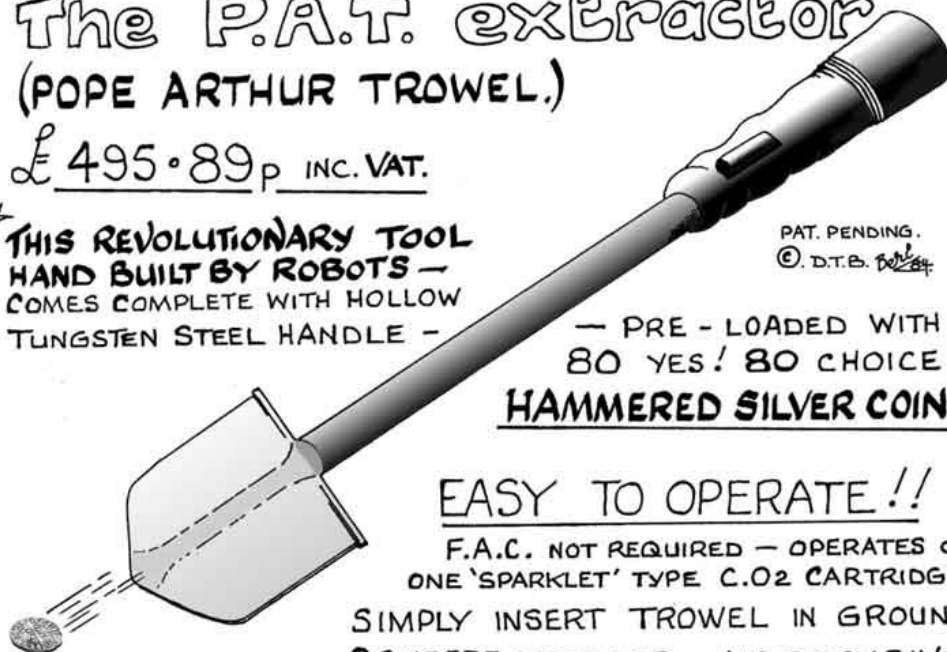
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## Torcs go on display

In Issue 28, we had a couple of articles about the Iron Age Gold Torcs found by David Booth from Blairdrummond. The torcs are on display at the National Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh until 10th February.

The top image shows David and his partner Carolyn. They are expecting their own little treasure very soon too!



*UKDN Members  
Roman Finds*









