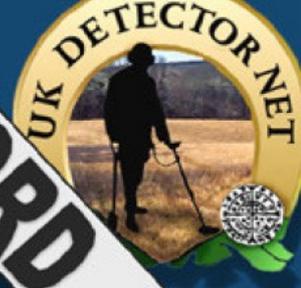


The UKDN

World Of Responsible Detecting

WORD



Issue 38

October 2010



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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

<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>

View online

<http://en.calameo.com/books/00012160634bfe9ad3f0c>

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.

Message from UKDN Admin

Welcome Everyone

Well what a year it's been so far with another hit and miss summer coming to a close and the cooler days with darker nights coming in faster and faster! The harvest seemed at first that it may be early with some fields being cropped in July, but the weather saw that off with many fields still being harvested at the beginning of September. This as we all know has a knock on affect with fields being turned around ever-so-quickly. We hope during this yearly mad dash to plough and seed that you managed to get onto the nicely rolled fields to rescue some of those precious and hard fought after finds.

UKDN in its current form has now been around since September 2002, so this is our eighth year as a detecting forum and of course all round resource. In that time so much has happened within the hobby, some good, some bad, but through all that there has always remained a sense of being part of a community of like minded people. UKDN has without doubt had a positive impact in many ways both at a national, Regional and local level, but more importantly on a personal level too! People who have joined UKDN as strangers have developed good friendships and of course plenty of good detecting partnerships. None of this was, or is possible, without you the membership and so we want to thank you for making UKDN what it is in conjunction with the highly committed team of which we are so proud and thankful for. We hope that as we stride toward our ninth year that you will consider contributing in some way that will be of benefit to both yourselves and of course our wider community! Thank you to everyone who contributes to what our track record shows to be the UK's premier detecting web-site.

It's good to see in this edition so many of our members who have given us a picture of themselves, can we have more please! How about a picture of you and your detecting partner in the field! Show us who is responsible for creating all those detecting widows left at home on a weekend, or maybe you've managed to get your wife or partner involved....we'd like to see them please! Send your pictures to Corinne or PhilD, thanks.

We're still looking for plenty more contributions for the Newsletter please, any article however large or small will be gratefully received; as long as it's detecting or heritage related we'll publish it. If anyone has any rally reports that they could allow us to publish along with any photographs then please let us know.

Your club reports are now being accepted for inclusion in the UKDN Word so please remind your club PRO person to send them in to one of the team.

Good luck in the fields through these coming few weeks and let's see some pictures of those finds on the UKDN Forum.

Brian & Mo' and the UKDN Team

Find of the Month Coin—**Saxon Porcupine Sceatta**

By **Tinner**

One thing I enjoy about our hobby is that the next step could bring gold, silver or most likely a cartridge or an artifact. The thing is you just do not know and every trip is therefore an adventure. Most Sundays dad and I go out, and this day was much the same as others. We talked about the fields available, worked out the easiest to detect on, and off we went. We are very lucky to have land to detect on which is on our doorstep, and for that I must thank the farmer on whose field I found this lovely little saxon coin.

The morning was going quite well. Dad was off over the other side of the field and I had found a little hot spot with a few bits coming up: a couple of buckles; a musket ball; a belt decoration mount; and some bits of bronze. This was encouraging as we have had all sorts from this field. I was working an area of about 20m long just very steady, making sure to cross over my foot print each time. It still amazes me that with a coil of 10" and a field which is huge, the odds of finding something about 5mm across must be massive but the next signal was to prove it can happen. A nice crisp signal both ways, the digital read-out suggested that it might be a good find so down on the knees I went, a wave of the probe brought me nothing which is a good sign. So then I went in with the spade, turning it over to check with the probe. This gave a clear signal. It was up! I pushed the soil away gently with the probe and could see an edge of silver. I thought perhaps it could be another button but this had the look of a coin. As I picked it up, I could just make out the lines of what I thought was a porcupine sceattas.

I had my camera with me so I took some shots as it came out of the ground and waved at dad. Funny thing is when one of us gets a good find we always seem to be looking at each other, so he headed over to see my find straight away. "You lucky *****" he said with a big smile.

When we had rinsed off the coin, we could see it was porcupine sceattas with geometric figures on the back (of which there are many different types). Mine has TT XL with O in the middle. I have not yet been able to find a match - maybe when we record our next lot of finds the FLO may be able to tell me whether one has been recorded before.

This is only the second one I have found in 10 years, so to say I am pleased would be an understatement.

Thanks for all the votes!

Good luck

Tinner





Find of the Month Artefact—**Gold Brooch**

By **Donnydave**

I was lucky to find this brooch because it registered as iron on my T2, well the grunting iron sound was telling me iron but the screen was showing a good ferrous signal, I thought maybe a poor quality 12 bore shotgun end? This stubble field we had been searching for awhile now and the signals were getting fewer on every outing, plus the long dry spell was not helping. I dug it anyway, and sure enough up popped a 3" long 2"x ¼" piece of flat ferrous bar. I refilled the hole and checked again with the detector just in case and a cracking non-ferrous signal in the high 50s, 56-58 was showing on the screen so I removed the loose soil checked with my Garret pinpointer and out popped the gold brooch. At the time I was hoping it was an old treasure item, because of the previous Roman and Saxon finds off this field, but I knew in my own mind it was probably Victorian and brought in with the night soil. I took it along to the museum along with a group of other finds to record with my FLO Amy and she thought Victorian also, "but bring it back if you find out different Dave" she said. I decided to enter it into the find of the month because it is still an attractive find.

Donnydave







Photograph of the Month Competition
DSLR Camera

Winner— Cheapo

“Caught red handed”

Canon 500d

(Not my dog, a dog I saw running in a field)



Photograph of the Month Competition
Point Press & Pray

Winner— Squonk (Andy)

Bumble Bee on sunflower in my garden.

Ricoh R8 compact in macro mode

Hand-held, flash on F5.4, 1/1520 sec

**The Sue Hardy Charity Memorial Rally held
by Warsop Metal Detecting Society
by PhilD**



**The late
Gordon Hardy**

Secretary Brian and Mary wish to thank all the helpers who made the rally a most successful event - also special thanks to White's Electronics & Malcolm Jubb for their help with prizes and demonstrations.

We are pleased to announce that £500.00 was raised for the charity at the Kings Mill Hospital, Mansfield.



I would like to thank Brian for inviting myself & my friends to attend the rally





Guests line up for the token hunt





Every dog has it's day, I got lucky on Saturday with this beautiful Edward I Class 3g London Penny, by far the nicest looking hammered coin I have found





York club member Dave on the left got off to a slow start but ended up with a lovely Edward I Class 3a Penny and Edward IV light coinage Penny York mint





The candelabra feast on Saturday night with lots in fancy dress





Mary presenting the cheque to Sue Hardy, champion detectorist John Cook (left), Saturdays winner Val Wilmot and Sundays winner Denis Wells (right)



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. Here's another classic from Dave Berry, dating from October 1986.

Cover Explanation: During the late 1980's, two groups evolved in the club, one called the Ant-Hill Mob and the other The Untouchables, named after Elliot Ness's team. One group did the parks and the other the fields and friendly rivalry came into being both in the club, over the telephone and in the newsletter. Here is Dave's take on The Untouchables whose members were Brian Cross, Mo', Chris Dempsey, Known as The Patch, and one or two others. :-)



Updated user report – V3 and V3i

By Ramases.

Those of you who have read previous Newsletters will have seen my report of my first impressions of the V3 that I wrote about last year. As promised, here is an update based on my developing experience of this amazing and challenging machine.

So, how has it been? To be honest – excellent. As time has gone on I have delved deeper into the menus to try out the various settings available on the V3(i), tweaking the settings to suit my preferences and site conditions. Monitoring the (mainly US) forums has given me pointers as to how some of the settings interact (sweep speed, recovery delay, filters etc) and I now have a set of programs which seem to be working well for me in UK conditions.

I have added extra search heads with varying results. The 6x10 Whites elliptical started out as an excellent coil for wheedling out small coins from amongst the iron, but it deteriorated badly over a few months and I had to contact Whites for a replacement. They told me that there was a manufacturing issue with my coil, and they were working on a permanent fix. They have been very good at keeping me informed about developments and I have just received a special replacement 6x10 direct from Whites in the US. This is an “experimental” coil (with a new epoxy filling formulation) which I will be testing for them and feeding back my experiences. Initial impressions are that it is spot-on. It is rock-steady and can be run with Rx at 15 and Sensitivity at 90 with TX Boost on - basically flat-out - without any interference or falsing issues.

I have also added two SEF coils (a 10x12 and a 12x15) both of which work very well (the smaller coil is particularly “sharp” on small hammered coins). The bigger one is a bit of a monster but I bought it specifically to use on pastureland and for a “specialist” application where I thought there might be a hoard lurking (there wasn’t!). Because they are not “V-nulled” SEF coils need slightly different settings to a Whites coil, but using the V3i’s new Salt Mode smoothes things out extremely well and I can now run with much higher sensitivity levels, and I have been Hoovering up hammies at a rate of knots with all four coils!

As many of you will know, Whites released new software a while back to upgrade the V3 to the new i-spec. This was free for people who bought their machine more recently, but I had to pay for mine. Initially, I was pretty annoyed to be asked to pay for what I thought was a bug-fix (my V3 was only 8 months old!) but as things turned out, it was a lot more than that with (useful) added features. Having had it done, I am very pleased I did. New features include coil and ground selection options along with a heap of other tweaks (especially the addition of Salt Mode and Stereo Mixed audio) which, taken together, have made the detector a lot smoother and easier to use.

Thinking this through, given that so much of a high-end detector is the software nowadays, I think Whites could be doing Detectorists a huge favour here. Instead of having to consider replacing your detector with a new one when an updated model is launched, if the software can be added to an existing machine, it will save us a small fortune over the years. Let’s hope Whites will continue with this innovative approach and offer software updates with new features and enhancements from time to time.

So, what’s my overall assessment of my year with the V3(i)? Well, I have had a tremendous run of success with mine, especially since the middle of March when the weather improved enough to get out. I have had 22 hammered coins – 14 from a single field that has been well-searched by me and another chap who has in the past used a Goldmaxx and an E-Trac, so I’m very pleased.

Build quality of the machine itself is, as always with Whites, excellent. The coil issue has been a concern, but Whites' legendary after-sales service has been great and they have always gone the extra mile to help. Performance-wise, I feel that the V3i may not be the deepest seeker on the planet - though I've not done a side-by-side test with anyone to check, and I don't have a "test garden". However, it is by far the sharpest and most sensitive detector I have ever used - especially on tiny hammered coins (minted farthings and ha'pennies are its speciality) even when they are lying close to big bits of iron, where the V3i seems to "hang on to" and display enough positive signal to make sure it is not missed. To me, on my sites, this is more important as most of my fields are ploughed each year and my access to them is almost exclusive, so I'm not in competition with anyone else and what I miss this year I'll get next!

In summary then, I am a very satisfied V3(i) user. A year-on, it still has so many unique features - especially the brilliantly informative colour screen. There are so many settings to explore that, as things stand, I cannot see me ever wanting to replace my V3i with anything else, as I don't think there is anything else on the market that will serve me any better than the amazing V3i.

Happy hunting all.

Ramases.

P.S. I am still very interested in hooking-up with V3(i) users in the UK either in the field or online. Please contact me by PM through the Forum.



Medieval vessel with small hoard

By David Booth

It's been nearly one year since I started this great hobby and what a year it's been; I've had some amazing finds, made some new friends and met many interesting people.

Last week I had a bit of spare time in between finishing work and picking my daughter up from my parent's house. I arranged to meet a detecting buddy, Brian, for a quick detecting session on one of my fields. The field has produced a few medieval hammered coins and some nice artifacts in the past so we were hopeful that something would come up in the short time we had.

The weather was fine and the ground was quite dry so we took my jeep to the field to save time. We arrived, had a quick chat, wished each other luck and then headed off to see what we could find. The stubble is quite long this year so the going was a bit tough. Towards the end of the session we met up to compare finds, a few copper coins, one musket ball and some partifacts but nothing too exciting. I said to Brian that we only had ten minutes left and we set off again ever hopeful that something was going to turn up. I picked a direction and thought I would head off that way for five minutes and then turn and come back. My next signal was an iffy one which was jumping about all over the place, and was showing deep on the E-trac screen so I thought it might be deep iron. I decided to dig it anyway though and after a few minutes and about fourteen inches down I caught my first glimpse of the vessel rim, I've had a few vessel fragments out of the same field in the past so assumed this was another one. I then cleaned some more soil from around the rim and could see that it extended down a fair bit, my excitement started to build at this point. A few minutes later I had removed the complete vessel form the ground. At this point Brian was making his way over to pack up for the day. As soon as he saw me holding the vessel he came running over to have a look.

We now had a quandary, it was time to pack up and leave but the vessel had obviously sustained an impact from the plough at some point and we wanted to have a scan about for the missing parts of the handle, we also decided to have a quick look inside to see if the vessel had been buried empty or not. The soil was quite loose and when we turned the vessel upside down a small group of coins and a ring brooch came out, at this point I decided that we should leave the rest of the contents for the experts to empty. We then had a five minute scan around the area and recovered four pieces of handle and rim which had been broken by the plough.

At this point I really needed to go so we filled the hole in and arranged to meet up again the next morning to give the area a good search to see if we had missed anything, we recovered one more piece of the rim which was bagged up with the rest of the finds.

The vessel and contents are now at the Treasure Trove Unit in Edinburgh, I have had confirmation that the vessel has been X-rayed and that there are no more artifacts or coins inside so it appears that the hoard consisted of nine hammered coins and one silver ring brooch. The ring brooch has an inscription but I decided to leave the cleaning to the experts so I don't know what it says yet, the coins appear to be Edward 1st but again I am waiting for confirmation from the Treasure Trove Unit.

I doubt that my second year detecting will be as productive as the first but I really don't mind, it's just good to get out there, meet new people and dig some holes!

David Booth





Out and About in the Red Rocket by Brian & Mo'

November 1994 Issue 111



"Back on the Road" by Brian & Mo'

Before we commence telling you all of our recent trip in the Red Rocket can we just pass on a message to John Brassey, author of "This is how to do it – Writing your Article for the Searcher magazine", in the August 1994 issue of the Searcher. John mentions non de plumes and, "Brian & MO". We've news for you John and all the other readers of the Searcher – these are our real names.

Since our last trip the Red Rocket had been laid up for some time – the M.O.T had run out and we just didn't seem to be able to find the time to do the work necessary to get it back on the road.

Brian spent almost a whole week working on the van. Firstly he filled in all the holes and brightened up the paintwork, surmising that if the van looked better then it would stand a better chance of passing the dreaded M.O.T test. Maybe it worked, we'll never know, but for the princely sum of £200 the Red Rocket was back on the road.

We planned to leave at 7.30 pm when the M62 at Manchester was quiet and stay away for about one week. We finally left at 7.45 pm, the Rocket running like a dream.

Heaven was short-lived for just as we were about to merge into those notorious road works on the M62, the Red Rocket decide that it wasn't going to climb a hill that was barely visible to the naked eye. Our speed dropped to 25 mph with a cross-over section only several hundred yards away. We pulled into the coned-off area cursing the gods and the Red Rocket.

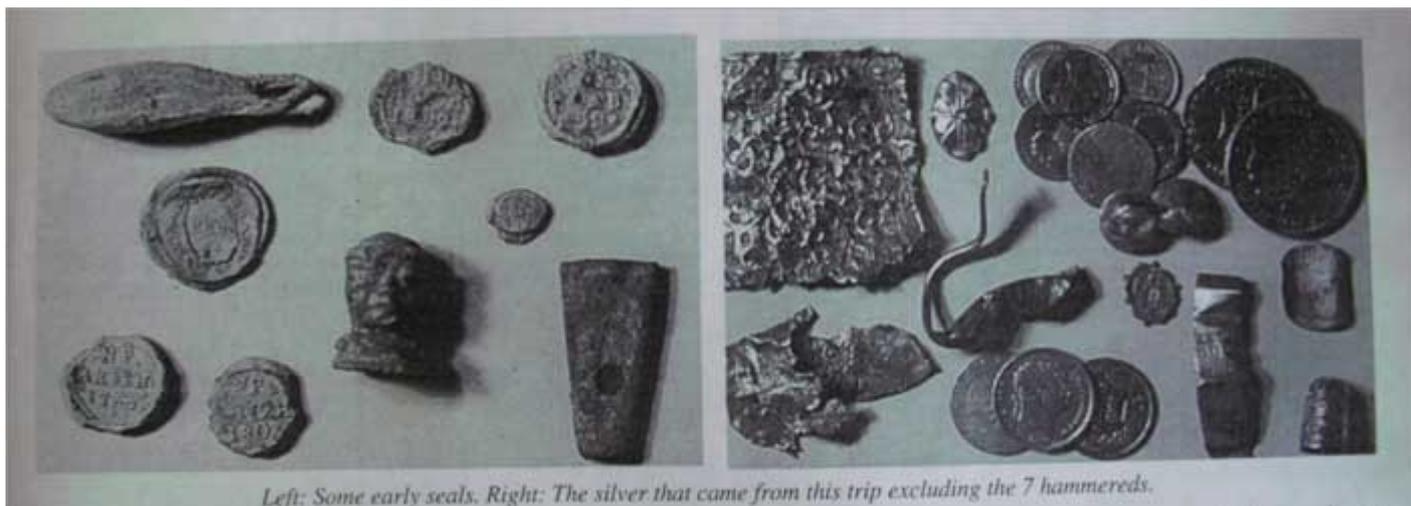
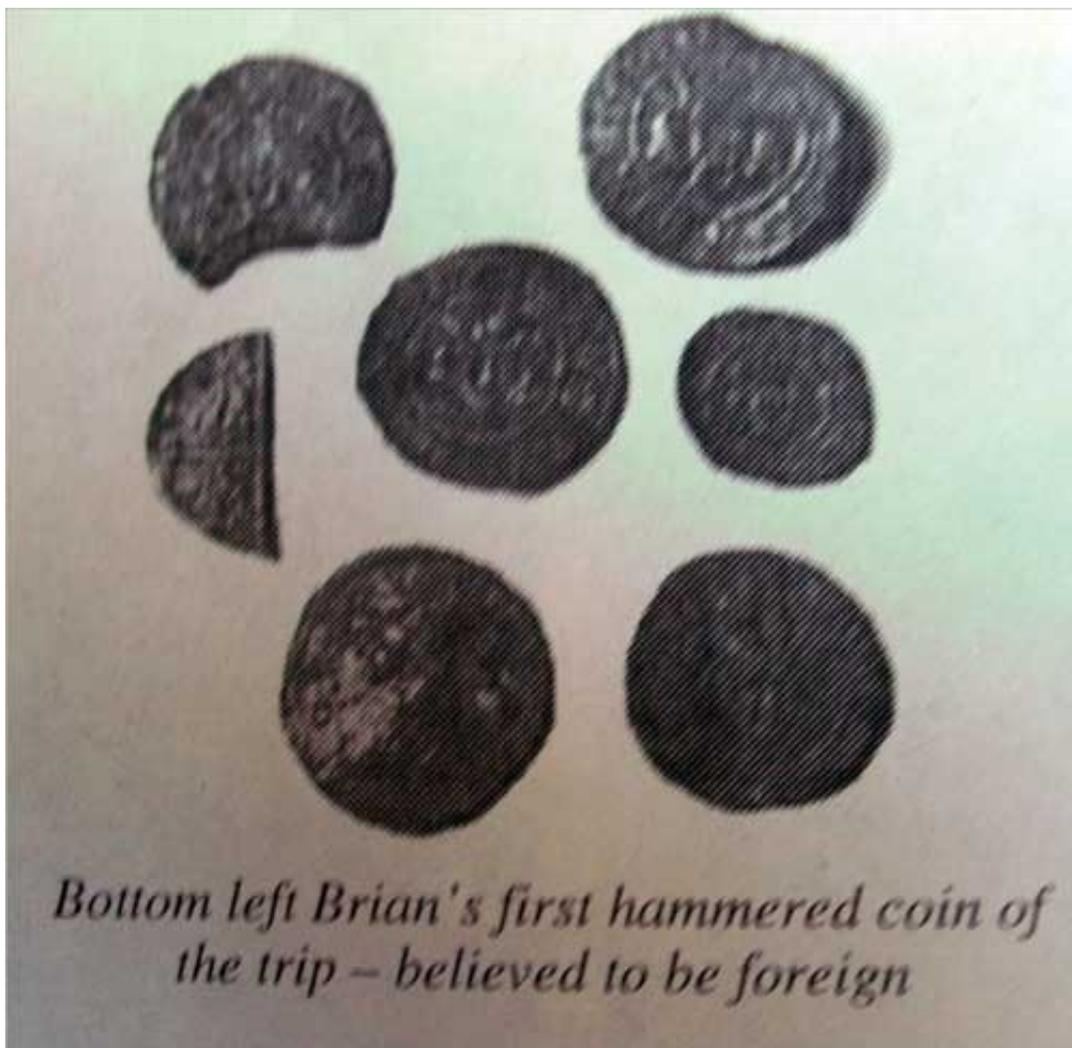
Seconds later, a breakdown truck turned up. That was lucky, here was a free offer of a tow to the next services, half an hour into our holiday and 23 miles from home!

The chap, a Yorkshireman, took us to Birch Services and unhitched the van. We spent the first night asleep in the car park. But strangely, the Red Rocket fired up the next morning and seemed to be in the peak of condition. Brian decided against going on the motorway at first in case of a problem so we drove on the A roads for about 30 miles. With the van running like a dream we hit the motorway after dinner and were at our destination in Yorkshire by 5.00 pm.

We pulled into a garage for petrol and behind the garage was a field that had been ploughed reasonably flat. We decided that this was as good as any other and the location was fine, the field of about 5 acres lying just on the outskirts of a small medieval town.

By 5.30 pm we had permission and were on the field on a glorious evening wearing just t-shirts. Mo's first decent signal was George III shilling dated 1816 – brilliant !!.

Although it had been ploughed this field was one of the hardest we had worked for a long time. It was like a stone quarry. It had been ploughed a month earlier and left to bake in the hot sun of the past few weeks and consequently each clod of earth that contained a signal had to be belted with a trowel to break it open.



About a quarter of an hour later Brian couldn't believe his eyes when, on breaking a clod, a hammered coin lay before his eyes. It appears to be foreign, certainly we cannot decipher anything on it that would indicate that it was English. What a smashing start to our holiday. We were now beginning to believe that this field COULD be a cracker.

Confirmation of this came about an hour later when, in the distance, Mo' could be seen signalling that she had found a gold ring and what a beauty it was too, probably of 22 ct gold, and a lovely yellow colour. The inscription inside reads, "god decreed wee agreed" and the style of lettering suggests a date of about 1650-1700. We would appreciate any further assistance from any experts out there who can tell us more about this lovely ring.

We packed in about 9.30 pm just as darkness was setting in. What we needed now was a campsite and remembering that two years earlier we had been allowed to park in the car park of a public house in this town we decided to call there and see if we could do so again. There was no problem and, after a few drinks in the bar, we bedded down for the night happy and content that for the next day or so we had some good land to go at.

The next day dawned bright and very hot. It was t-shirts and shorts time and we didn't even need wellies. We each selected an area of the field that appealed to us and started working it methodically.

It wasn't long before Brian found an Edward III hammered penny – two hammered's already and six days still to go.

Silver kept popping up amongst the other rubbish. Mo' found a silver thimble which unfortunately was badly damaged and then followed this with several more pieces of silver, probably ferrule pieces.

By 1 pm it was too hot to work so we decided to come off the field and find some shade.

Again we worked until 9.30 pm finding signal after signal, so much so that you couldn't walk more than a couple of steps without getting a bleep. Much of this was dross, Georgian and Victorian coinage, bits of buckles but in between all this was the odd goodie. Just before we packed in, a cut half of Henry III was recovered by Brian's Spectrum.

Mo's finds pouch also contained a small crotal bell in excellent condition except that the iron ball inside had corroded so much that it had swelled to block all the holes up. This is now soaking in some easing oil and should begin to free soon.

Other finds from this day included a couple of medieval buckles and a Victorian sixpence – more silver.

We saw the farmer again and showed him our finds. He was most interested and gave us permission to search the field next to the ploughed field which was in stubble and measured about 60 acres! Our main worry was that it might have been too dried out to work for when we walked over it, huge cracks where in the ground, testimony to the previous four weeks of very hot, dry weather.

We tried to get access to this field in the Red Rocket and ended up driving down a rough track at the back of some houses. We were stopped by a chap who was wondering what on earth this van was doing driving down such a rough track. He turned out to be a mine of information telling us where all the old buildings had been, when they were pulled down and where the tracks and footpaths went. This 60 acre field was once ten or so fields and in this area were three buildings and a couple of out-houses.

Knowing what she did, Mo' headed off towards an edge of the field where a very old farmhouse, probably medieval, was pulled down some years ago. Luckily the stubble had kept the worse of the weather off the field and it was quite easy to dig except for where the tractor had driven.

Within five minutes Mo' was making the sign for a hammered coin.

At 6 pm we caught the thunder storm that had wrecked havoc across Britain. Really it was a god-send because we knew that the field needed a good soaking and the rain was sorely needed by the farmers. We had worked for just over one and a half hours today but had still managed to pull something special out of the ground. We had no choice but to have an early night.

The next day dawned even hotter than previously, despite the thunderstorm of the evening before. We were on the stubble field at 10.30 am in tremendous heat and signals were coming up faster than they were on the ploughed field. We worked areas where David, the chap who stopped us on the track, had told us buildings had been.

Some time before dinner Brian found a lovely hammered half-penny of Henry V Bury St Edmunds mint.

We buried it to compare machines and it was when the Spectrum was passed over that Mo' was astonished at how loud the signal was from such a small coin. Her faith in her own machine was very much dented then so we decided to share the Spectrum, each of us having a two hour stint with it.

During the rest of the day Mo' did very well with the Spectrum finding a 1928 half-crown, two Victoria sixpences, a piece of hallmarked silver, a love token and a jews harp. Brian found a Victorian shilling late in the evening. The amount of silver these fields were producing puzzled us for the ratio of silver to bronze was very high. On one day we found eight pieces of silver – almost as much as the number of bronze coins we found.

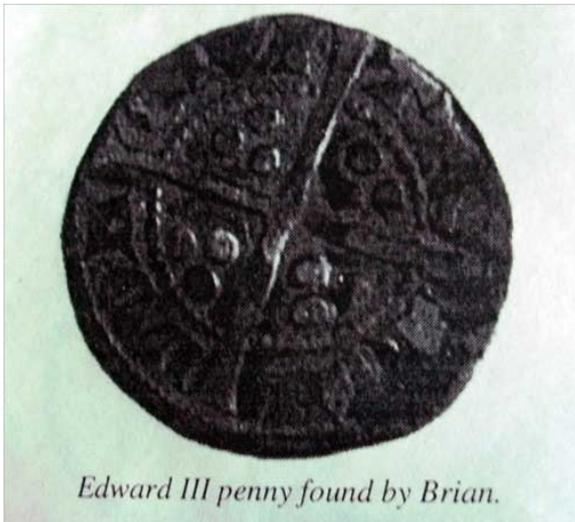
We were beginning to get a little weary now especially with working in such hot weather so we elected to do some sightseeing. We went to York and had a pleasant walk about. It was a welcome break but we didn't want to have a day of no detecting so were back on the stubble field by 4.30 pm. Nothing of note turned up, possibly because we tried the top end of the field far away from the houses. There were plenty of signals there but they all seemed to be modern trash and dross.

The next day we concentrated on the area where Mo' had found her first hammered. There were plenty of signals about here and after an hour or so Brian found another hammered penny. Mo' got another silver half-crown, also dated 1928. It was from this area that a couple more medieval buckles came up, proof to us that we were in the right area.

We struck up a friendship with another local named Walt. This man had lived here all his life and once or twice a day would come across to see how we were getting on and have a chat with us. He pointed out an area where he had helped to fill in a ditch, finding coins as he did so. He also confirmed the positions of one or two of the buildings but also told us where there was a well and the site of an isolation hospital.

We gained permission for three more fields and decided to try them for nothing else but a change of scenery.

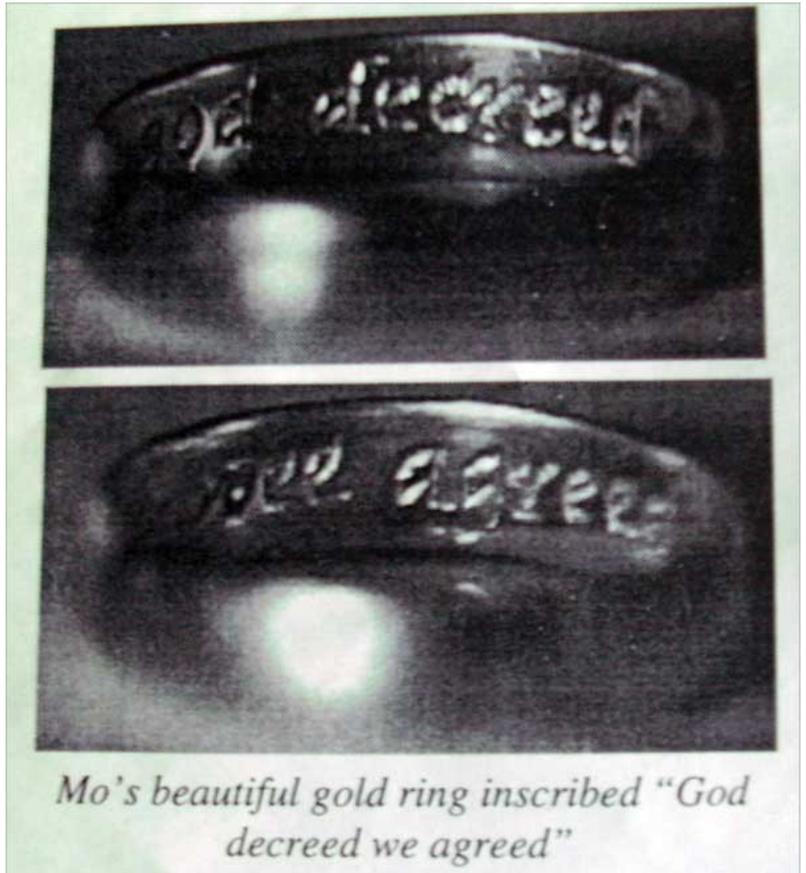
There was a marked contrast between these three fields and the two we had been working. We cannot say that there was nothing on them but certainly they hadn't seen the sort of activity that our previous two fields had. We decided to go back to the stubble and ploughed field.



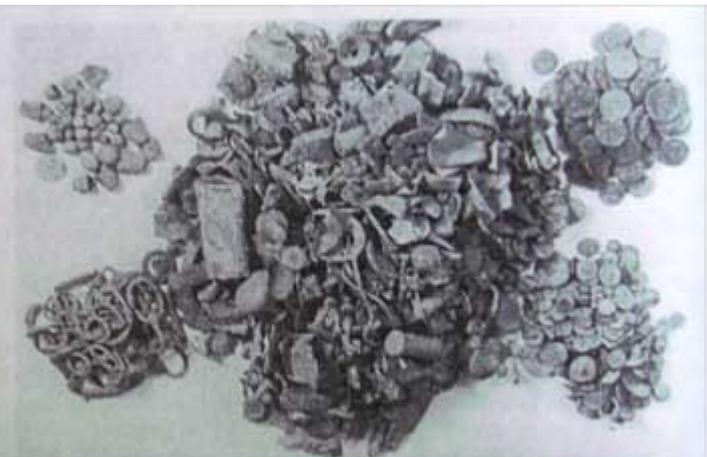
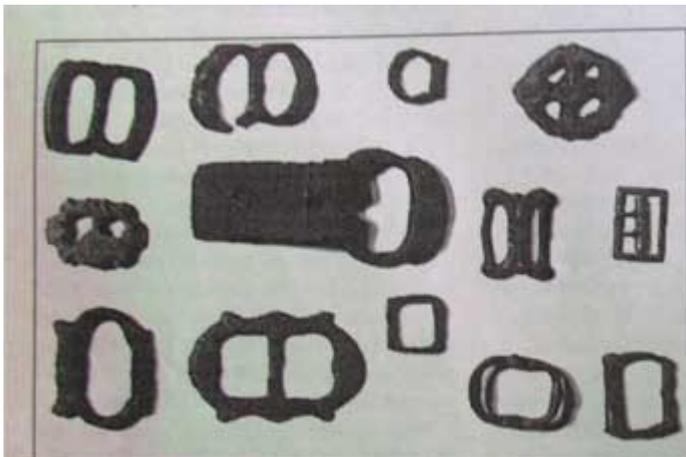
Edward III penny found by Brian.



Mo's hammered coin.



Mo's beautiful gold ring inscribed "God decreed we agreed"



Left: A selection of early buckles from this trip. Right: Overall view of the rubbish.

Brian took another look at the ploughed field and within an hour was walking back with a hammered coin. We knew that we'd never get them all off in this trip but at least we would be going home with some beautiful finds. Mo's gold ring being the Find of the Trip at present.

Three more pieces of silver came up, all date from the 1700's, and one piece in particular is large and possibly came from some sort of tin or box. It was during the evening that Mo' came up with a lovely double looped medieval buckle. This is unusual, we've never seen one described anywhere in the hobby magazines, and as the photo shows, it still retains quite a bit of the original gold gilt. From the style of the ends it is clearly medieval.

Normally we try to keep all our scrap for no other reason than to show the farmer just what we had removed from his fields. On this occasion the scrap was piling up faster than normal because of the number of signals we were unearthing. In fact, we found that a two hour stint was long enough, partly because of the heat and partly because of the weight of scrap we were carrying around.

Quite early into this trip we decided that we would keep all the bits and pieces we had recovered. We like our Red Rocket articles to contain tips for other users and not simply be a diary of our exploits. The bag of scrap was becoming very large and heavy and so we decided that when we came home we would weigh it all. There was an obvious lesson here i.e. never give up on a busy field simply because all that is showing itself is Georgian coins, for in amongst all the 'modern' stuff can be the occasional good find.

The next day was spent in a general search of areas we had not covered but produced nothing spectacular although we did find some early seals and a silver spoon, a medieval dagger chape and an early jetton. This proved to us that these areas held medieval artifacts and would be worth a look during our next trip. During the day Walt came across the fields to speak with Mo' again. He had a small bag with him and from it pulled out his father's wage book which was dated 7th September 1914 and showed that his father earned 1/- a week as an Officer on a submarine.

There was also a sepia family photograph which showed Walt and his wife, whom he had lost three years ago, along with his Mum and Dad and other family members. Finally he took out a brown and white plate which showed a pub scene and which dated to the early 1860's. He explained to Mo' that years ago whilst poaching on some land with his ferrets he had seen a lot of pottery on the ground. He saw the edge of that plate sticking out of the ground, pulled it and out it came - complete. He then went on to explain that he wanted Mo' to have it, 'cos she liked old things and because it would remind her of her holiday to this area. It now stands proudly on our mantelpiece.

A few weeks later Mo' went into hospital for her operation. We're glad to be able to report that she is now recovering and doing fine. Brian took the opportunity to empty out the bags of scrap onto newspaper in the kitchen and count every single signal. The results are as follows:

Total Weight = 26 lbs !!

Total Signals: 1,297 + good finds

This is made up of 860 scrap signals which include pieces of twisted lead, bronze, copper, wire, foil etc.

We found only 40 shotgun cartridges, something we weren't complaining about.

Buttons were in abundance with a total of 193 being found, most of these being the usual pewter button with a small number of 17th century, Civil War type. One or two small ones may have dated to earlier times.

Buckles and harness rings totaled 43 excluding the medieval buckles mentioned above.

Barrel tap and clock keys counted six in total and included the complete barrel tap found by Brian a couple of days into the trip.

Copper coins, consisting of a few modern but mostly Georgian copper totaled 111. Some of these are now being barreled as we believe some of them may be early tokens or jettons.

Musket balls are found everywhere and these fields were no exception. We found a total of 26.

Thimbles turn up often in ploughed fields and during the eight days we found eight bronze and one silver.

Two medieval loom weights turned up as did one medieval clothing fastener, unfortunately too damaged to be collectable.

A lead button, two copper-alloy spoons and one silver spoon complete the amazing tally of items recovered from these fields. Some of the photos show the extraordinary number of signals dug from these fields.

If the hammered coins had not come up very early into our detecting foray there is a possibility that we might have dismissed these fields as not being very good, as containing nowt but 'night-soil' or as holding nothing but Georgian rubbish.

Much of this hobby is about patience and being able to read what the ground and its surroundings are trying to tell you about its past. This includes the people who have lived with the ground throughout their lives. Our success on this Red Rocket trip was actually all down to them.



Detecting Display

by thebarnacle - Steve

Once every 4 years our local village of Brewood holds a Wake, the tradition can be traced back to the 13 century, its like a Village market where everyone comes out and basically has a good time with stalls rides and attractions.

We have put a display of our metal detecting finds now for our 5th time at this event, it is always great to display your finds and show people from the area what you find, and you always seem to pick up some new land or strengthen existing permissions.







A man in a white shirt is examining the artifacts in the foreground.

Rows of display cases containing various archaeological artifacts, including coins, tools, and small objects, each with a descriptive label.

Display case containing several coins and small artifacts on a green background.

Display case containing various tools and small objects on a red background.



Wedding Ring Recovery - By marcsdigs (Marc)

UKDN member brothereidos (Dean) had an email from a lady who lost her wedding ring on Sunday at the Royal Victoria Country park near Southampton. She knew the area it was lost but said there are a lot of leaves around making it difficult for her to locate it. He asked if any one can assist to PM him and he would pass on her details.

Brian Cross the UKDN site owner said "If you struggle to get someone by tonight then to PM him and he would send out a bulk email if you liked".

The next day I saw a message on the UKDN website asking for help to find the lost wedding ring, I sent a PM to brothereidos volunteering to have a look and was given the lady's contact information. She was very happy that someone could help and thanked the people who set it up.

The lady had given me a description of the ring, a Russian styled three band ring encrusted with diamonds with one missing and a very good 'rough' area where to find it. I hoped the detector was only needed to pin point it.

What I did do was to tell the cafe manager of the park what I was going to do just in case someone moaned as the lost ring was in the bushes, almost in a toddlers play area. I left my calling card and she told me, after I went back to tell her the good news of the find, that she placed it on the notice board.....you never know someone else may like our help.

I was quite lucky really and found it within 5 minutes....I'm sure if someone got on their hands and knees they would of found it too.....in the end. This the first time I've found gold too!

I was very happy as I phoned the owner and she was too and made arrangements for collecting it. Later that evening she turned up bearing gifts, two bottles of wine and a very nicely worded thank you card which made my day but made me feel very embarrassed as I told her I didn't want anything for doing it.

It was fun, I'm very happy as is the owner.



Dewsbury District Metal Detecting Club

Dog Tag Rally Report and Photos

Location Clayton West Huddersfield

By Sodbuster



Great turn out at the rally this weekend—chairman Stuart was out at 4.00am Saturday morning burying 50 brass dog tags around 70 acres of stubble land (getting a dog tag got you a prize)

Here comes the sunrise



At 8.00am detectorist's started arriving at the rally site at 9.29am. Chairman Stuart and rally organiser gives a welcome speech and a small talk to everyone about field boundaries and filling holes and dog tags and how to claim their prizes



The whistle is blown at 9.30am and off go the detectorists looking for items and dog tags



The first dog tag found seemed to take hours—here pictured above are 2 tag finders with their prizes which were presented by Gordon



Also here for the day was Finds Liaison Officer Kevin Leahy; National Finds Adviser for the British Museum - Early Medieval metalwork - to record finds on to the PAS database . Kevin's on the left and Dewsbury district metal detecting club chairman and rally organiser Stuart Littlewood on the right

The flo has his first find to record - a lovely fishtail roman brooch



Another nice find hammered coin—Elizabeth 1 six pence dated 1573 found by lady detectorist (pictured earlier with tag prize)



Another find that shocked us was this 2700 bc early bronze age axe head found not 20 feet away from a path between 2 fields by a club member

Steve aka: diggergrim happy finder of the early bronze age axe. I think steve as won the artifact of the month prize this month well done steve top find.



only 17 dog tags were found out of 50—so at 4.00pm we entered everybody's admission tickets in to the raffle and pulled out tickets till all prizes went .

TOP PRIZE WINNER OF THE MINELAB E-TERRE 705 METAL DETECTOR WITH HAT AND MINELAB FINDS POUCH WELL DONE ON PULLING OUT NO1 RAFFLE—TOP PRIZE PRESENTED BY CHAIRMAN AND RALLY ORGANISER STUART CONGRATULATIONS TO THE TOP PRIZE WINNER



Putting

a

Some of UKDN members

face

to

a

name

Hornsea Mick



Donny dave



John Wright



Nige150



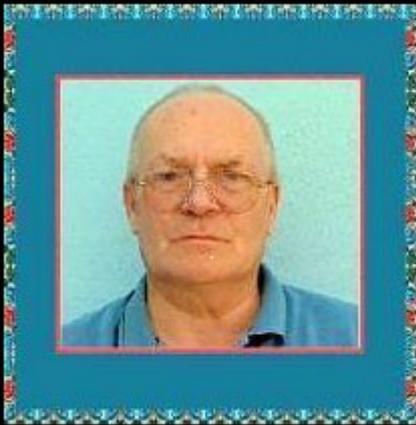
Yeti



Tom Redmayne



John Stokes



Davey i



Jorvik Andy



Marcos Digs



Corinne Mills



Jif



stepps110



Pete Twinn



Georgian Tim



PHIL D

