

UKDN WORD

WORLD OF RESPONSIBLE DETECTING

ISSUE NO.72
August 2013



Monthly Competition Winners



Inside: Musket Balls By
PhilD



inside:

NEWS, VIEWS, COMPETITION RESULTS AND MORE

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UKDN would like to thank Tom Redmayne for the cover page image, DetectingDavid for image enhancement and UKDN members for their input.

A Message from Admin

Hi Everyone

Welcome to the 72nd edition of Word magazine. Thanks to all who have contributed and also to those who helped with the putting together of this your FREE magazine !! Have you read them all? If not, go to

<http://www.forumukdetectornet.co.uk/phpBB3/viewforum.php?f=166>

The weather has been fabulous this past month and it is ending on a fantastic note with reports of oil seed rape and potatoes now being harvested. It is estimated that in about three weeks time rape, barley and wheat will all begin to get harvested.

Now will be a good time to pop around to that local farmer and seek permission for detecting as in three weeks he/she will be extremely busy and it'll be difficult to catch them with time to spare for a chat about giving you permission. Get out there now !!

The Deus raffle has just closed and will be drawn around the 5th or 6th of this month. The ticket stubs have to be posted to Regtons for the draw and we have to allow them time in the busy shop to do the draw and get it on Youtube. That's always an exciting time when we are waiting to see the draw take place.

Good luck to all who have taken part and thanks for taking part.

Brian, Mo' and the whole team.



Brian & Mo'
Founded UKDN in Sept 2002, Detecting since 1978.



Puffin
Here since Nov 2007, Detecting since 2007



Coreservers
Word Assistant Editor. Here since 2003, Detecting since 2003



Petethedig
Here since Nov 2002. Detecting since 1980.



Kev Woodward
Here since 2005. Detecting since 1990.



Tomredmayne
Here since Sept 2006, Detecting since 2005

The Admin Team



Kevmar
Here since Sept 2002. Detecting since 1978.



Karv
Techy Admin. Here since March 2004. Detecting since 2004

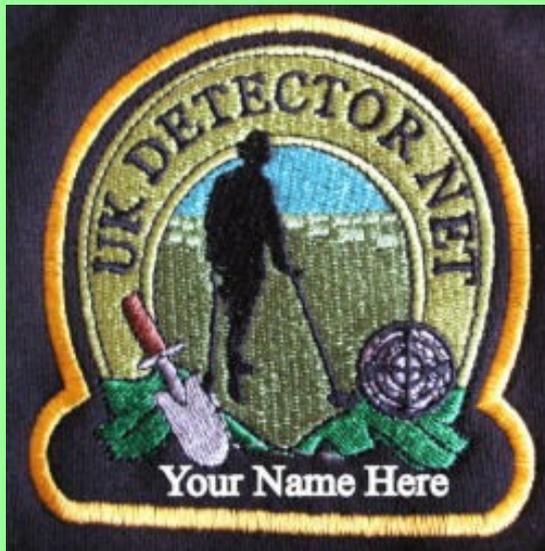
UK DETECTOR NET SUMMER DEUS RAFFLE

Well this is being typed with a few hours still to go before the raffle officially closes. Already we have sold more than £1540 worth of raffle tickets. Therefore we have already raised about £390 for the charity which you all chose by poll on the forum ie Macmillan Cancer Support.

There are a few expenses to come out but these amount to just a little postage and the purchase of the raffle tickets themselves. There are also still a few hours to go before the raffle closes.

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your tremendous support both in taking part in this great raffle and for being so generous with your ticket purchases. There are not many organisations who can splash out well over a thousand pounds for a raffle prize in the knowledge that they will not only get their money back without a problem, but also raise a considerable sum for such a worthy, charitable cause.

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[Link to UKDN Shop](#)



Did you See

With almost 500 members visiting every single day and 100's of new posts every day it is so easy for you, the members of UKDN, to miss out on some very interesting posts. So, each month in the magazine we will bring to your attention some posts that you might have missed like.....click on the link

<i>Mystery brass object</i>	<i>At pro</i>
<i>The Last Farm House</i>	<i>Your best-ever TV moment?</i>
<i>ITV New Series - Thank You UKDN !!</i>	<i>What is your favourite buckle find?</i>
<i>Dagger Pommel?</i>	<i>Gold Belt Ring Now Dated</i>
<i>If you had something precious</i>	<i>Then and Now .</i>
<i>Quarter Stater</i>	<i>First lead bag seal</i>
<i>Detector DIY</i>	<i>saxon coin???</i>
<i>lead item</i>	<i>garrett pro pointer problems</i>
<i>GOLD POSEY RING</i>	<i>anyone got any bronze age trees</i>
<i>Trade Weight ?</i>	<i>Trying to return a WW1 medal, any help appreciated</i>

Coin of The Month

Winner - Tinner

William and Mary half penny 1694



I would like to start with a big thank you for all who voted for my find.

This time of year can be a bit frustrating as far as places to detect go, and as one of our farms has changed his farming style from dairy to arable we were struggling to find any place to detect - so dad set off to find some new land.

One day the phone rang and success - a new farm with dairy cows. This was great news as they had a lot of pasture and a couple of maize fields for silage.

It was an evening search on one of the small pasture fields which produced the coin. The grass was almost too long to detect on, but searching out the lower spots, I mooched about for an hour or so and on the way back to the car I had a nice signal - high eighties on the Deus - so over went the clod and in went the probe. Not far off a strong signal came back. I could see the coin. "Oh a penny" I thought but as I turned it over I could see the twin busts of William and Mary, and it was in good nick too.

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MONTHLY COMPETITIONS

(Continued from page 7)

Over the moon with this was an under statement and after a couple more digs I headed home.

When home I gently rinsed the coin off. It was the best William and Mary coin I have found to-date - a copper half penny of 1694.

In all cases the monarch is shown facing to one side. This alternated between reigns and has carried on up to the present time.

Charles II faced right, James II left, and so on. The coinage of William and Mary showed the busts side by side, as appropriate to the only instance in British history of the monarchs each being rulers in his and her own right.

A great find! Happy hunting to all!

© Tinner—July 2013



Artefact of the Month

Winner - Tannersdad Anglo-Saxon Artefact



My detecting partner and son Chris (Tinner) and I have only recently acquired some new land to detect over. As most of the land at the moment is covered in crops we are restricted as to where we can detect.

On Saturday, 22nd June, we were detecting on a pasture field quite close in to the village. We had some success with the usual finds and a couple of roman coins, as both of us went off in separate directions.

I decided to work in the area of a slight slope when I had a very good sharp signal from my Deus. I carefully removed the turf and the target was still in the hole so I took out more soil to about 6" in depth and with a probe found the target. My first reaction was the size, being about 5x2cms, rubbing off the soil it became obvious that the item had a raised surface on one side.

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MONTHLY COMPETITIONS

(Continued from page 9)

More soil was removed with the thumb, and I then became aware of some gilt showing on the item and around its edges. Not knowing what it was, but it looked good, I took it over to Tinner to get his opinion. I can't print his immediate response, but enough to say he was very envious. On closer examination we could see the gilt and a diamond shaped pattern with what looked like fishes mounted on the face. The rear was plain but slightly concave. We didn't clean it any more and as my camera was out of action Tinner took it home, photographed and posted it up on UKDN for me.

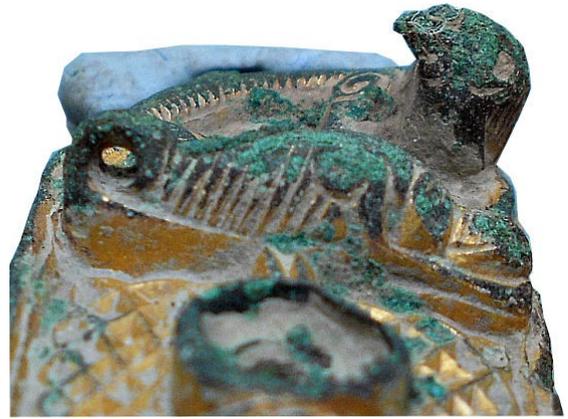
I must say he thought it looked Saxon. I think the response from the posted item confirmed it. Following on from that I took it to my FLO who was very interested in it.

I have since heard from him and he said it was believed to be an 8th century Anglo-Saxon Irish mount. As it is unusual it is now at the British Museum for confirmation. So a very interesting find indeed and I eagerly await the result. The area in Wiltshire where it was found does have some Saxon history.

© **Norman Phillips (Tinnerdad)**

The original post on UKDN is [here](#)





Some more pictures of the find plus the other finds from the day.

Monthly Coin Competition Runners up



To see all these coins in their relevant competition page click the link below

[Click Here](#)

Monthly Artefact Competition Runners up



To see all these artefacts in their relevant competition page click the link below

[Click Here](#)

UKDN FUN DSLR - Camera PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

Winner - Chris Hall
Wakehurst Gardens, West Sussex
Canon 5D III + Canon 17-40mm lens (HDR image)



Runner-up—Slapeddicus Take a bite off my grass

UKDN FUN POINT, PRESS & PRAY PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

**Winner - Casa-Dos
Sony cyber-shot t100
Bluebells In The Woods**



Runners-Up Pictures from Gra and Nick



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In this week's Issue:
» SCHMALLENBERG HITS HARD
IN ADULT ANIMALS
PLUS CAP reform update



SPRINGWATCH

VIDEO: Harvest 2013 kicks off under blue skies

[Adam Clarke - 28th July 2013](#)

Reports of winter barley being cut have been gathering pace this week as harvest 2013 kicked off in earnest and initial yields and quality look promising.

Wheat and oilseed rape harvest areas fall sharply

[David Jones - 22nd July 2013](#)

The areas down to wheat and winter oilseed rape for harvest this summer both fell by nearly a fifth due to poor winter weather which led to a upsurge in spring barley and oats.....

FARMER FOCUS: Finalising next year's cropping plans

[Matt Redman - 28th July 2013](#)

Harvest has kicked off for some, but most of us are still playing the waiting game - with the annoying sound of someone else's combine working in the distance.....

FARMER FOCUS: Deliberating about variety choice

[Andy Barr - 28th July 2013](#)

Normally I would be combining now, but without winter barley this year and the oilseed rape not yet desiccated, it will be a while yet. I have an environmentally friendly patchwork of winter and spring-sown crops and varieties this year, but at the moment they look as if they'll all be ready to harvest on the same day.....

Two farmers dead in separate accidents

[Jonathan Riley - 29th July 2013](#)

Two farmers have died within days of each other in separate farm accidents...

Debt behind increasing number of farm sales

[Suzie Horne - 25th July 2013](#)

Debt is forcing the sale of a growing number of farms and land. Figures for the first half of this year show that it is twice as likely to be the reason for sale as it was in the first six months of 2012..

Nitrogen could be key to cutting input expenses

[Richard Allison - 25th July 2013](#)

Changing the source of nitrogen fertiliser can cut costs by up to £10/ha, due to the time and machinery cost savings when using a more concentrated form.....

Public unaware of farming hardship, says survey

[Jonathan Riley - 23rd July 2013](#)

The general public is overwhelmingly supportive of farmers, but is unaware of the "silent crisis" facing agriculture, a survey has revealed.....

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watch the latest episode

History of the English Penny (c. 600 – 1066)



The **history of the English penny** can be traced back to the Anglo-Saxon kingdoms of the 7th century: to the small, thick silver coins known to contemporaries as *pæningas* or *denarii*, though now often referred to as *sceattas* by numismatists. Broader, thinner pennies inscribed with the name of the king were introduced to southern England in the middle of the 8th century. Coins of this format remained the foundation of the English currency until the 14th century.

Overview

The history of Anglo-Saxon coinage spans more than five centuries, from the end of Roman rule in Britain in the 5th century, down to the death of Harold Godwinson at the Battle of Hastings on 14 October 1066.

It can be divided into four basic phases:

c. 450–c. 550: a very low level of coin-use in Britain, characterised by re-use of Roman coinage, though often in a non-monetary context. A small number of coins continued to be brought in from Gaul and elsewhere on the Continent.

c. 550–c. 680: the 'gold' phase of currency, which began with an increase in the rate of importation of continental gold, principally in the form of *tremisses*. From around 620 English gold coins of similar format were produced, often known to numismatists as *thrymsas*. By the middle of the 7th century the quantity of gold in these coins was falling quickly, such that by the 670s they were more or less completely silver.

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c. 680–c. 750 (867 in Northumbria): the age of the *sceattas* – small, thick silver coins which evolved out of the latest, debased gold coins. These should more correctly be referred to as pennies or *denarii* as in weight and fineness they approximated the form the English penny was to retain for centuries, and contemporary references suggest this is how they were known. Most *sceattas* do not bear an inscription and are thus difficult to attribute. It should be noted that in Northumbria, coins of this format continued to be struck under closer royal control until the 860s, though by the early 9th century they contained only a negligible quantity of precious metal.

c. 750–14 October 1066: the silver coinage of *sceattas* petered out in southumbrian England in the middle of the 8th century, to be replaced by a broader, thinner model of silver coinage modelled on that of contemporary Carolingian coinage. These new coins carried legends naming the king, moneyer and (later) the mint of origin. With various modifications in weight (within the range 1.00g–1.70g) and fineness this format of coinage remained standard for the rest of the period, and indeed silver pennies of similar design remained the basis for the English currency until the 14th century.

Pennies of this form were made by English kings from Offa onwards, and also by viking rulers from the later 9th century.



King Cnut Penny—© PAS
[PAS Record](#)

In the gold phase of the coinage, the currency consisted overwhelmingly of gold *tremisses* or *thrymsas* of c. 1.10–1.30g, though a few *solidi* exist, modelled on Roman coins. Thereafter the currency was more or less based on a single denomination: the silver penny. In the early 870s the first round halfpennies were produced under Alfred the Great and Ceolwulf II of Mercia; these were produced sporadically and in small quantity until Edgar's reform of the 970s, after which it became common to cut whole pennies into halves and quarters, often at the time of production.

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The only known examples of larger silver denominations are two 'offering pieces' produced in the reign of Alfred the Great weighing the equivalent of six regular pennies, which were made as alms-pieces, probably to be sent abroad.

Although gold ceased to be the predominant form of currency in the 7th century, from the late 8th century onwards there was some use of fine gold coinage for special, high-value transactions.

These gold pieces were often known as mancuses. The form of gold coinage varied in the 8th and 9th centuries, drawing inspiration from Roman, Byzantine, Arabic and Carolingian gold coinages, but by the 10th century gold coins were made simply by striking a gold piece with the same dies as were used for regular minting of silver. Only eight English gold coins with intelligible legends survive from between the 8th century and 1066; there are also some coins that may or may not be of English origin which bear no legend, and specimens of contemporary foreign gold found in England.

It is difficult to ascertain the nature and extent of coin-use in Anglo-Saxon England.



Gold Mancus of Aethelred II

© [PHGCOM](#) [Wikipedia.org](#)

Written references to minting and money are scarce, and it is likely that even a single silver penny had considerable buying power – perhaps something in the region of £10–£30 in modern currency. Their use may also have been concentrated in certain classes of society, and was probably most associated with particular transactions such as the payment of rents, tributes and legal fees.

However, analysis of surviving single-finds (principally made since the 1970s by users of metal-detectors) shows that coins were used extensively, especially in the eastern half of England, both within and outside towns; they also circulated widely, and are frequently found far from their mint of origin.

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Gold solidus of Valentinian II, 375-92

[PAS Record](#)
Copyright PAS

Substantial numbers of English coins have been found elsewhere in Europe, especially in Italy and Scandinavia, while English designs were influential on the emergent coinages of Ireland, Denmark, Sweden, Norway and Bohemia.

After Rome: prelude to the Anglo-Saxon coinage

At the end of the 4th century, the Roman provinces of Britain were still part of a vibrant and quite efficient economic and monetary system that stretched over the whole Roman world. Precious metal coins of gold and silver were used for the payment of taxes, then reminted for payment to the military and civil service.

Bronze coinage was issued on a more occasional basis and was primarily produced to serve the needs of commerce in the provinces.

Minting – and control over precious metals in general – across the western empire was under the control of the *comes sacrarum largitionum*, with a number of major mints situated at Trier, Arles, Milan, Ravenna and Rome. London had operated as a mint in the first half of the 4th century, and again for a brief period under Magnus Maximus, but by 400 inflows of coinage to Britain came from the continent.

Finds of coins are very numerous from throughout the 4th century and even from the first years of the fifth. However, in the early 5th century the situation took a dramatic turn for the worse. The supply of bronze coinage all but ceased after around 402, and both gold and silver also petered out by c. 410, coinciding with the departure of the British garrison with Constantine III in 409.

Hoardings of coins and bullion – especially silver – from this period are very numerous in Britain, presumably due to disturbances of invasion, civil war and economic uncertainty. Some of these hoards could be very substantial indeed: the Hoxne hoard from Norfolk discovered in 1992 contained over 15,000 coins along with silver plate and jewellery.

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A hoard of 39 clipped silver siliquae dating to the Late 4th century/early 5th century, with deposition dated by the latest coin and clipping as AD 407-408, or possibly later.

[PAS Record](#)

Copyright PAS

(Continued from page 20)

The cessation in supply of freshly struck coins didn't necessarily cause an immediate halt in the use of coinage. Numismatists and archaeologists have long been struck by the phenomenon of clipped *siliquae* from the early 5th century, though precise dates and explanations for it remain elusive.

Clipping may have carried on into the middle of the 5th century, or been restricted to the 410s and 420s, and was perhaps carried out as a means of taxation by a government deprived of new supplies of coinage. According to this model, *siliquae* of a specified weight would have been brought in, clipped, and finally reissued by unit rather than weight.

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The later 5th and 6th centuries are very murky in almost every way, and coinage is no exception. The once vigorous late Roman monetary system lay in tatters, with almost no new minting and very little importation of new coins.

Nevertheless, it is becoming apparent that coinage never faded away completely, and that re-use of the existing supply of coinage continued throughout the period, buoyed along by occasional incomers. Some archaeological excavations of Romano-British settlements that persisted into this period have produced older coins that remained in circulation, as at Wroxeter.

Gold and bronze coins in particular are often found on early Anglo-Saxon settlement sites and in graves, in many cases pierced or mounted for use as Jewellery. Indeed, there is no telling exactly when any late Roman coin was lost, and in some cases they may have been in use well into the post-Roman period.



Gold *thrymsa* of Eadbald of Kent, London (?), 616-40.
Picture now in Public Domain, copyright expired
Original uploader was [Arichis](#) at [en.wikipedia](#)

As for new imports, the number known for this period has increased considerably in recent years thanks to the spread of metal-detecting.

Hoards from this period are rare, but two have been found in recent years at Oxborough (2001) and Patching (1997), both dating to the later 5th century and the latter including no fewer than fifty gold and silver coins dating from the period up to c. 470.

A scattering of single-finds from the same period shows that the flow of coinage into 5th- and 6th-century Britain never dried up totally, and it appears that there was also some use of Byzantine coinage in the 6th century: gold and especially bronze coins have been found in substantial numbers, even in the western part of Britain, which is normally less well represented in coin finds.

This to some extent parallels the pattern of finds of North African pottery from the same period, which is found extensively in western Britain on 6th-century sites. Unfortunately, the widespread use of Byzantine bronzes from this period as souvenirs from the Middle East and eastern Mediterranean means many finds of them must be treated with extreme care.

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The importation of current continental issues – mainly in gold – continued over the 6th century, with considerable numbers of Merovingian *tremisses* circulating in southern and eastern England even by the end of the 6th century.

It was on the basis of these coins that the first native English production of coins took place in the early 7th century.

The earliest gold coinage: Thrymsas

The earliest known English coins are Gold pieces, modelled on contemporary Merovingian Frankish coinage, and consisting largely of *tremisses*: one third of a gold solidus, originally weighing 4.5g, but in the Anglo-Saxon context apparently based on a revised standard of 3.9g implemented in Gaul from around the 580s.

Frankish coins played an increasingly important role as currency in England as the 6th century went on, and the earliest Anglo-Saxon gold *tremisses* (sometimes referred to by numismatists as *thrymsas*) were struck to circulate alongside these Frankish issues.

All of the forty gold *tremisses* found in the burial at 'mound one' at Sutton Hoo (deposited c. 630), for instance, were Frankish.

The earliest coins struck in England can be roughly dated to around the year 600: they include one gold *tremissis* struck by a moneyer named Eusebius working at Canterbury (*Dorovernia*), and the Liudhard medalet, a gold medallion (though in fabric very like a coin) found in Canterbury and bearing the name of a bishop Liudhard, almost certainly the same bishop of that name whom Bede's *Historia ecclesiastica* described as coming to England with Bertha, the Frankish bride of Æthelberht I of Kent.

The only substantial hoard of English coins from this period was found at Crondall, and included 69 English *tremisses* as well as a number of Frankish *tremisses*, probably deposited around 630.

These and other finds reveal a range of types that rarely name a mint or issuing authority, though one scarce type bears the name of London, and others are struck in the name of King Eadbald of Kent (616–40). In terms of design they are based on Roman and Merovingian prototypes.

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Widespread use of metal detectors in the last thirty years has substantially increased the number of coins known from this and indeed all periods. For all that the coins are still relatively rare and minting was primarily confined to the south-east, some were probably struck in Northumbria, presumably at York, and both English and Frankish gold coins circulated widely. The arrangements behind minting are also quite obscure, and it cannot automatically be assumed that they were produced as a 'royal' coinage: bishops, abbots, lay magnates and perhaps individual moneyers may have provided the driving force behind minting.

Though the early Anglo-Saxon law-codes must be used with caution for this period, they describe a wide range of compensatory payments in *scillingas* and *scættas* from c. 600 onwards.

These terms reflect translations of continental legal usage, and may well describe measures of value and/or weight rather than coins as such, yet nonetheless it is probable that the gold *tremisses* produced in 7th-century England were referred to as *scillingas*.

Next Month we look at The silver boom of c. 675–c. 750: the *sceattas*

Article Text [Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike License](#);
© [Wikipedia.org](#)



Mancus (sometimes spelt *mancosus* or similar) was a term used in early medieval Europe to denote either a gold coin, a weight of gold of 4.25g (equivalent to the Islamic dinar, and thus lighter than the Byzantine solidus), or a unit of account of thirty silver pence. This made it worth about a month's wages for a skilled worker, such as a craftsman or a soldier. Distinguishing between these uses can be extremely difficult: the will of the Anglo-Saxon king Eadred, who died in 955, illustrates the problem well with its request that 'two-thousand mancuses of gold be taken and minted into mancuses' (*nime man twentig hund mancusa goldes and gemynetige to mancusan*).



A gold Mancus of Aethelred II



HERITAGE CRIME

What are heritage crimes?

Heritage crimes are, first of all, offences that damage the historic environment – so things like vandalism, graffiti, arson and theft.

Why should the public care about heritage crimes?

Heritage crimes are criminal activities, which can have serious effect on neighbourhoods and society.

Things like arson, graffiti, and criminal damage scar beautiful buildings. Anti-social behaviour such as substance misuse debase the places we live and enjoy visiting; theft and illegal metal detecting take away the physical evidence valuable to our understanding of the past. On top of that, all of these can incur financial loss on property owners.

If heritage crimes are not tackled better we all stand to lose something of our history and well-being.

How serious are these crimes?

There is **no national statistics on heritage crime** by the police so the true extent is difficult to ascertain. Through our work in the regions and our experience with many sites across the country, we know the crimes are widespread and they tend to be under-reported by victims.

A recent assessment identified that arson, architectural theft, removal of artifacts from protected sites and vehicle nuisance pose the greatest threat.

Illegal metal detecting in Lincolnshire is growing and reported cases are only the tip of the iceberg.

The level of **metal theft** is also of great concern.

- In 2005, there were 84 metal theft claims from churches totalling £325,326. In 2010, this has soared to 1763 claims costing £3,310,488 (data from Ecclesiastical)
- In 2010 Manchester diocese tops the list of metal theft claims with more than 90 claims recorded up to the end of November. It is closely followed by Lincoln, with more than 70 claims

Our understanding of the volume and extent of crime in the historic environment continues to develop. Neighbourhood Policing and local involvement will contribute considerably to gathering intelligence and data on the ground. We will also be developing systems that will allow us to accurately record crimes and ASB and thereby place our resources in the right place at the right time.

For crimes in progress - call 999

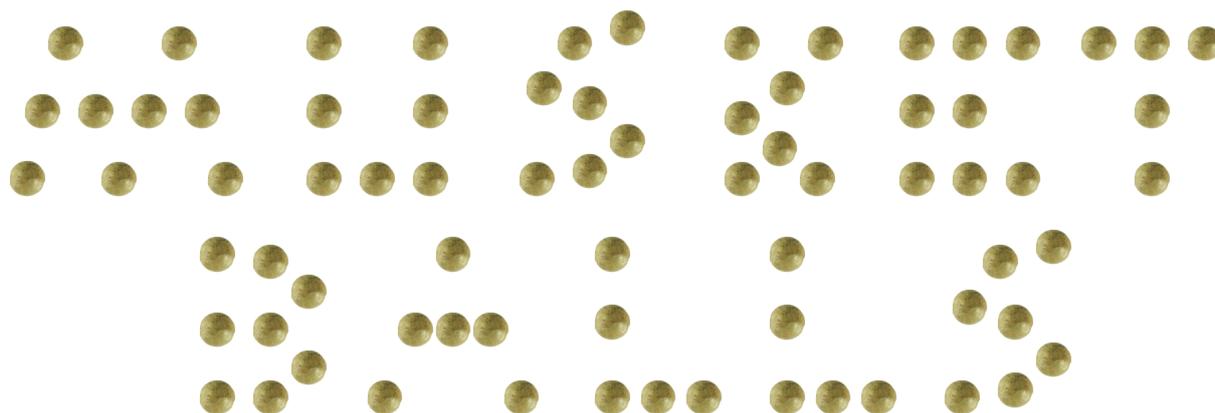
More action, less crime. It all adds up.

For crimes that have happened - report to your local Police
[click here for the non emergency reporting number](#)

LINCOLNSHIRE POLICE

[Click here to take part in the English Heritage Crime Survey](#)

policing with PRIDE



Another Bloody Musket Ball

A beep to the left, a beep to the right
I wonder what's down there just out of sight
I bet it's another bloody musket ball

Light streams in from all around
I can't believe that I've been found
I'm roughly plucked from earth packed tight
then rubbed and held up to the light

Sod it, another musket ball

When I last saw sun and last was free
it was August, sixteen forty three
I had only existed but one day
One day too long some might say

If I could speak of what I saw
I'd tell of terror, smoke and gore
A young man's face etched with fears
streaked with blood, smudged with tears
Of whizzing trees, grey earth and sky
a blur of life as I did fly
A flash of gold around a head
then red and red and still more red

If I could speak of what I heard
I'd tell of curdled screams not word
Of blasts from guns, of trumpet chords
the clash and scrape of bloodied swords.
Of prayers to God, whimpering, pleading
screams of horses mortally bleeding.
Clanking armour, missiles flying
Shouting, swearing, hard men crying.

If I could tell of what I felt
I'd tell of a leather bag and belt
A trembling hand, fumbling fingers
the musket barrel, a heat that lingers

An explosive blast, a rushing storm
A steely impact then wet and warm.
Then nothing more, no noise, no tears
for the next three hundred years. Until.....

A beep to the left, a beep to the right

Maybe a touch fanciful and maybe I need to get
out more but it's doesn't hurt to use ones
imagination and think a bit before we throw
away any history we are lucky enough to
rediscover. Living in Newbury, not far from the
site of the battles maybe my musket balls were
used for hunting but then again.....

Copyright to Linz. 13th September 2006

The importance of recording musket balls

Musket balls are quite a common find by
detectorists, due to their size and conductivity
they give a strong signal and are relatively easy
to detect.

There may be several reasons they are present
in the field but if found in significant numbers
(say 50), their presence can confirm the site of
a battle, of large or small skirmishes or of a
siege or training site.

Dropped balls (undamaged, still with mould
seam and casting sprue) found in the battle field
can indicate the deployment of firing lines.

If found elsewhere in quantities, they are
usually an indication of a camp site where
musket balls may have been cast or could
indicate the position where a soldier fell and
deposited them.

Damaged balls can indicate the density and direction of attack, the battle lines of the enemy, the number of shots fired and by their calibre whether fired by musketeers, cavalry or dragoons.

Chewed balls are thought to indicate the location of field hospitals as soldiers 'bit the bullet' during operations.

The calibre of oversized or distorted bullets could be modified prior to firing to allow them to correctly enter the gun barrel. This was sometimes achieved by selectively biting or even gnawing the bullet. Calibre correction could also be achieved by paring the bullet with a knife.

It should also be noted that of the 350 battles, sieges and skirmishes of the 17th century recorded from England on the Battlefield Trust's database of Fields of Conflict, a significant number remain unlocated while many more skirmish sites are not yet incorporated into this or any other record.

It is recommended that the find spots of musket balls are accurately recorded with a Global Positioning System (GPS) and should there be 50 or more found or any collection which is accompanied by one or more powder box caps, that this information is given to the [Portable Antiquities Scheme Finds Liaison Officer \(FLO\) in England and Wales](#) or [Treasure Trove Scotland](#) who can inform [The Battlefields Trust](#).

Their presence might flag up the site of a previously unknown battlefield or skirmish. Just as the absence of musket balls on a known battlefield site might throw doubt on the battle being fought there.

Taken from [Guidance on Recording Lead Bullets from Early Modern Battlefields](#).

[Chewed](#)



[Conjoined](#)



[Capstan](#)



[Case shot](#)



[Musket ball moulds](#)



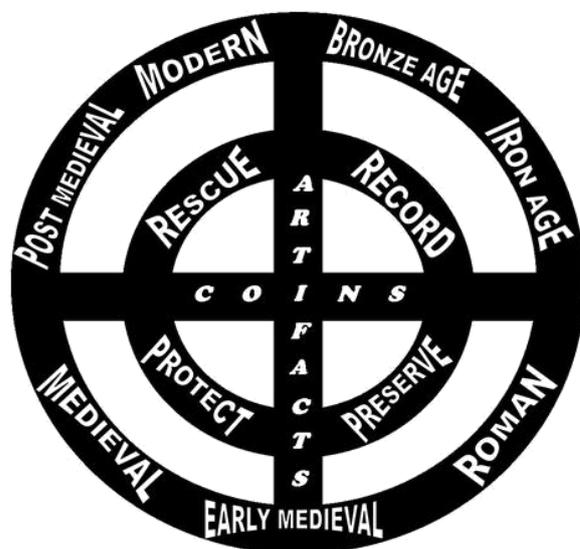
[Firearmshistory Blogspot](#)



[Unfired](#)



[Impacted](#)



[Bore Diameter from Wiki](#)

Gauge (Bore)	Diameter		Weight of unalloyed (pure) lead ball		
	(mm)	(in)	grams	ounces	grains
AA*	101.60	4.000	6225.52	219.6	96,080
A½*	76.20	3.000	2626.39	92.64	40,530
0.25*	67.34	2.651	1814.36	64.000	28,000
0.5*	53.45	2.103	907.18	32.000	14,000
A*	50.80	2.000	778.19	27.45	12,010
0.75*	46.70	1.838	604.80	21.336	9328
1*	42.42	1.669	453.59	16.000	7000
B½*	38.10	1.500	328.3	11.58	5066
1.5*	37.05	1.459	302.39	10.667	4667
2*	33.67	1.326	226.80	8.000	3500
3*	29.41	1.158	151.20	5.333	2333
4*	26.72	1.052	113.40	4.000	1750
B*	25.40	1.000	97.27	3.43	1501
5*	24.80	.976	90.72	3.200	1400
6*	23.35	.919	75.60	2.667	1166
6.278	23.00	.906	72.26	2.549	1114
7*	22.18	.873	64.80	2.286	1000
8	21.21	.835	56.70	2.000	875
9*	20.39	.803	50.40	1.778	778
10	19.69	.775	45.36	1.600	700
11/C½*	19.05	.750	41.24	1.454	636
12	18.53	.729	37.80	1.333	583
13*	18.04	.710	34.89	1.231	538
14*	17.60	.693	32.40	1.143	500
15*	17.21	.677	30.24	1.067	467
16	16.83	.663	28.35	1.000	438
17*	16.50	.650	26.68	0.941	412
18*	16.19	.637	25.20	0.889	389
20	15.63	.615	22.68	0.800	350
22*	15.13	.596	20.62	0.728	319
24*	14.70	.579	18.90	0.667	292
26*	14.31	.564	17.44	0.615	269
28	13.97	.550	16.20	0.571	250
32*	13.36	.526	14.17	0.500	219
36	12.85	.506	12.59	0.444	194
C*	12.70	.500	12.16	0.429	188
40	12.40	.488	11.34	0.400	175
67.62	10.41	.410	6.71	0.237	104

An n -gauge diameter means that a ball of lead ([density](#) 11.352 g/cm³ or 6.562 oz/cu in) with that diameter has a mass equal to 1/ n part of the mass of the international [avoirdupois](#) pound (453.59237 grams). Therefore an n -gauge shotgun or n -bore rifle has a bore diameter (in centimeters) of approximately

$$d_n = \left(\frac{6 \times 453.59237 \text{ g}}{11.352 \text{ g/cm}^3 \times n \times \pi} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}} = 4.2416 \text{ cm} \times \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{n}}$$

Another source for a gauge size formula can be found in [Shotgun shell](#).

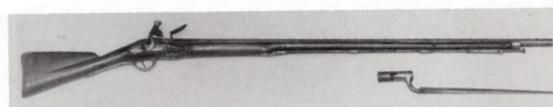
It should be noted that the results of the calculations given above need not be carried out to further than 1 decimal place, since, as is common knowledge, shotgun and rifle gauges are invariably stated in integers.

Furthermore, the density of the lead that was once used as the standard varied, since bullets and slugs are not made of chemically pure lead, but are instead made of lead alloyed with a variety of materials.

Many thanks to Wiki for the above information.

The diameter of a crushed ball can be calculated from it's weight by using the formula; Diameter in inches = 0.223204 x (Weight in grams) times power 1/3.

A military [British Brown Bess musket](#) has a bore of 0.75" or is 75 caliber, but would take a 0.693" diameter musket ball.



Battlefields

Before detecting on any site a detectorist must obtain permission from the landowner and check that there are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAM's), Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI's), or any other restrictions that apply to the site.

Unfortunately at present there is no statutory legislation preventing detecting on battlefields other than the law of trespass.

Detecting on battlefields other than as part of an agreed structured survey should not be carried out as removing artefacts that are evidence relating to the battle from their context removes and distorts any record made should an official survey be carried out later.

By all means approach the FLO and put your name forward to get involved in such a survey.

Typical survey results (Many thanks to Natasha Ferguson, John Andrews and The Battlefields Trust for all their hard work and publicised material.

[Investigating a Battlefield](#)

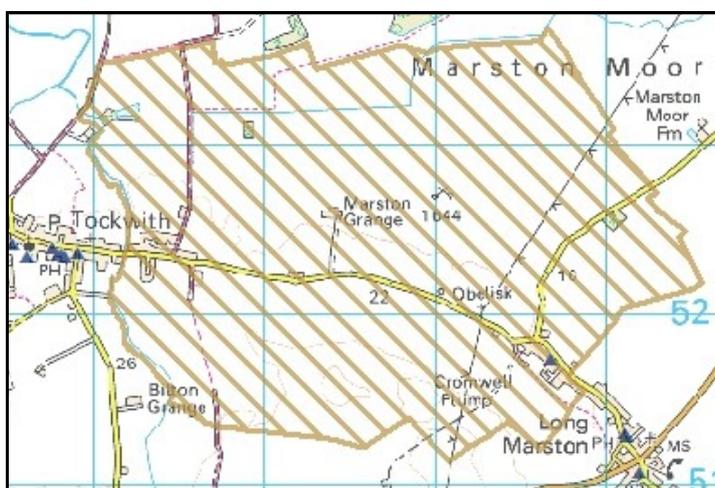
[Battlefield Project on Facebook](#)

[Guidance on Recording Lead Bullets from Early Modern Battlefields](#)

[English Battlefields](#)

[Scottish Battlefields](#)

[English Heritage Map of Battlefield \(please avoid\)](#)



Registered Battlefields

Maldon (Essex) 991
Stamford Bridge (North Yorks) 1066
Hastings (East Sussex) 1066
Northallerton (North Yorks) 1138
Lewes (East Sussex) 1264
Evesham (Hereford and Worcs) 1265
Myton (North Yorks) 1319
Boroughbridge (North Yorks) 1322
Halidon Hill (Northumberland) 1333
Neville's Cross (Co Durham) 1346
Otterbrn (Northumberland) 1388
Homildon Hill (Northumberland) 1402
Shrewsbury (Shrops) 1403
Blore Heath (Staffs) 1459
Northampton (Northants) 1460
Towton (North Yorks) 1461
Barnet (Greater London/Herts) 1471
Tewkesbury (Gloucs) 1471
Bosworth (Leics) 1485
Stoke Field (Notts) 1487
Flodden (Northumberland) 1513
Solway Moss (Cumbria) 1542
Newburn Ford (Tyne and Wear) 1640
Edgehill (Warwickshire) 1642
Braddock Down (Cornwall) 1643
Hopton Heath (Staffs) 1643
Stratton (Devon) 1643
Chalgrove (Oxon) 1643
Adwalton Moor (West Yorks) 1643
Lansdown Hill (Avon) 1643
Roundway Down (Wilts) 1643
Newbury I (Berks) 1643
Winceby (Lines) 1643
Cropledy Bridge (Oxon) 1644
Marston Moor (North Yorks) 1644
Naseby (Northants) 1645
Langport (Somerset) 1645
Rowton Heath (S) (Cheshire) 1645
Stow-on-the-Wold (Gloucs) 1646
Worcester (Worcs) 1651 with Powick Bridge 1642
Sedgemoor (Somerset) 1685

*Produced by English Heritage
23 Savile Row, London W1X 1AB
Telephone 0171 9733000
June 1995*

News and Views from JULY 2013

Harvest kicks off under blue skies

20 million Silver Treasure Found

A Nice Bit of Gold From.....

Wildfire warning: Heatwave death toll

Float the Dover Bronze Age Boat!

William Conqueror coin found nr Gloucester

Magna Carta Copies To Be Housed Together

Richard III gold badge set to be auctioned

Worlds Oldest Calendar in Scottish Field

Mick Aston passed away!

Head of 'Geordie Roman god' found

Donation of a Roman Coin Hoard

Lincoln Castle skeleton 'could be Saxon king

Useful Weblinks
<i>PAS - getting involved</i>
<i>PAS - Upcoming Events</i>
<i>PAS - self recording</i>
<i>PAS -Recording Timeline</i>
<i>PAS - Advice for finders of archaeological objects including treasure</i>
<i>PAS - Conservation advice notes</i>
<i>PAS - Guidance to landowners, occupiers & tenant farmers in England & Wales</i>
<i>PAS - News from the scheme</i>
<i>PAS - Blogs</i>
<i>Responsible detecting code of practice</i>
<i>Frome hoard time lapse video of excavation</i>
<i>Press coverage of the Frome hoard discovery</i>
<i>Burnham hoard excavation</i>
<i>Staffordshire hoard excavation</i>
<i>Staffordshire hoard at the BM</i>
<i>Definition of Treasure</i>
<i>To Report Nighthawking - If in progress ring 999, if after the event click here & enter post code, the phone number for your local Police Station is shown on the bottom right hand side</i>
<i>Rallies & Events - Searcher Magazine</i>
<i>Rallies & Events - Treasure Hunting Magazine</i>
<i>Wheresthepath - For O/S & Aerial Maps & National Grid References</i>
<i>Post code finder</i>
<i>Getting involved in archaeology</i>

New members in JULY 2013

Brian and Mo and the team would like to thank and extend a warm welcome to all the new members listed below who have joined UKDN in the last month. Please introduce yourselves so that the members can welcome you aboard and make you feel at home. [Click here to introduce yourself](#)

If you are not already registered with UKDN you can register by clicking on this link and see what you are missing [Click here to register](#)

foss
salvir
Andycap
thehogman
rogward
bobofsomerset
winkle34
peter5761
cjl
Larfin boy
Boy Blue
gooner1971
Trig
IXL
tommywas60
fredybs
pyriel7422
lin
F8met
garrettace150
gabby
sardinia24609422
Rift
RichMK
shropshireman
ego eme
Chloecray
shug
Lochgorm
panpilot

Eugene007
ed5727
beepbeep
Baldrick2
Fantom13
stewieboy
Round
JamieParton
HISTORY-FREAK
veselin
Gooner
bammcon93
LSB
Skip Union
brisasman
Dcousins
wartski
smook66
Animalal
bendoveranddig
ginger1
heathylee
susanhill
foil finder
Liziik

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

[Click here to visit forum](#)

Contact UKDN

enquiry@ukdetectornet.co.uk

UKDN magazines to download

[Download magazines here](#)

View online

[View our Magazines online here](#)

If you would like to contribute to the newsletter please contact either UKDN as above or PhilD via PM,.

UKDN aims

UKDN is a forum for people who are interested in the hobby of metal detecting. UKDN is an online community where members can exchange and share knowledge, their views, discuss the hobby, their finds, the machines they use and a million and one other detecting related subjects. UKDN actively works towards the following aims:

1. Develop a greater understanding of the hobby and some of the wider issues through healthy pro-active debate within the forum and through the monthly magazine, which is distributed to, and read by, our membership and beyond. The magazine includes UKDN based news and articles, as well as wider news, debate, and issues of heritage interest.
2. Provide a platform to inform beginners in the hobby of the basic principles in the use of a metal detector, gaining permission, site research, basic heritage law, farming scheme rules and in the 'best practice' for conservation, recording and co-operation.
3. Actively promotes the 'Code of Practice for Responsible Metal Detecting' to all members of the UKDN online forum and beyond.
4. Encourage all UKDN detectorists to record their finds with the appropriate bodies (depending where they detect); In England and Wales, this is with the Portable Antiquities Scheme, in Scotland this is the Treasure Trove Unit.
5. UKDN will actively work towards ensuring the future security of the hobby. We will liaise and co-operate with heritage professionals in a way which is mutually beneficial to all parties whilst maintaining our independence, and we encourage their active participation, either in the UKDN online community or through our on-line magazine.