

The UKDN

WORD

World Of Responsible Detecting



ISSUE 43

MARCH 2011



Getting Started in Metal Detecting



This Month's Competition Results

Identifying an Irish Hammered



Gold - Strange But True



What a Relief Valuable Lost Ring Found



Member's Report on the Deus



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UK Detector Net

Thank you!

You showed your
spots and raised

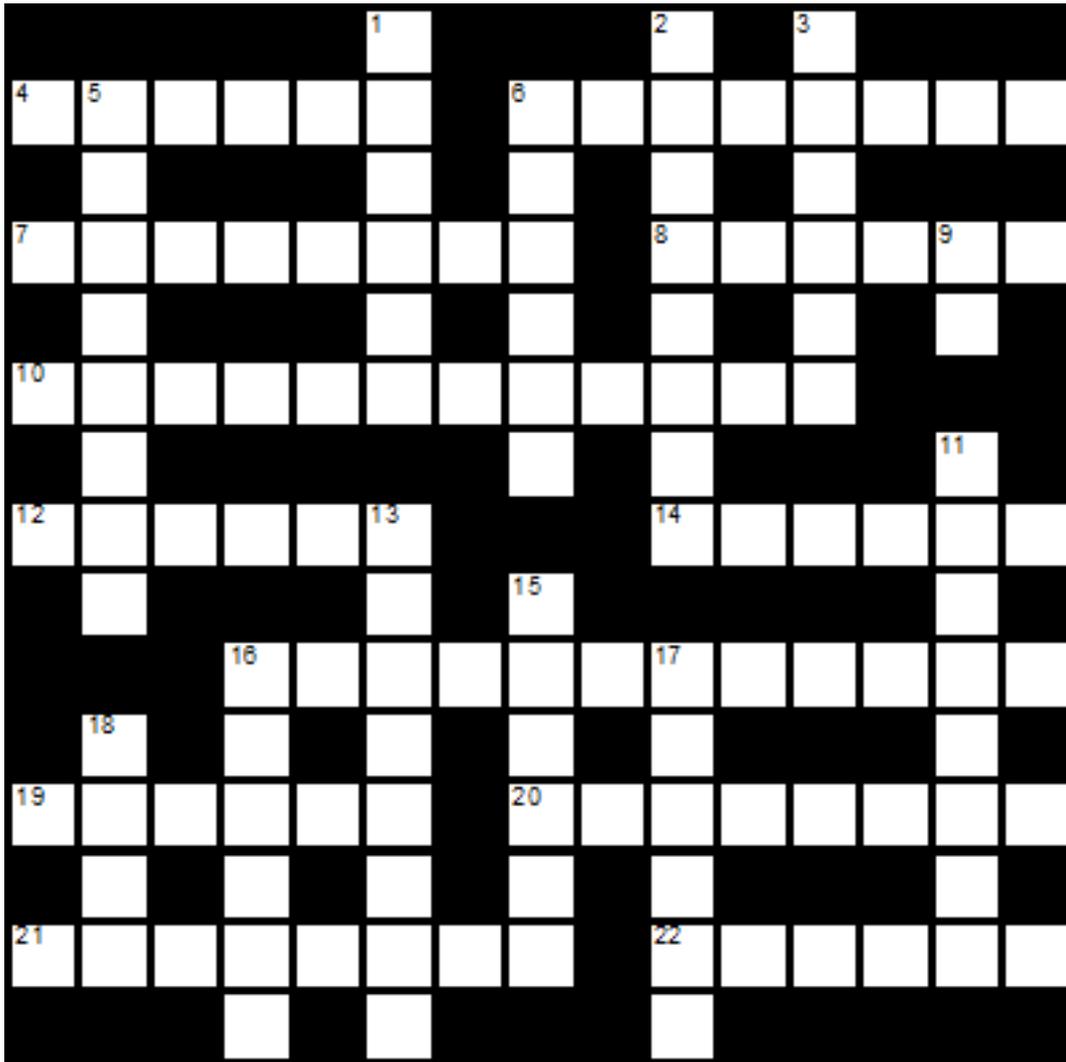
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UKDN Crossword by Gash



Across

- 4 Maker of metal detectors (6)
 6 Tried and tested detector (8)
 7 Concentrated beverage for those cold detecting mornings (8)
 8 to remove, shift, take away (6)
 10 The scientific study of the characteristics of the skull (12)
 12 A detector misbehaves (4,2)
 14 State of being holy (6)
 16 Imitations (12)
 19 A creature representing the symbol of rebirth in egyptian times (6)
 20 Drunk Money (8)
 21 Decorated with a raised design (8)
 22 A priviliged status or gold coins (6)

Down

- 1 Mural painting types, done on plaster on walls and ceilings (6)
 2 The son of Dsus and Atonia Minor (8)
 3 An object that protects a person from trouble (6)
 5 To help a novice detectorist (8)
 6 Triangular blade of a sundial (6)
 9 To take on an action (2)
 11 Connoisseur, dilettante (8)
 13 Chronic lead poisoning (8)
 15 Item decorated by action of acid (6)
 16 A way of dating artifacts (6)
 17 Known for their via ducts and roads (6)
 18 Not legit (4)

Answers on Page 33



A Message from Admin

Hi Everyone

Welcome to this 43rd issue of the UKDN Word magazine. It's another full and interesting edition which we hope you will enjoy.

Before we go any further let us thank Corinne who has taken a step back from magazine production while her Mum is not well. It's through Corinnes hard work that the magazine has been as successful as it has been and we thank her for her efforts. Corinne will not be going away completely but will be back onto the team when her circumstances improve.

A Thank-You for the £248

On Page 3 of this issue you will see a copy of the letter issued to UKDN by the BBC's Children in Need charity. This thanked us for the £248 donation we made from the monies raised from the 2010 Christmas Raffle. Give yourselves a big pat on the back for that one.

Aimed at prosecuting metal detecting criminals

UKDN welcomes the various 'Heritage Police' initiatives which have appeared this past month or so. These are aimed at prosecuting and cracking-down on metal detecting criminals. Britain's first 'heritage police' force has been launched to protect under-threat landmarks across the West of the Country. English Heritage has teamed up with police chiefs in Gloucestershire, Wiltshire and Somerset to launch a pilot scheme to target crime and anti-social behaviour at some of the region's most famous historical sites.

The new force will target everything from illegal metal-detecting at ancient battle-

grounds to 4x4s churning up archaeological sites. More information can be found [*here*](#)

On a lighter note don't forget to get your grip-seal bags and UKDN cloth caps by visiting the UKDN Shop, shown in several links throughout the magazine, this in preparation for the up and coming plough season and the hot summer we're all expecting!

UKDN Free Lottery

Another of the UKDN's Free Lottery's will commence on Thursday 3rd March. A great detecting book will be the prize and entry, as usual, is free. You will be notified by email before it takes place.

Location, location

We are still after getting the bulk of our members to complete their location details - it helps us and helps other members. If you are unsure as to how to do this then please send your details to Kevmar.

On a final note let us remind you of all the competitions that take place within UKDN each and every month. We have them for Best Coin and Best Artefact of the Month and also hold two Best Photo of the Month competitions. The quality in all the competitions is always amazing so take a look and see if you have anything that might qualify. We also remind you that we are looking for top quality photographs for our Word magazine front covers and for the UKDN 2012 Calendar.

Good luck to you all in the next month and keep in touch...via the UKDN Forum

Coin of The Month

Henry III Irish Penny ***By micktheroman***

Mick orders his new detector, goes out on his own the following day and on his third signal finds a hammered coin, a Irish one at that, only the second Irish hammered he had found in 15 years of detecting.

A few days into the New Year, I ordered my new Detector on the telephone, a Minelab Explorer. It arrived the next day. The new Detector was soon put together and batteries charged.

A phone call later that evening to my detector friend Colin to see if he was available to go out the next day, but due to family commitments he was unable to go. So I went off on my own.

It was a bitter cold but dry day. The site I had chosen I had been detecting on for three years. Previous finds have been Victorian Pennies and the usual Buttons and Cartridges. On arrival I switched on the machine at the factory setting, five metres into the field I got my first signal digging down I retrieved a Victorian

Penny, I carried on along by the hedge-row and ten metres along I retrieved a cartridge, five metres further along I got a cracking signal I dug down and immediately saw it was a hammered. On cleaning the soil away and a further inspection I could see it was an Irish hammered. No further finds of interest for the remainder of that morning.

This is only the second Irish hammered coin I have found in the fifteen years that I have been detecting.

I would like to thank all those who voted in the UKDN coin of the month competition, and good luck all and happy hunting.

Micktheroman March 2011





Treasure
hunting

BRITAIN'S BEST SELLING
METAL DETECTING MAGAZINE

Artifact of the Month

A Medieval Annular Brooch By Tomredmayne

Tom nips out to a site not 10 minutes from his house one lunch hour. Missing his lunch to detect he unearths this fabulous medieval Annular brooch.



After the horrendous few weeks of snow and ice before, during and just after Christmas, it was a blessed relief to finally see some green in the fields again. The chance to get out detecting had, finally, come around once more. The problem was that all the cultivated land and that with young crops on was now just wet, boggy and impossible to walk on.

The grass was nice and short

I did, however, have a plan-B, and that was a small, pasture field that had been ploughed over a couple of times in the past five or six years, but had been left as grass for the last couple of these years. I had only tried it once before and found a couple of early hammered coins of Henry II and Alexander III of Scotland but the grass had always been too long to cover much of the field. The grass was nice and short now though as it was January and it was much easier going.

I am very lucky as all my land is within 10 minutes of my home and, when I am working from home, I can nip out and do a bit of detecting in my lunch hour.

my first ever lead vesica seal

The first trip out identified an area of the field that was really mineralised and trashy, and I had to work with the sensitivity set really low just to get any stability. I soon had my first results though and that session turned up a nice early strap loop dating 1150-1200 and my first ever lead vesica seal, 13th-14th Century.

The condition was fantastic

Inspired by this, I decided to have another try the following day and concentrated on this same, small area of the field. I only had half an hour or so as it was late afternoon and getting dark, but I managed to get three good signals and brought up another hammered silver penny, Edward I this time, a mangled lead spindle whorl and a stunning, and complete, bronze, Medieval annular brooch, decorated on both its inner and outer surfaces. The condition was fantastic. This, I thought, would be a contender for the UKDN artefact of the month competition.

I, obviously, couldn't wait to get back onto the field again after this so, the following day I missed lunch and spent another hour in the field.

It just got better and better. Within five minutes I had the sweetest signal and, from just three inches down, I dug this second, and even better, Medieval annular brooch. As you can see, it is decorated over all of its front surface and is complete with its pin and with a stunning deep green, shiny patina. Good as the first brooch was, this one was definitely the FOTM contender.

one final secret to reveal

This was all already more than I could ever have hoped for from this little field,



Front of Annular Brooch

but it had one final secret to reveal that day; just before leaving, a strong signal had me digging down about six inches to reveal a stunning Viking harness pendant with biting beasts on it.

I have been back a few times now and an assortment of fascinating buckles, mounts and other everyday objects shows that this was a settlement site that, I am sure, has a lot more to give up yet.

Tom Redmayne March 2011



Reverse of Annular Brooch

A banner for 'Treasure hunting' magazine. The word 'Treasure' is in a large, white, serif font, and 'hunting' is in a smaller, blue, sans-serif font. To the right, the text 'BRITAIN'S BEST SELLING METAL DETECTING MAGAZINE' is written in a white, bold, sans-serif font. The background of the banner shows a landscape with a blue sky, green grass, and a body of water.

UKDN FINDS BAGS - EXCELLENT !!



Made of strong, durable 200 gauge polythene with grip-seal open-ings and with three write-on panels.

Supplied in a three useful sizes to suit all occasions i.e. 1.5" x 2.5 inch for coins and very small finds, 2.5" x 3 inch for larger coins and artefacts and 4" x 5.5 inch for the larger finds.

Sold in batches of multiples of 100 e.g. 300 or 600 or just 100, 500 and 1,000.

All sold at very competitive prices with no rip-off fees for postage. For more info and to order go to the UKDN Shop via the link on the Forum Index Page.

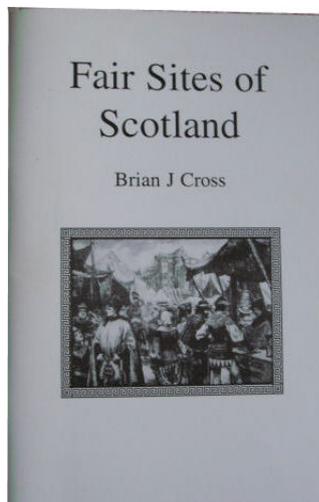
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1000 medium bags - £13.50 inc. postage

100 large bags - £3.99 inc. postage
500 large bags - £13.50 inc. postage
1000 large bags - £22.00 inc. postage

[**Link to UKDN Shop**](#)

Fair Sites of Scotland by Brian Cross



Written by UKDN Forum Founder Brian Cross this book researches all the Cattle, Sheep and Horse fair sites in Scotland. It is an excellent research tool for any detectorist intent on discovering some of these highly productive metal detecting sites.

Originally sold for £6.50 + postage Brian is offering these books to UK DETECTOR NET for a one-off price of £6.41 including postage and Paypal fees.

All the proceeds i.e. £5 from the sale of each book will go to the server costs of UK DETECTOR NET.

[**Buy it Here**](#)

Gold - Strange but True

Surveyor finds two gold sovereigns minted only two years apart in two completely different locations

About a year ago whilst snagging a refurbishment project with my foreman I found an 1856 Victorian half sovereign on a border that had recently been dug out.

At first I thought it was gold foil but surprisingly so it turned out to be Vicky gold. I was well chuffed, my first gold coin and an eyes only find. The wife was chuffed too because she nabbed it as soon as she saw it!

hold it for luck

Cut to yesterday morning, as I was getting ready to go digging I noticed my wifes trinket box on the side, knowing she kept the half sovereign in it that I found I thought I'd get it out and hold it for luck, well...

After digging in the field for most of the morning with just a couple of georgian grots to keep me company, I had a quiet but positive signal. Upon digging it out I proceeded to lose the signal, as you do, but, after turning over the soil a bit, found it again. I then got my pin pointer out to home in on the target and what I eventually saw was the edge of a coin that had me thinking, 'that's gold!'

what's the odds on that?

Well, when I cleaned the soggy clay soil off it to say I was shocked is an extreme understatement. After a few choice but happy words to myself I calmed down a bit and looked at the coin. And this is what I saw.... and only two years between both coins. What's the odds on that?



The first gold sovereign

Surveyor - February 2011



The second sovereign



The two sovereigns together dated 1856 & 1858

What a Relief! – by Brian Booth

Brian gets a call to find a ring lost last October in a bonfire and finds a very valuable and sentimental ring



Warsop Metal Detector Society ([click here](#)) received a phone call from a local hotel proprietor enquiring if we would be able to help in finding a sentimental ring lost last October when they were having a garden bonfire. The hotel owner had already purchased a metal detector (model not known) and had spent many hours searching the area without success.

Society secretary Brian Booth, volunteered his services to go and attempt to find the lost ring, on arrival on site he was shown the bonfire area and an approximate position of the lady who could have lost the ring when loading rubbish on the bonfire.

After the first few scans with the T2 detector it was obvious that the area was infested with iron and burnt metal items, the T2 was adjusted to a high discriminate number (30) and the 1+ setting.

it looked to be intact

On the very next scan, “Bingo” number 69 on the ring pull setting, a small hole was dug to reveal the lost ring it looked to be intact but black and smoke damaged. The find spot was on the fringe of the bonfire area.

cost £7,000

The look on the lady's face when the ring was presented to her was "amazing", she cried and hugged Brian stating that she never thought that she would ever see the ring again, she explained the ring had been specially made 23 years ago for a special event with it costing £7,000.00. The ring is 18ct yellow gold with a bezel of 18 diamonds it will probably have to be professional cleaned to make it perfect again.



The ring now safely back where it belongs

Wow! what a result for the society's free recovery service.

Brian Booth - February 2011



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.....

Congratulations to Dave..... 10,000 Posts

[**Click Here**](#)

Gloves, help or hinderence?

[**Click Here**](#)

The Countryfile Thread

[**Click Here**](#)

Wheelchair-Bound Detectorist

[**Click Here**](#)

Old Pics of Popular UK Beaches

[**Click Here**](#)

UKDN FUN DSLR - Camera PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION



***The rising moon over the River Tay above Dundee from Newburgh,
Fife***

Camera Nikon D60

Exposure 0.033 sec (1/30)

Aperture f/5.3

Focal Length 145 mm

ISO Speed 400

By Corinne Mills

UKDN Fun Point Press and Pray - Camera PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION



Worms Eye View by the barnacle

The camera used was a Gopro Hd.

Identifying an Irish Hammered Penny of Henry III



Obverse : HENRICVS REX III



Reverse : RICARD ON DIVE

It is always a pleasure helping identify Irish coins but this one I enjoyed more than most. The give away details on this particular coin are the monarchs portrait in a triangle on the obverse. This almost certainly made it an Irish coin and an earlier one at that. Upon turning the coin over, the reverse has a Voided Long Cross, which helped date the coin to the period of Henry III.



Note: DIVE (Dublin) and R (RICARD)

So now I knew the era we were looking at the next important part was to find where it was minted. Well this was the real easy part, as during this period Dublin was the only mint operating.

only two moneyers making the coins

If you look closely on the reverse you can see ON DIVE (of Dublin). So far so good. We know the king and also the mint. Now it was time to find out who actually made the coin. Unlike the mints in England, there were only two moneyers making the coins at this time in Ireland. Their names were Ricard and Davi. It was time to look closely again at the reverse and I could see that the name began with an R, in the inscription. Straight away I knew it was minted by Ricard.

The Irish coins of Henry III are split up into 2 classes which are each in turn split into four types. In order to find out what class it belonged to, I needed to check out a number of details on the obverse. This fell into the category of a type Ic coin. Not only did it have a sexfoil to the right of the bust it also had a pronounced double line of pellets forming the beard and the shoulders are formed from pellets. Another aspect of this class is that the crown is formed from arcs and pellets and it also has a small triangle below the central fleur of the crown The inscription around the triangle confirmed what we already believed. This coin was from the reign of Henry III - HENRI CVS REX III - (Henry III King).

So there we have it. A, Type 1c, Irish Penny of Henry III, Dublin Mint, Moneyer Ricard.

Treasurehunterste - February 2011



Member's Report on the Deus

By blue_yeti

New Year - New Deus - New Start – Part 1

Blue Yeti gets his brand-new Deus - attempts to use it on three well-used fields, finds two fields unusable but scores on the third.

I know there has been a lot of debate about the new Deus, is it really the dogs b's, is it overhyped and why is it every coin that any machine could have found is attributed to only having been found because the owner was using it. All good questions and hard to answer but I am willing to give it a go for those interested (if there are any!!?)

found a dozen or so gold coins

I have been detecting over 20 years, have been very fortunate and found hundreds of hammered, a dozen or so gold coins, artefacts etc... I love my detecting... I am not one to buy the next great thing everytime it appears, I don't like to many gadgets, and I love lightweight machines. Most of my nicest finds have come off two or three farms that I have now searched for 19 seasons. This year however was a nightmare, and my worst in searching terms by a long way, reflected by my lowest ever score of one hammered!!

My best fields all produced just about nothing, very few signals, a combination I guess of me removing every signal I get, direct drilling, no real ploughing etc. This was the second such poor year in a row, although this year was down again on last, and was highlighted to me by three hours last week on what was a great Roman site, on perfect surface, by two of us that produced one pewter button!!

The current machines used by me and my detecting mate are a Hawkeye, B1 and a Minelab.

We were given a demo of the Deus by

a couple of guys who we know, who are first class detectorists and whose opinions we rate, they couldn't talk highly enough about it, this carries a lot of sway with me as they know their onions.

really are worked out hard

So from next week, my mate and I will be the most recent converts to the 'revolution'. I believe by revisiting sites that really are worked out hard will provide a pretty good demonstration of its capabilities, or lack of them. I am not going to scream 'Deus finds hammered', when it is an Elizabeth 6d on the surface on a field that I have never been on before. For me the hard worked sites and whether they 'come back to life' will be by far and away the best kind of test and I have done these fields long enough to know what to expect and how in recent years they have not been a shadow of the sites they once were.

I will update this article, throughout the year on my missions out as a progress report and hopefully it will assist those who are thinking about whether it is or isn't worth the investment.

I will also make the point I am in no way connected to the makers, suppliers or dealers of the machine and am doing this as a record of the year and whether the machine assists in getting me back to the kind of level of finds I was previously getting and whether old sites do once again come alive... Time will tell.



Well it arrived yesterday and myself and my mate spent two hours playing indoors with said machine. It comes well packed and is super simple to assemble and charge, even I managed it! It instantly has the feel of the difference between say an Apple and a PC, where many things are just designed better and look pretty, and whilst I am not going to get into hype as I have promised there is no point in hiding that initial impressions were good.

All this simplicity I like

We then played with it in air. For those that are worried there are a million menus to scroll through, fear not. You can set the machine by turning it on, using an arrow plus/minus key to pick your pre set programme for the kind of detecting you are doing and its off you go. All this simplicity I like, clearly though the manual has many other things you can play with when more confident but for me not at this stage thank you, its about detecting, finds and simplicity.

The in air tests were for me as a Hawk-eye user very impressive, we were getting hammered of various sizes from 10-15inches. Whilst in the most powerful modes, which are not going to be ideal in all areas, you seemed to be able to add another 10% or so on top. One thing I did note though was that with a Laser or such like the larger the object clearly the deeper it finds it, that was not so apparent on the Deus, with many different types of find all being picked up when within its range.

yes it is very, very light

I have always been one of those that has said you can either have sharpness, discrim and lightweight, or if you want real depth you have to put up with more weight and a little less sharpness. Clearly now that mindset is out of date. The weight of the machine is incredibly light and if fatigue is something you suffer from then this is no issue with the Deus. Clearly though many other machines can boast being lightweight as well and it is nothing unique, but the point being they say its light and yes it is very, very light.

Everything is wireless, which for me is something I like as I have ruined so many headphones over the years by pulling the cords to destruction! The control box, the size of a mobile, displays the mode you are in and gives the signal a number, much like many other machines. In air this was very steady and the number did not jump about, of course there is a huge difference between in air and on site but I can only judge what I have seen thus far. The unit can be taken off, although I can only imagine the point of doing this would be in the rain as the weight difference is negligible and personally I like to see the numbers on the screen and try to predict my find before it is recovered, so be interesting to see how accurate or what number ranges become the exciting signals we all crave.

All in all my first non use impressions are excellent, the next test will be on site at the weekend.

we managed one signal

I expect we are going to test it on three stubble fields we have. One has a Roman section on it, this has produced lots of goodies over the years but now is barren. For the past three seasons I have not had a grot from it. Signals are very few and far between and last visit we managed one signal on the very periphery of the site between us.

7/8 years, mainly medieval and all from one pretty large area. We detected the current surface to death when it was rolled so the stubble did not offer us much potential but perhaps would provide a good testing area. We had been on the stubble once but due to lack of signals we had decided to abandon until it was ploughed, but this was all we had in reality so needs must.



The Deus folded

The next field has an area about 200yards by 200yards that has produced around 20 hammered over 7 years. Last year it only produced one and this was on perfectly rolled surface that is the same one now as stubble. The third field is generally quieter and larger so to be honest finds from this could easily be missed and unless at extreme depth cannot really be attributed to a new machine. None of these fields we planned to return to this year such was the lack of finds now.

Ok so it was day one out with the new beast...

The day did not start well on many fronts! First an RTA outside my house meant my detecting partner could not get to mine, so he called me to say he was going straight to the field so I quickly loaded my car and left. Got near the sites we were planning and the first choice worn out Roman field had been rough ploughed, so in ice that was never going to be on, so onto second choice. This is a field that has produced around 20 hammered over the past

I got the machine out and noticed that the search head was very loose, so went to tighten the nut, SNAP... after less than half a turn it sheared in half. Now I'm not a big bloke and can't be accused of having abnormal strength, it must have been a faulty unit as clearly my mates machine was far tighter. On the plus side a spare is given as part of the purchase, on the downside I had it at home as really didn't plan for this. On the other plus side we had two cars on site so me having to return home would not stop my friend from starting with his Deus, on the downside the RTA meant I was unlikely to be able to get to my house.... Not a good start at all.

15 mins later saw me at home, just as the police opened the road, change of luck me thinks, until I realise, that somehow the spare bolt is not with the rest of the bits from the machine. Now i know one was in the box, as I clearly remembered seeing it, but two kids, two dogs etc, often means I don't find things where I left them.... I was by now cursing my luck.



Finds made on that day with the Deus

But my first Deus tip is that the search head bolt and locking nut from a Hawkeye fit so after some careful minor adjustments I was back on my way to site and hour or so behind my mate in detecting time though.

I quickly powered up and set the preset mode 2, which is I am told is good for general searching. I started to walk towards my pal detecting but decided to just walk down to him and see how he was getting on and if there were any tips or suggestions from him on the Deus after his first hours use. I did however swing my machine a couple of times and was getting quite a bit of chatter, but I put this down to the speed I was walking through the stubble at.

When I arrived with him on the fringe of the hammered area, he had nothing to show, but was pleased that in this well detected area he had got some signals. He was less pleased with the chattering of the machine. I then started detecting in earnest and initially was also not impressed by the chatter. We quickly discovered us

detecting close in the same mode and frequency didn't help but even so the chatter was annoying. As a long time laser and Tesoro user I am used to silence apart from signals and 'spits' that need to be checked out and sometimes dug, these 'ghost' signals every swing were not for me...

instantly it was silent

I then had a moment of clarity where I said to myself 'if this laser was doing this I would turn down the sensitivity' I think the expression is Doh!! In my defence I was presuming that the auto pre set mode I was in would be set fairly low and as this isn't a heavy mineralised field I almost wrote it off as a problem without trying. Anyway turning the sensitivity down from 90 to 80 made all the difference in the world. Instantly it was silent except for signals or iron signals, already though by this stage I had a broken silver medieval ring and part of a silver ring brooch, in itself quite unusual as artefacts are rare on this field.

My friend had gone for lunch when i got another signal that took my attention a few minutes after changing the sensitivity. Loud and clear it sounded like a georgian or button such was the clarity of signal. However, finding the item was proving to be a nightmare and gradually the area of stubble was becoming a quagmire... Eventually I found the signal stuck to my boot, and in a tiny clump that did not look larger enough to hide the kind of find I was expecting from the type of signal was a broken in half, nearly quarter, medieval halfpenny, of either Edward or Richard II.

one poxy hammered last year

Now if you read my intro to doing this thread you will know I only managed one poxy hammered last year, in probably 120 hours of detecting, and here I was holding one in an hour and a half of my first trip. So the question on this find Deus or luck, I have to say that other machines may well have found it, but my Hawkeye would only have found this tiny fragment lying on the top, for me this is one I wouldn't have got.

Next was a Vicky 3d of 1865 pierced at the top, and a lovely Stuart era silver button with rose engraved on it. Bear in mind these are finds off a field we were not going back on until after it was turned again.

half moon shape of a cut half

A few more lines and another clear crisp signal. I was starting to realise that from the even the very tiniest of bits all give a very good signal and have you thinking that you will be looking for a button on something similar, this would prove to be know different. Having taken out a plug the signal was still coming from the hole, so two more scoops saw the signal now out. I broke one of the clumps in half and could see the half moon shape of a cut half. This time a very worn short cross

minted in London. So double last years tally in two and a half hours...

An 1855 Vicki Shilling and an 1878 six-pence rounded up my silver and coins, for a tally of two hammered, three milled and two broken silver fragments. All in all a good day for me. My mate though despite getting dozens of signals did not hit any hammered, but we had both gone on to the field knowing that the day was all about signals rather than finds, as clearly the luck on finds was with me today whereas the number of signals from a worked out site was what we were interested in.

it sees it, identifies it

So conclusion after day one. Its light and its very sharp, its also very deep, but I guess that is relative to what you are using now, and I am speaking in comparison to a Hawkeye, so please do bear that in mind. Clearly the search head bolt could do with some improvement and I also cannot really see the point in the removable control box. Its so light that I cannot see any benefit in having it off, I would far prefer to see it mounted properly, sealed and be waterproof, as I suspect most users have it on so they can see the number reading, which was very accurate for assisting in ignoring coke. I really liked the way though that big iron gives a signal, but one that is a low tone, its not trying to reject it and causing spits that you dig, it sees it, identifies it and clearly tells you by tone and by meter to move along.

So that was my first day in a nut shell... I have attached some shots of the bits found and weather allowing we will try and get out next weekend.

blue-yeti February 2011

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 sometime in 1989.

Cover Explanation: I think the club had been to a number of rallies during the previous six months most of which had left much to be desired. I think this is Dave's take on that fact i.e. detecting in a rubbish area and with rubbish prizes.



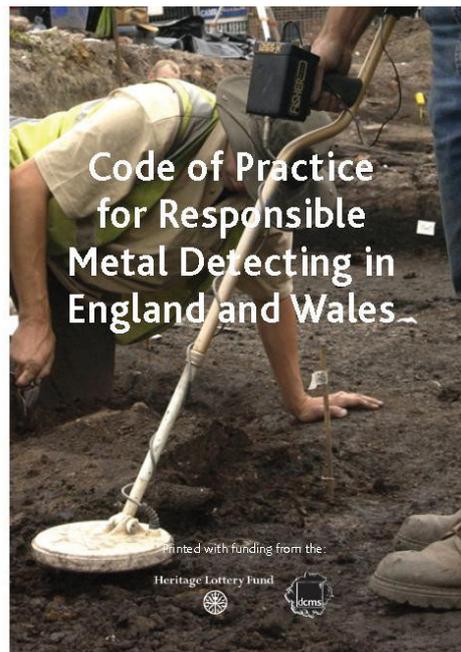
Getting Started in Metal Detecting

Check out the info below, bear in mind that all land is owned by somebody and permission to detect is required preferably in writing. Click on images for more info, any questions? just ask on **UKDN**.

Code of Practice for Responsible Metal Detecting

This document is the bedrock of what Responsible Metal Detecting is all about, doing it by the book so to speak. This Voluntary Code of Practice has been agreed by archaeological and metal detecting organisations including the National Council for Metal Detecting.

This code of practice is voluntary, but the following organisations have endorsed it:



Advice for Finders of Treasure

Tells you what your obligations are should you find Treasure



Advice for Finders of Archaeological Objects

This document details the requirements from the PAS point of view, what finds need recording, how recording will effect you and the requirements laid down in the Treasure Act.



National Council for Metal Detecting Negotiating Body & Insurance

The NCMD have fought battles for the hobby in the past and are the only negotiating body that we have so please give them your support.

Insurance is not expensive and well worth taking out, advise the landowner that you have it. There is an application form on the NCMD Website.



The Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS)



The PAS is a voluntary scheme set up in 1997 to record archaeological objects found by metal detectorists and other members of the public in England and Wales.

Due to it's successful outreach and the desire of metal detectorists to record their finds for the benefit of future generations, the resulting partnership has lead to PAS becoming the largest Community Archaeology Project this country has ever seen. Having currently recorded over 674,000 objects found by over 18,000 people.

Please note that the Landowners permission is required to record your finds with PAS along with the level of accuracy of recording, responsible detectorists gain this permis-

sion prior to metal detecting on any land.

UKDN appreciates that there are only a finite number of finds out there for academics to use to tell the tale of our past and some detectorists have made spectacular finds in recent years adding enormously to our understanding of the past.

It's not all about the spectacular finds though, all finds can in some way contribute to our knowledge of the past and help to write the story.

Not recording finds is like removing text from pages of our history, the more that is missing, the less sense can be made of what remains.

So, although recording is voluntary and you may have no interest in history or anything that isn't treasure, please give a thought to the damage that you may be doing to the historical record that many academics and fellow detectorists are striving to create.

Be proud to be someone who is helping to put the story together, and not be someone who is taking it apart.

Recording find spots to 6, 8 and 10 figure National Grid References (NGR's) benefits our heritage in many ways;

Domestic utensils and surface pottery remains show areas of occupation.

Tools, worked or repaired objects and materials show the location of workshops, technologies and resources used in manufacture, patterns of production, the geography of local and overseas trade and communication.

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

Jewellery shows us the dress style of the area and period. Coins show us how the Emperor or King dressed and even how he wore his hair. Even the humble **grot** or **brooch** can show us the date of a particular site and places where trade took place.

"Gold doesn't map settlements – high-status coins could be hidden or lost anywhere. ***But where you've got 100 grots, you've got a settlement.***"

Votive offerings, weapons, musket balls & grave goods, show us how & where our ancestors worshipped, fought & died.

A concentration of objects found in the a small area might lead to a new archaeological site such as a settlement, temple, fort, work-shop, burial/cremation, battle ground, market place, fair ground etc being discovered, or show where a hoard was buried.

Another advantage of finding objects in a small area is to be able to date the site (made easier by dating any coins found), so dating other objects found in the same area that previously were undated.

Dating objects on one site assists in the dating of objects on other sites too. Knowing where nothing is found is also valuable 'negative evidence' for the FLO.

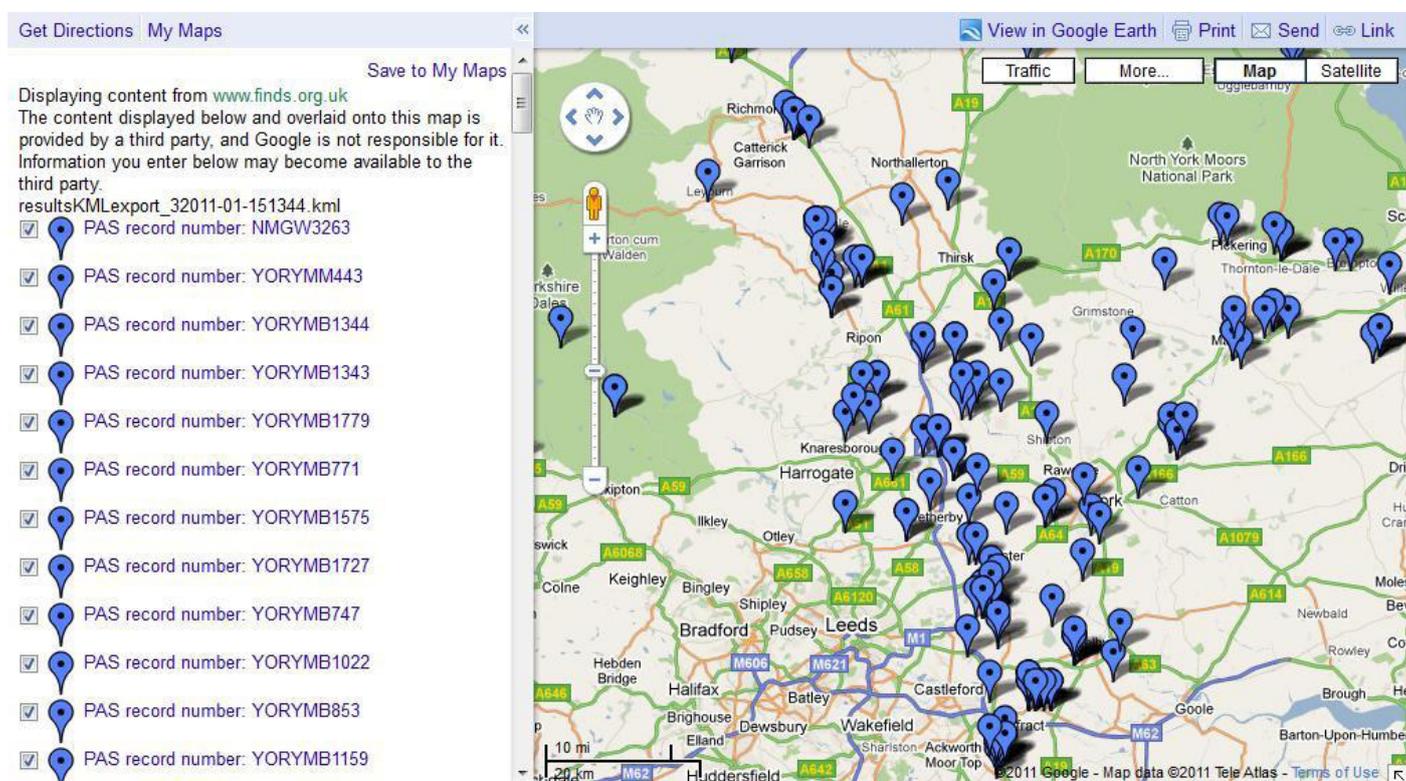
Detecting finds throughout Britain are adding to and even re writing our history for the benefit of future generations at a rate of over a thousand finds a week, why not join the PAS project and put your flags on the map too. The example below shows how PAS shows finds in Google Maps.

Google Earth Map Showing Roman Brooches in North Yorkshire

To produce a map in Google Earth similar to that below, **advance search** for Brooch, Roman, North Yorkshire on the database. When the result is shown, click on KML at the bottom of the page, this will show the PAS coding and the PAS URL at the top of the page. Copy this URL which should be as follows for the search below;

<http://www.finds.org.uk/database/search/results/objecttype/brooch/broadperiod/ROMAN/county/NORTH+YORKSHIRE/page/18/format/kml>

Open Google Earth, click the view in Google Maps icon (top right box) on the tool bar to open the Google Maps page, paste the PAS URL into the search maps box at the top and click on 'search maps'.

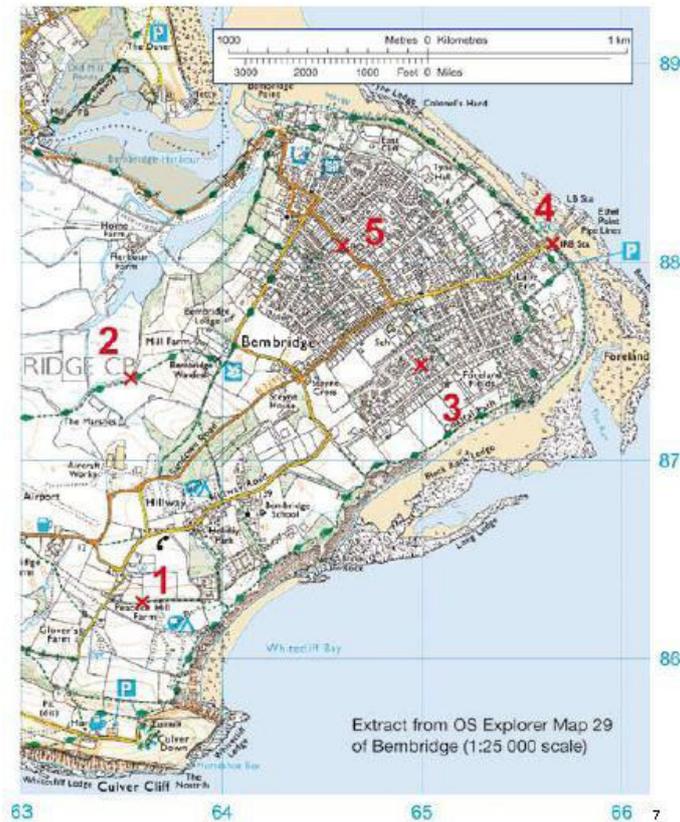


Recording Find Spots in the Field using an Ordnance Survey Map

Assuming you wish the knowledge inherent in your finds to be recorded on the PAS Database, you will need to know the National Grid Reference (NGR) for the find spot.

PAS would accept a minimum NGR of 6 figures which corresponds to 100 metres accuracy but would prefer an 8 figure NGR (10 metres) or 10 figure NGR (1 metre)

A basic method is to use an Ordnance Survey (O/S) Map, they are available via the internet or stores like WH Smiths and will allow recording to say 6 figures accuracy. Click on the map below for how to read an O/S NGR.



Recording Find Spots in the Field using a map created by yourself

If you don't want to purchase an O/S map, you can create your own aerial version if you have access to a printer and a computer which has Google Earth (GE) Version 5.0.

Click here to download and run the Gridlines .kml file, from the 'nearby' website, this will set up a file called 'Gridlines' in your GE 'temporary places' directory. It will display 10km and 1km grid lines on the screen.

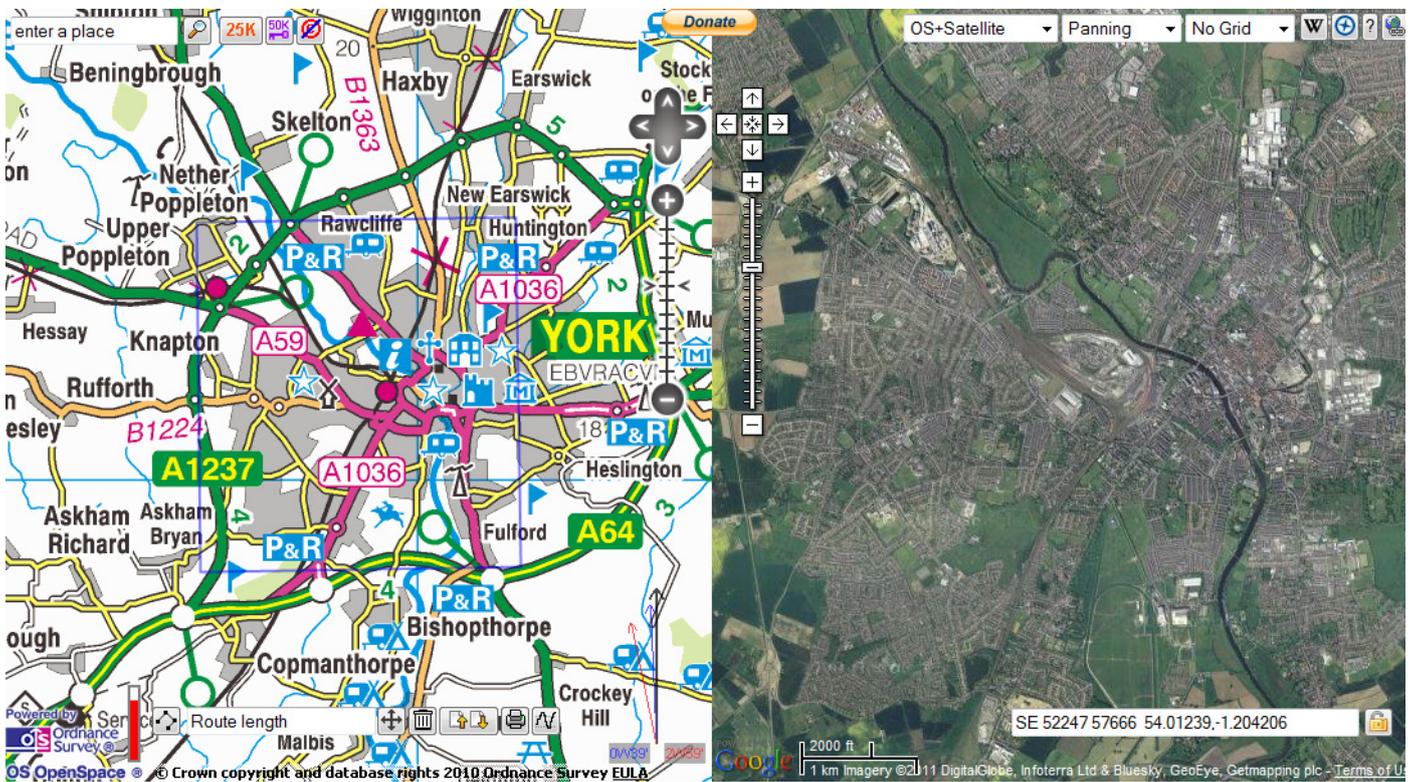
It will also put a marker in the centre of the screen showing it's 10 figure NGR. For now untick the 'center point' box to remove the marker.

You can now print off an 'aerial' map of your fields overlaid with O/S gridlines with which you can note the NGR of your finds in the field.

Or you may if you wish mark the find spots on the map in the field and when you get home by moving the screen image to coincide with them in the centre, read off the NGR after ticking the 'center point' box.

Recording Find Spots using Where's the Path Map

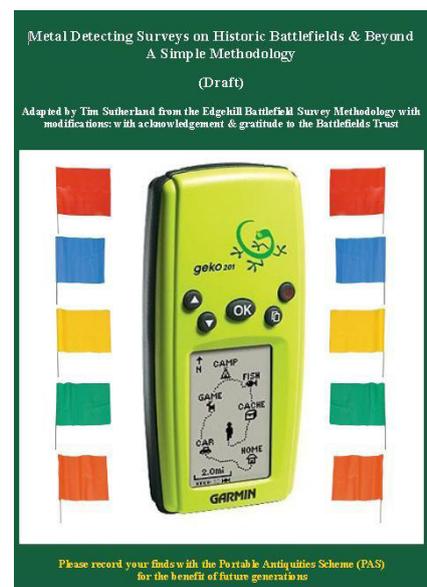
This map allows you to hover the mouse over the find spot and read off the NGR, use it in conjunction with the above map marked in the field.



Recording Find Spots in the Field using a GPS

This is easiest and the most accurate method. If the GPS is was enabled – Select 'waas', select 'advanced sky view'. **The data almanac needs to be downloaded via EGNOS Satellites 33 & 37.** Move the GPS about till signal bars 33 & 37 become bold & letter D's show that differential data has been downloaded onto other signal bars. Accuracy should be improved.

A basic GPS such as the Garmin Etrex can be purchased for around £64. If you wish to download the data to your PC you will also need to order a cable. Should you wish the GPS can be tied to the upper shaft of the detector pointing skyward for best reception with cable ties or a bicycle fitting. Click on the image below right for how to set up the GPS.



Bagging Your Finds in the Field

For this you will need Grip Seal Finds Bags, these are available from the UKDN Forum, click on the bag for details. A Black Permanent Marker Pen will also be needed.

All you need to do is to note the find spot on the map or GPS and write it on the bag, write down what you would like PAS to show it as on their Database to protect the site ie known as - York, add the venue, the discovery date, depth and land type ie beach, cultivated etc and insert the find into the bag. That will only take a couple of minutes of your time and you will have done our heritage a great service.

Completing the Record at Home

Once you are home you can embellish the record at your leisure, the more relevant information you can include the more pleased the PAS Finds Liaison Officer will be as you will have saved them a lot of work.

Such as; Object ID, diameter, length, width, thickness and weight, for this you will need scales and a ruler or vernier callipers.

You can even go as far as **recording the find yourself** on the PAS Database using the **PAS Self Recording System**.

UKDN Finds Advisers and members are very willing to try to help you ID any finds that you may be struggling with, just post clear in focus images and find dimensions on the forum.

Do not attempt to clean the find save a rinse in tap water, as damage can be done, patina removed etc all of which can reduce the appearance and value of the find especially if it turns out to be treasure. Ask the FLO about conservation methods.



Portable Antiquities Scheme
North & East Yorkshire Recording Sheet

Photo Ref: _____
PAS No: _____

Finder: _____
Address: _____
Postcode: _____ Email: _____ Tel: _____

Grid Reference (GPS or 6 figure): _____ Centred on parish YES NO
FARM NAME: _____
PARISH: _____
COUNTY: _____
LANDUSE: _____
Known as: _____

Object Type: Coin Token Buckle Brooch Weight Jetton Other
Object Classification: _____
Description: _____

Inscription Obverse: _____
Inscription Reverse: _____ DAM (Coins only): _____

Material: Cu alloy Silver Gold Iron Lead Pewter Pottery Other
Surface treatment: Silvering Gliding Tinning Enamelling Other
Additional material: _____
Period: Prehistoric Bronze Age Iron Age Roman Early Medieval
Medieval Post Medieval Uncertain Detail: _____

Quantity:	Length:	mm	Width:	mm	
Thickness:	mm	Diameter:	mm	Weight:	g

Method of manufacture: Cast Struck or hammered Other: _____
Evidence of reuse: _____

Completeness: Whole Fragment Incomplete Uncertain
Wear: Perfect Slightly worn Worn Very worn
Preservation: Good Fair Poor Corroded Needs conservation

Other info / references etc: _____

Tools for recording – Vernier (£20), Scales (£10)



Conserving and Storing Your Find

[Log in](#) | [Register](#)

[Home](#) » [Conservation advice](#)

Artefact conservation guide

Note 1

Note 2

Note 3

Note 4

Note 5

Note 6

Note 7

This guide has been produced by York Archaeological Trust, on behalf of the Portable Antiquities Scheme. All images herein are copyright of York Archaeological Trust 2005.

This series of notes can be downloaded as **one document in pdf format**.

1. **Starting out**
2. **On site: Recording and lifting finds**
3. **Packing and storage**
4. **What next? Assessment**
5. **Cleaning and protecting**
6. **Displaying and collecting**
7. **Further reading**



This is where you get to meet your PAS Finds Liaison Officer (FLO).

If you are a member of a Club, he or she will probably visit the Club on a bi monthly basis. If you take along your find in it's bag with the details on the FLO will give you a receipt which you sign, allowing the FLO to take it to the Museum for photographing and recording it's details on the PAS Database. The find will be returned having been recorded with a detailed report including images, usually the next time the FLO visits the Club.

Should you be an independent detectorist you will need to visit the FLO at the Museum at the earliest date that there is a Finds Identification Day. Your FLO will tell you when and where your next Finds Identification Day is. Thank you for recording with the PAS it is very much appreciated.

Click on the image on the next page to find your FLO

[Log in](#) | [Register](#)

[How to get involved](#)

[Current vacancies](#)

[Archived vacancies](#)

[Volunteer opportunities](#)

[Contact us](#)

[FAQs & Answers](#)

[Guides to help you](#)

[Our publications](#)

[Links](#)

[Home](#) » [Getting involved](#)

Getting involved with the Scheme

The Portable Antiquities Scheme is a voluntary scheme for archaeological objects found by members of the public. The scheme encourages finders to record these discoveries with their local [Finds Liaison Officer](#).

Regional contacts gives details of the Schemes network of Finds Liaison Officers. Each Finds Liaison Officer welcomes enquiries regarding 'portable antiquities' in their region. They are also happy to record any archaeological objects that you might discover.

If you have a general question about the Portable Antiquities Scheme and its work of finds recording, why not have a look at the frequently asked questions. Otherwise please contact us to register for free information about the Scheme.

Also available are a range of publications and leaflets about the Portable Antiquities Scheme and the Treasure Act. You can order these through this website.



PAS Team Recording at the Bridlington Quays Charity Rally 2008



Copyright PhilD

I would like to thank PAS, Google Earth and Ordnance Survey for use of their material. Have a great year everyone!, record with PAS, you know it makes sense.

PhilD - March 2011

Best News Stories from February 2011

Treasure Hunter has close call with grenade

An amateur treasure hunter last night revealed how he came within inches of a being blown up – by a live hand grenade

[***Click Here***](#)

Roman Road is discovered in Forest

A VAST stretch of one of Britain's first Roman roads has been uncovered in the depths of a forest.

[***Click Here***](#)

Archaeologists Find 1,082 Ancient Tombs in Google

While you were using Google Earth to zoom in on your house, these archaeologists used it to find places to dig. And it paid off with 1,977 potential archaeological sites, including 1,082 ancient stone tombs.

Yes! Not only is Google Earth a terrific tool for answering the question "what does my house look like from directly above?," it's also useful for nerdy science stuff, like "finding valuable archaeological sites." David Kennedy, a professor at the University of Western Australia, scanned an area of almost 500 square miles on the Arabian Peninsula in Google Earth, turning up 1,977 potential sites, 1,082 of which were ancient stone tombs known as "pendants." New Scientist writes:

[***Click Here***](#)

A Bit of Bother at Tesco

Brett Chamberlain filled his car with £95 of petrol at Tesco and offered to pay with several bags of £1 coins he had found with his metal-detector.

[***Click Here***](#)

Ancient Britons 'drank from skulls'

Ancient Britons were not averse to using human skulls as drinking cups, skeletal remains unearthed in southwest England suggest.

[***Click Here***](#)

Crossword Answers:

Across: 4 Fisher, 6 Goldmaxx, 7 Espresso, 8 Unlade, 10 Craniologist, 12 Acts up, 14 Sacred, 16 Counterfeits, 19 Scarab, 20 Hammered, 21 Embossed, 22 Nobles.

Down: 1 Fresco, 2 Claudius, 3 Amulet, 5 Instruct, 6 Gnomon, 9 Do, 11 Aesthete, 13 Plumbism, 15 Etched, 16 Carbon, 17 Romans, 18 Scam.

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, PhilD 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 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.