



## NEWS

# An update on the Green Waste Project

Dr James Gerrard and Dr Martin Cooke, Newcastle University

Readers of the Digging Deep may remember that we launched the Green Waste Project last year. This project is a collaboration between Newcastle University and members of the public (including detectorists, archaeologists and others) that aims to record fields that have been spread with green waste containing contaminants. These contaminants (especially aluminium foil and ferrous objects) are having a big impact on detecting and geophysical surveys used by archaeologists. This update was inspired by our invitation to discuss the project's progress at the NCMD's meeting in Northampton at the end of February.

### About the project

The project asks members of the public to record fields that have been spread with green waste containing contaminants. The study is based on many 'citizen science' projects. Think, for example, of the RSPB's annual Big Garden Bird Watch that ask members of the public to record the bird species in their gardens. The green waste project is no different and is based upon mutual trust. The advantages of such studies are that they work in collaboration with members of the public and depend on their participation and input.

Detectorists, as the people actually finding evidence of contaminants in the soil, are uniquely placed to contribute and, given the problems green waste is causing for the hobby, have an opportunity to take positive action by using the app or website. Archaeologists are also participating and we hope that

together we can build a body of data that will allow us to discuss this issue with government and others.

The website and the app allow users to anonymously identify fields that have been spread with green waste containing contaminants. We encourage all users of the app to do so with the permission of the landowner.

- **We do not want to identify individual detectorists or farmers**

- **We have no interest or intention of causing any problems for the detecting or farming communities**

- **This project will not get landowners into trouble or get land classed as 'contaminated'** (at present no expert in contamination would class a field spread with 'contaminated green waste' as contaminated land. There is no danger that land will be classed as 'contaminated' as a consequence of this project). **If your landowner is concerned please show them this article.**

- **No personal or sensitive data is collected.** The University's legal team has confirmed this and the project has passed ethical review

- **There is no third party involvement in the project.** The University owns the data. The data will not be shared with any third parties.

- We may publish maps that show the spread of green waste. These will either be at a national scale that makes **identifying individual sites impossible** or have identifying labels and features removed.

We cannot emphasise enough that this project is purely and simply about generating a series of points on a map. All we want is to be able to demonstrate that there are fields in every county in Britain that contain these contaminants. The intention is to use this data to show the recycling industry, government and others that this is not a minor problem. At the moment the recycling industry and others are claiming that this is simply a small-scale issue caused by a few 'bad apples'. We know anecdotally that this is not true. Let us demonstrate this point with evidence. Once we have the evidence we can engage more fully with policy makers and attempt to create real change for the better.

So far we have had an encouraging response from both detectorists and archaeologists. However, we would very much like there to be considerably more data recorded than we have at present. According to some estimates there are 30,000 detectorists nationally. Of course, not all of these individuals will be active. Nevertheless, if we say 10,000 detectorists go detecting on a regular basis we could, if 1 in 10 of those individuals used the app to record one field, have 1,000 data points. This, with data collected from archaeologists and others, would give us a really firm evidential basis.

We know that there are concerns about how the data will be used but we can do no more than offer you our assurances: no personal data is collected and we will not share the data with anyone else. There is no desire to cause

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NCMD Newsletter Manager: Harry Bain  
Publisher: Editor, Design & Layout:  
Harry Bain, Searcher Publications Ltd  
Typesetting, Production and Repro:  
Tradeset Ltd  
Printed and Distributed by:  
Warners Midlands PLC, West Street,  
Bourne, Lincs, PE10 9PH.

you, or landowners problems. Indeed, we see farmers as victims, because they are unwittingly and unknowingly spreading this waste and contaminants. Quite simply: there are no hidden agendas. We want to work with you to address this issue.

One or two people have asked us why we haven't spoken to the farming community about the project. The green waste issue has been in the public eye for a long time. As long ago as 2012

the metal detecting community brought the issue to the attention of an MP who asked a question about green waste in the House of Commons. In 2015 nearly 6 million people watched BBC Countryfile cover this very issue.

More recently we published an article in the journal *British Archaeology*, which included a response by a landowner who was as horrified by the idea of contaminants within green waste as us. We are more than willing

to engage with any farmers, or farming organisations but would like to do so once we have a quantity of evidence to show that we are not scaremongering.

Eventually we hope to write a number of scientific papers that will be aimed (probably) at publications dealing with waste management, recycling and the historic environment. We would also like to develop some documents and reports which we can provide to organisations and

policy makers. None of this work requires us to identify or make contact with individual farms, landowners or detectorists. None of this work will inhibit the rights of detectorists to search fields.

We genuinely hope that you will feel reassured by these words about the aims and intentions of the project.

**If you do, please download the app, or log your fields using this website <http://ceg-research.ncl.ac.uk/greenwasteproject/>**

## Voted Number 1

### Dave Crisp

So, it's official: My hoard is the best treasure item in 20 years, as voted for by the public from the original 20 items picked by the experts at the British Museum. The competition, run by the *Telegraph* newspaper and the BM, was to highlight the 20 years since the new Treasure Act came into being in 1997. This Act took over from the old Treasure Trove Law which had been around since the medieval times, and was a bit outmoded in this modern age. The law was changed in 1996 with a lot of input from our own National Council who were looking after our best interests. They still do this today, and I firmly believe we would not have our hobby today if it wasn't for the NCMD, back then in the 90s.

So, what was the winner in this great competition? It was the Frome Hoard: 52,503 Roman coins in a pot weighing 160 Kg. 52,498 Roman radiates, with five, yes only five, silver denarii. But what lovely denarii, all of the Emperor Carausius (286-293AD), the first Emperor to mint coins here in Britain. These five were in mint condition. Here is Carausius riding into London, saying in Latin, "Here I am lads, I'm the new boss."

There were a few criteria to be followed by the initial 20 items: best practice by the finder, and it also had to add to the knowledge

of the academics. So what were mine? I let the archaeologists dig up the pot (it took them three days); there was the highest number of coins of Carausius ever found together, which put all of his coins into context. For this, Sam Moorhead at the BM bought me lunch (only sausage and mash) which was very nice. Of course all the items had to have been voted Treasure in these last 20 years, which they all were, although one, the Hackney Hoard (see below), came under the old Treasure Trove law.



There were some other very fine finds, again by metal detectorists, like the Vale of York Viking Hoard, the Bosworth Boar, the Ringlemere Cup, the gold Baltheild matrix, even the Staffordshire Hoard (which at the last check was running second). In my view the early Roman/British Winchester Gold hoard of Jewellery was, and still is, one of our best finds. There were others in the list like the Hackney Hoard of gold 20 dollar pieces, found in a garden in London, after being buried in the WW2 period. What academic knowledge our experts gained from late 1800s American coins I don't know, but the story is a good one, and I suppose that is what counts. All of these finds and everything else we record are really winners as well, which makes these detectorists special. All of these finds can be found on

the PAS website [WWW.finds.org.uk](http://WWW.finds.org.uk). Read some of the great stories there, as they encourage people to get out detecting and to record more finds.

So just 20 finds (not all by metal detectorists) were put into the voting ring, and the Frome Hoard received just under half of the 10,000 votes. The British Museum and the *Telegraph* paper made a great deal about the vote, but I never saw it advertised in another paper, and I only knew about it as the *Telegraph* asked me for some background information on a piece that they were doing on Treasure. I did later receive an e-mail from Steve Minnitt (one of the good guys in my book) who runs Somerset's Museum service, also telling me about it, but other than this I saw nothing at all. So it wasn't publicised very well, unless of course you read the Sunday *Telegraph* supplements - which I don't. I got my copies from the throw-away bin in my local shop.



To finish: the pot and a few of the coins are on display in Taunton Museum Somerset, with the rest still at the BM. So what did I get for finding the best treasure item in the last 20 years? Well, actually nothing: no prize giving, no trophy, no trip to London to get a handshake and a paper certificate, no acknowledgement at all, except a one liner in the BM's web site. But that's ok; we are detectorists, not archaeologists; and we are used to being side-lined. But I know, and you all now know what the public really think, best find - the Frome Hoard.

All the best detecting to you all.

Finder of the largest single hoard of Roman coins ever.



# A not so gentle reminder

Barry Freeman

Following a recent Yorkshire Region meeting, we arrived at a field we had permission to search.

On entering the field it was obvious that it had been detected on previously. There were many holes, the majority having been backfilled. The photo shows my trowel alongside a large mangled reinforcing rod. This object could

have seriously damaged farm machinery. I don't know whether or not the selfish, irresponsible individual who had previously dug it out was an NCMD member or not.

Whoever you are if you are reading this article, here is something to reflect on.

**Had I been the landowner**

**and discovered this carelessly abandoned object, all future permission to metal detect would have been refused.**

We all have a duty to protect our hobby.

The offending object is no longer in the field, I picked it up, walked 100 yards and placed it at the base of a tree.



## NCMD LOGO USAGE

Members will have noticed that the NCMD's logo occasionally appears on various websites and rally adverts which can give the impression that the NCMD is associated with the direct promotion of those sites and commercial events.

Please be aware that the NCMD only endorses the use of its logo by those affiliated partners which are listed on the NCMD's website and that anyone else wishing to use the logo must seek the approval of the NCMD.

If you or your organisation wish to use the logo, please contact General Secretary Sue Austin with full details at: [susanaustin51@outlook.com](mailto:susanaustin51@outlook.com).



## The NCMD Robin & Karolyn Memorial Trophy Competition – 2015



Winner Geoff Burr holding his Best Artefact trophy



## UK Metal detectorists BEWARE in Spain

I am team leader of the **ADAPT Metal Detecting Club** in San Pedro Del Pinatar, Spain. We have 48 active members who detect on our local beaches at least three times a week. We have been a club for seven years and really not had much hassle from the police although we do have in place a very strict code of conduct so as not to disrupt any beach tourists and already wear photo ID cards.

However the region of Valencia which encompasses a large Spanish tourist area such as Valencia, Denia, Benidorm, Alicante, Guardamar, Torrevieja and Pilar Horadada only to mention a few coastal towns, have clamped down on metal detecting in the province in May 2017.

The authorities have introduced a special permit to metal detect, and without this permit you are liable for a **heavy fine** and possible confiscation of your detector equipment if you are caught detecting by the police.

At the moment, the permit form looks like it's only given out to residents of Spain who apply so, it will be a problem for the tourist detectorist who thinks he can just "do detecting" on the beaches whilst on holiday in this area.

To apply for the permit, it is quite a hassle as everything including asking for the form to filling it in and attaching the required documentation all needs to be done in Spanish and presented to the Generalitat Valenciana in Valencia.

The main reason for this introduction of the permit is mainly due to the bad practice of some detectorists who are nighthawking and pillaging historic sites like what they have done in the past in the Andalusia area and now it's caught up with our region of Valencia.

So, detecting buddies, and others beware - things have changed. This notice is purely here to help fellow detectorists and not meant to detriment the hobby or your holiday arrangements. The permit only lasts for 6 months.

**For more information email: [r.toms@btinternet.com](mailto:r.toms@btinternet.com)**

**Roderick Toms**

**ADAPT Metal Detecting Team Leader [www.adaptspanpedro.com](http://www.adaptspanpedro.com)**

# Robin & Karolyn Hatt Memorial Trophy Competition

**Hilary Fagen, Competition Manager**

Once again it is my pleasure to invite Individual members and Central Register Clubs to send in their entries for the Competition.

Photos and a short description may be posted online at the NCMD website. If you wish to mail me please ring for my postal details.

We will need your full address and contact details, the PAS database number (if recorded), Treasure Case number (if applicable) and your up-to-date NCMD card number. Please complete the form IN FULL. If mailing, block capitals are preferable.

A short but informative explanation of your find is welcome, however it is important to state we cannot be held responsible for any mis-information given to us, and can only print what we are given.

The entry cut-off date is 30 September 2017.

As usual they must have been found the year before. 1 January – 31 December 2016.

All photos must be suitable for publication so a high resolution image is needed.

Entries for REGIONAL CLUBS will go through club and regional heats in the usual manner.

## VOTING

All entries will then be uploaded on to the NCMD website and all Individual members and Central Register Clubs can then vote (one vote per member per category) for your favourite finds.

The closing date for voting is 24 October 2017. All votes will be counted and verified and the winners will go forward to the final judging held in November.

**Feel free to contact me with any questions you may have.**

**Hilary Fagen.**

**Competition Manager.**

**alex182sa@blueyonder.co.uk**

**01253 312176**



## The Charitable Side of Metal Detecting

In the current climate of larger and larger commercial rallies, with organisers offering farmers alternative revenue streams, huge amounts of money and promises of treasures that cannot be guaranteed, it's easy to lose sight of the charitable work of the smaller clubs and individuals that goes unnoticed week in, week out. Never mind the dozens of lost engagement and wedding rings

recovered every year, the car keys, house keys, and any number of odd items considered lost forever, until a friendly detectorist comes along (free of charge of course) and hands them back to the owners. Every club in the country offers a free of charge recovery service.

What about the clubs and the dedicated members therein who work tirelessly to find available land and then organise a charity

rally? Most of us have suffered the indignation of a farmer who we have caught at a bad moment. That's why it takes a special type of person to continue to seek out partnerships with farmers so a whole host of charities can benefit.

In the North-West region, we have our share of such clubs; within these clubs, one, two, or three people will be working continuously under the radar to

come up with venues for rallies which they share with other North-West clubs. Sometimes the venue can accommodate all the clubs.

I recently asked these clubs to look back over the last four to five years at their charity rallies and the amount of money they have handed over to the various groups. These individuals do not take any money for themselves from the rallies they organise. The result was amazing, over £40,000 pounds handed over to a host of good causes.

The North-West clubs involved in this great work are: Crewe & Nantwich/Lune Valley/Kendal/West Kirby/Wrexham/HSS Mold.

The grateful recipients of their work include: Children's Hospices/Local Schools/Army Benevolent Fund/Air Ambulance/ Marie Curie/Motor Neurone Disease Association/Local Lions Clubs/Morecambe Bay Search & Rescue/Local Hospitals.

I know that other regions around the country work just as hard as the North West regarding charitable donations, it would be good to hear from you.

**Kev Gorman  
Secretary**



William Hargreaves (Lune Valley MDC) presenting a cheque for £650 to Councillor Susie Charles for the Lord Mayors Charity.



John Ferguson (Lune Valley MDC) presenting a cheque for £1200 to Wing Commander Brian Jefferson for the Army Benevolent Fund



Neil Balmforth (West Kirby MDC) presenting a cheque to Phil Longworth for the Guide Dogs For The Blind

## Digging for Cash

Scottish Artefact Recovery Group (SARG) which is based in Bonnybridge near Falkirk, has been raising thousands of pounds for farmers' charities over the last 18 months. The club now does 90% of all its monthly club digs in aid of the farmers' named charities.

On the 19 February 2017 the club held a special charity event in Airth, to raise money for a young lad called Darren Anderson who is 18 and is from Falkirk. Darren

suffers from cerebral palsy and has limited mobility. The Chair of SARG and former teacher, Hilary Maxtone, used to teach Darren. Club members gave very generously towards the dig and raffle on the day raising a fantastic £371. Darren needs £1200 for a power pack for his manual wheelchair and this will help him to be more mobile, independent, and enable him to attend college.

New Life Charity (<http://www.newlifecharity.co.uk>) is a Charity for Disabled Children for help in funding badly needed equipment. They are also helping to raise money for Darren and have already raised £378. With SARG'S help we are closing the gap to give Darren more freedom and mobility. The club would love to be able to achieve the full amount needed with another couple of charity digs. Club members will therefore be working hard to try and secure

some land for the coming months. This event has touched the hearts of all SARG club members, and I want to give my sincere thanks to all those who donated including those who were unable to attend the dig. We are very grateful for everyone's support.

**Lesley Sleith (Dig Team)**



## Galloway Viking Hoard allocated to NMS Edinburgh

The fabulous Galloway Viking Hoard found in August 2014 by regional member Derek McLennan has now been allocated a permanent home at National Museums Scotland (NMS) Edinburgh.

It comes with the condition that NMS will have to make an ex gratia payment of £1.98 million to Derek as finder. However, the allocation to NMS is not without controversy. Dumfries and Galloway Council had hoped to

secure Scotland's most significant treasure trove find in over a century for display in a new art gallery being built in Kirkcudbright and local campaigners expressed disappointment with the decision. National Museums Scotland

say that it has put forward a "mutually-beneficial and positive proposal" which would allow part of the hoard to go on display permanently in Kirkcudbright and the entire collection to be hosted, on occasions, by the gallery.

### YOU MUST UPDATE YOUR DETAILS

To be an NCMD member you have to have an NCMD card that also gives you insurance. Incorrect addresses, where you haven't let us know, will make your card and your insurance invalid. Additionally you will not receive your copy of *Digging Deep* either.

Please let your club/region know any change of address or contact the Membership Secretary as soon as possible.

**NCMD Membership Secretary:**

**John Rigby – 01253 692313 or [jjrigby@sky.com](mailto:jjrigby@sky.com)**

# North-West MDC

## Kevin Gorman

We are a small club by choice, just 40 members. Every Sunday a group of us visit one of our club sites in various counties and if the numbers are not managed well, parking can become an issue, hence the membership cap. Sometimes the group splits and we go on two different digs on the same day.

The current chairman has held the post since the club formed 24 years ago. During the same period, the posts of secretary and treasurer have only changed once. Like most clubs, we have had our share of the good and bad days, from Treasure finds to buttons and lead, but it is always enjoyable when one of the members turns up a 'club first'. Here are a few such finds from our club.

Dean Williams, one of our Sunday regulars was detecting on fields in an area we have been visiting since the club formed. During

one afternoon Dean unearthed a denarius, nothing special about that and at the time no one was certain which emperor it belonged to. After cleaning, it all became clear, it was a Carausius 286-293. Carausius was a rogue Emperor and after Maximian had ordered his execution he fled and declared himself Emperor of Britain. In 289AD he began minting his own high quality silver coins. Dean's find is one of them.

In a similar situation, we were again in arable fields we have detected for many years. This field however was a little different in as much as the farmer had just harvested a root crop for the first time and we were looking forward to the extra depth that may have been disturbed. It didn't disappoint as Jason Smith managed to recover a William II silver penny with a Derby mintmark, identified by the Fitzwilliam Museum as the

first William II penny known to have this mintmark.

On a cold wet November Sunday, we were detecting a field for the very first time. One of our farmers had recently purchased it from a neighbour. It was heavy ploughed and sticky. It was approaching lunchtime and my legs were about to give up when I plucked out a small silver plate, one side blank but the other has a fine engraving of the 'Lamb of God' image. Recorded as early Medieval, whilst this image is not unique, the PAS records show several similar images on seals. It is the first Medieval silver book plate with this image to be recorded with the PAS. This item is currently winging its way (winging might be a little optimistic) through the Treasure process.

Finally, a find to warm the cockles of your heart on one of the bleakest February days I can remember.



We were on a pasture site, again well detected by our club for some years. The fact that it was pasture, already well detected and awful weather led to just four of our hardest members braving the gale force wind and horizontal sleet.

Nothing of note turned up until lunch time when Kev Gaskell picked up a signal in an area where there was standing water on the grass. Kev then proceeded to wipe away the soft sticky wet soil from the item thinking it was another button, only to find he had recovered a superb gold aureus of Gallienus 253-268AD, a truly beautiful coin.



# Not to be missed – 'TREASURES UNEARTHED'

## An exhibition of metal detecting finds

Detecting clubs from the North West region are once again gathering to exhibit their finds to the public as well as the hobby community. This prestigious event will take place in Chester Town Hall. Participating clubs so far are North West / West Kirby / Blackpool-Fylde / Wrexham / H.S.S. / Mold and individual members. Please do get in touch with Kevin Gorman on 07510 054446 for more information.

This year's showcase theme is: **Religious finds** and will be judged by:

Kevin Leahy – Principle finds advisor to the PAS

Clive Coleman – Chairman NCMD  
Harry Bain – Publisher, Editor of *The Searcher* magazine

Mark Olly – Local historian and archaeologist

Also identifying and providing information on your finds are FLO's: Vanessa Oakden - Cheshire/Merseyside/Greater Manchester and Dot Boughton & Stuart Noon from Lancashire/Cumbria.

Graeme Rushton from Unearthed UK will have the latest machines and accessories and can provide advice on your detecting machine requirements.

Guests include coin striker



'Viking Experience' who will be demonstrating his skills and craftsmanship.

It's a great opportunity to show the public the diversity of rich history

that we unearth so do come and support the hobby in Chester Town Hall on Saturday 12 August from 8am - 6pm and open to the public from 10am - 4pm.

# My interesting find

For the last few months I have been detecting with the Hyndburn & Ribble Valley DC, run by the cheery Jon Ferguson. The Ribble Valley is a scenically beautiful area and Jon had sourced a farm where axeheads had been found.

On our penultimate visit to this farm we were surrounded by gentle hills with blue skies and buttercup pastures. We began detecting with hope in our hearts, each of us imagining that strong signal heralding an axehead. Then it happened. A small group gathered, yes, another one had been found – not far from me!

I trudged grudgingly towards the lucky finder. There it was in a plug of soil, the arc of the blade showing clearly, such a graceful design for what was only a hand tool. This kept me in the area and a good signal was rewarded by an interesting find. When cleaned it resembled what I thought was a large escutcheon and I was

pleased to see the imprint of lettering on the compacted soil – almost like two separate finds. After scanning round the hole I had another signal. There was the other half of the buckle, they were lying side by side.

It is a military accessory from the

Boer War, 1899/'01. A general service buckle, measuring 3.75" x 2.25". The lettering on the ring reads in French – 'Dieu Et Mon Droit – God And My Right'. There is a clean break just before the letter D of Dieu.

Although to me anything after

1700 is 'modern', I have grown to admire my find. It may not be 'of age' but it's good to have as a reminder of our brave soldiers and their military history.

**Hilary Fagen**  
**Blackpool & Fylde MDC**



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# Best photo competition

This was a slightly different competition which we ran for our members in the newly reformed Western Region. The idea was; and still is, to get members involved and interested in what's happening in the Region.

The rules were simple; a photo of something relating to detecting, so an object, a view or whatever, as long as it was slightly detecting related. It also had to have a relevant caption.

We set a limit of three months, and put a few examples on our Regional web site, and waited for the entries to flood in. The web site in case you wish to have a

look and keep up with what is going on can be found at: [www.trowbridgemdc.co.uk/home-page-western-region-of-the-ncmd](http://www.trowbridgemdc.co.uk/home-page-western-region-of-the-ncmd)

Well it wasn't a flood; more of a trickle really, but some members did respond, and we ended up with some nice photos. Remember the criteria we were looking for a best photo; not best item, so a photo of an artefact or coin had to be something special (photography wise).

There were eventually 18 pictures submitted from eight of the clubs in the Region, and I would like to thank all who sent in a photo. To those who didn't read the

rules about one per person, or the cut off date etc., better go to Specsavers next time. Also a thank you to David Rees Vice chairman who co-ordinated all the entries.

The winner was Jackie Ellis of the Newton Abbot Club with her photo captioned '**Low tide high hopes**' and a very nice photo it was. She received a cheque from us to the tune of £25.

We are probably going to run another later in the year, under another heading, maybe best? Well, you will have to wait and see what that caption is going to be.

As a note of interest we also ran a new logo competition, where we had only two entries: from over 400 members. These two were from David Rees and me, not as good as we hoped (a little bit more work there maybe), however we do now have a new logo for the region.

Finally, in an attempt to keep up with other clubs out there we have now taken a step into social media with our own Facebook Group for members of clubs in our region, [www.facebook.com/groups/westernregionNCMD/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/westernregionNCMD/)

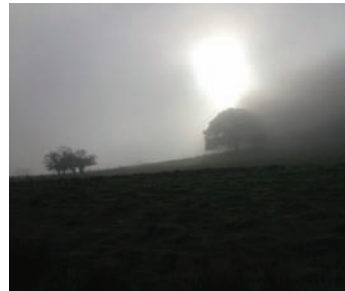
**Dave Crisp**  
Chairman Western Region



"Come to sunny Devon where it rains six out of seven."  
Richard Holladay  
Newton Abbot District Metal Detecting Club



"Beat me if you can"  
Martyn Franklin



"Now you see it now you can't"  
Paul Baker  
Gwent Club member



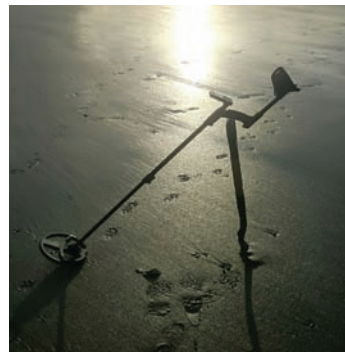
"Treasure below the rainbow"  
Hywel Smith  
Gwent Metal Detecting Club



"Training Angus to become a detectorist"  
David Rees  
TMDC



"An early morning start"  
Dave Crisp



"Low tide, high hopes!"  
Jackie Ellis  
Newton Abbot and District



"Oh no, I've left my pin pointer at home"  
Austin Lockett  
R.A.R.E. metal detecting club in the Rhondda.



"X marks the spot"  
Adrian Kiermasz  
SDRADS



"Visitor to Great Chalfield."  
Ray Case  
TMDC



"Geared up with a CTX"  
Ian Carter  
TMDC  
Submitted 291116



"Foxy, Foxy"  
Nigel Wright  
TMDC  
Submitted 111216

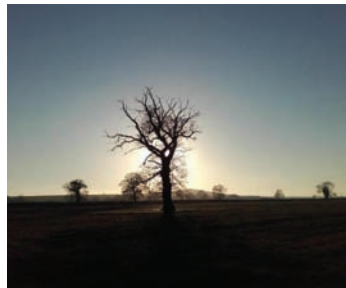




"Sunset at Tyndale Monument"  
Chris Goodchild  
SCHRADS



buzz@blueyonder.co.uk  
"We sometimes detect for treasure below  
the ground, when there is nature's treasures  
to be seen above the ground"  
Steve Hutchings  
Secretary of WHRADA



Submitted 180117  
"A finishing day"  
Dave Crisp  
TMDC



Submitted 270117  
"Sunset through Oak"  
Gordon Johns  
TMDC



susandance3@yahoo.co.uk  
"Holey Moley – this is not how to dig a  
scattered hoard!!"  
Alan Ward  
Photo taken of Susan Hurrell –  
Member of SHRADS



Submitted 200117  
Sue Bartlett  
"More Weirdness at the Eden Project"  
TMDC



Submitted 240117  
"An Oasis of Tranquility"  
Claire Hood  
Hucclecote Metal Detecting Club



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# Yorkshire Region

The Yorkshire region AGM has taken place at the Swan in Sherburn. I believe it is our 35th anniversary this year as we joined other regions to form the new NCMD in the year 1982.

We had a large turn out as usual. We held a raffle and also had Kevin Leahy a well-known archaeologist from Scunthorpe Museum and Finds Advisor for Early Medieval metalwork for the PAS judged the showcases brought along by the clubs. In the end we presented 33 trophies.

The coin of the year, the artefacts of the year also the hoard of the year will all go into the Robin and Karolyn Hatt Memorial Trophy Competition finals later in the year at the National Council meeting in November.

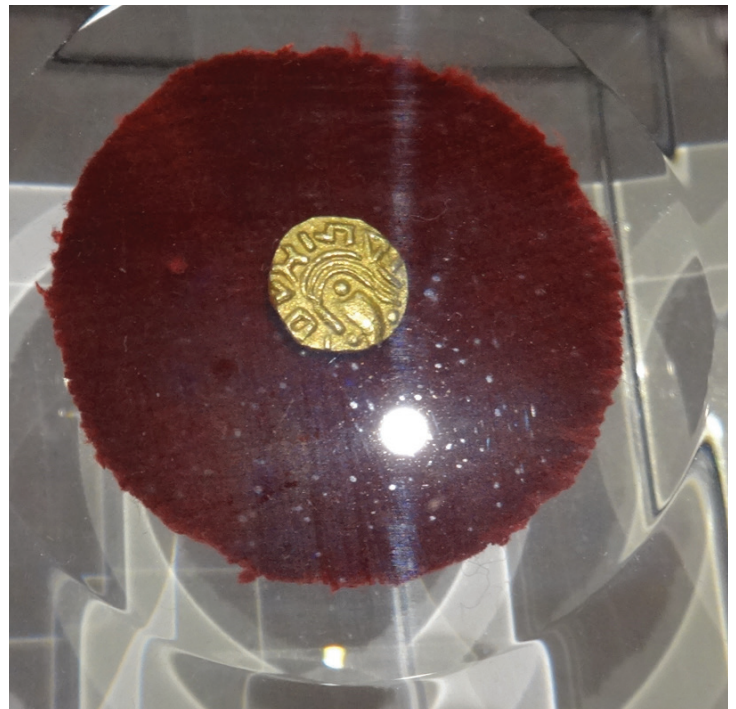
The hoard (made up of two hoards not 12 feet apart and believed

to be the biggest Bronze Age axe and ingot hoard weighing 80 lbs, ever to be found in Yorkshire) was excavated by Kevin Leahy at Easter in the pouring down rain.

Once again Sue Austin put on an outstanding raffle with 40 plus prizes, a main hamper prize plus a dash cam, a GPS, and a probe among many other prizes. All the ladies gave Sue a helping hand. I'd like to give them all a well-deserved thank you for helping to make it a great success. Beryl Hallam the Yorkshire Region Treasurer was presented with the Mike Longfield trophy for the person that's done the most for metal detecting in the previous year.

I found a field for everyone to detect on for the afternoon after the meeting.

**Syd Hallam**



# Coil to the Soil MDC Charity Dig

The tragic and harrowing story of the death of 7-year-old Katie Rough pulled on the emotions of all who read the story in the news. The loss of a child in such circumstances cannot be imagined by the great majority of us and our hearts and thoughts go out to all of Katie's family and friends.

An Immediate family member of Katie's was an active member of Coil to the Soil MDC (CTTS) until a short while ago when ill-health curtailed his detecting days out.

It was decided by Ian and Danielle North, owners of CTTS, that they would run a one day charity dig with all proceeds being donated to the family of Katie Rough. The event was to be held on Sunday 29 January at a venue in north Yorkshire. It was to include a day of detecting on a large drilled field along with a well-stocked raffle table draw with tickets available to buy on the day.

The morning of the dig arrived and a hard frost covered the site. 60 detectorists descended on the meeting area and after paying their fee for the day's digging proceeded to buy raffle tickets at a prolific rate with over 900 sold that morning.

As they started to swell out over

the field with their metal detectors the morning sun was melting the frost and turning the field into a sticky strength sapping mass. Conditions were hard for walking and detecting but the nature of the event appeared to be giving people the willpower and strength to continue with their endeavours.

By lunch time, when the raffle would be drawn, a few interesting finds had been reported but the conditions had ruled out a bonanza detecting day. Among the finds reported were a very nice complete pipe tamper for Steven Leckey, a dagger/sword chape for Wayne Smith and a 15th/16th century ropework buckle found by Piotr Nalewajski.

The raffle table was full of items from detectors to bottles of whisky and three main prizes were kept until the end before the winners were drawn from the bag.

A Teknetics Eurotek Pro, donated by *Unearthed UK*, was won by Jamie Havers. Alan Hydes won a Minelab X-Terra 705 donated by *Minelab* and *Crawfords Metal Detectors*. *Joan Allen Metal Detectors* donated a £500 voucher and that was won by Nicholas Haigh.



## The grand total

When all donations had been totalled it was announced to the assembled detectorists that the dig had raised a **massive £1,916** over the course of the day. All proceeds are to be donated to the family and the news from the family is that they intend to purchase and install an oak park bench and memorial plaque in Katie's memory in a local beauty spot.

## Thanks

Thanks must go firstly to the

detecting enthusiasts who showed, once again, their generosity and determination to make a small difference in this world.

Several very generous companies and retailers showed their support of the event by donating prizes for the raffle table and they include: *Crawfords Metal detectors*, *Minelab*, *Joan Allen*, *Unearthed UK*, *Black Ada*, *Evolution Solutions*, *Coil to the Soil MDC*. Thanks of course also to the landowner.

**Steve Skinner**



*In Memory of* CTTS Charity Dig  
Sunday 29th Jan

A big well done to all involved today

A total of **£1916** was raised

Thanks to: *Crawfords MD, Black Ada, Unearthed Minelab, Evolution Solutions & all others who donated raffle prizes*

All proceeds to be donated to Katie's family.

Katie Rough

## DIARY DATES

**The PAAG/Best Practice Working Group meeting is on 17th October The next NCMD meeting will be on 26th November. Also, the next ECMD Conference will take place 22nd to 24th September.**

## GET IN TOUCH

For membership enquiries contact the Membership Secretary:  
**John Rigby**  
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**For all other enquiries please email [NCMD@Glemsford.net](mailto:NCMD@Glemsford.net)**

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# Cloth Seals

An illustrated reference guide to the identification of lead seals attached to cloth.

Author: Stuart F. Elton.

Publisher: Archaeopress Publishing Ltd. [www.archaeopress.com](http://www.archaeopress.com)



As detectorists, we have all found small roundish pieces of lead with various letters and inscriptions. A lot of these are fertilizer bag seals, or milk churn seals, or many other packages of commodities. But occasionally we find something a little unusual, two round pieces

of lead joined together by a thin strip of lead. They are usually more elaborate, featuring coats of arms and other pictorial images. These are cloth seals which were attached to lengths of cloth and its raw materials. This book is a guide to help with the identification of

cloth seals, both those found within and those originating from outside the United Kingdom.

Many of the seals have been found by detectorists, and this new material is generating more research and therefore a better understanding of the seals. This knowledge will help the detectorist by helping to date an area being detected, and to indicate that trading was going on somewhere nearby.

The first section in the book gives detailed descriptions with large images of the different types of cloth seal. There is then a large part of the book showing examples of seals by County, and by various types of seal. Again with good illustrations of these seals. There are sections for seals of different Monarchs, Guilds, and Personal

seals. There is also a section about cleaning, conserving and photographing seals. A timeline indicates that these seals can date back to Roman times. Also there are many documented references to seals from 1300 onwards. At the end of the book, there are tables of known cloth seal makers, and the marks they used. A section on any distinctive identification features found on seals is very helpful too.

This book would be a useful addition to anyone interested in understanding more about the use of, and the age of, any seals that they might find. The book costs £60 but is currently on offer at £40 from Archaeopress.

Reviewed by Dave Philpotts, NCMD.



Image by S.F. Elton

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