



NEWS

Award Ceremony – Quintanar Del Ray Spain

In Quintanar del Rey (Cuenca, Spain) D&M Magazine held its Third Annual Awards and the NCMD of which the Secretary General, was awarded for his work in the management and promotion of the hobby of metal detecting.

Trevor Austin collected the prestigious award for work 'in promoting the hobby' on June 21 2014. The event was well attended and was organised by *D&M Magazine*, Spain.

The NCMD also signed a mutual co-operation agreement as it did with the Bulgarian MDC the year



before which is intended to promote co-operation between the Spanish Federation and the NCMD and hopefully will enable the NCMD to pass on its expertise in promoting the responsible recording of metal detecting finds.

The weekend also included a token hunt on the Sunday where about 100 contestants searched for tokens for prizes donated by the local merchants.

It was interesting to note that

nearly everyone digging used a mattock not a spade. When I asked why, they said that because of the conditions and dryness of the ground in Spain a mattock was the preferred tool for extracting finds.

The event was very well organised, with lunch and free drinks provided ... and you certainly needed them in the 30 degree plus heat.

Trevor Austin



CONTENTS

- P1-4** NCMD News
- P5** The Riddlesden Hoard
- P6-7** What to do if you find a hoard
- P8-11** Treasure Valuation Committee – a comparison of provisional trade valuations
- P12-15** Regional News
- P16** Book Review

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More from Quintanar Del Rey · Cuenca · Spain

Francisco J. Gómez, Editor D&M Magazine, www.revista-dm.com, www.federacion-fedd.org

The event took place in the magnificent setting of the House of Culture of the town.

Saturday morning, we signed an agreement between the Spanish Federation and NCMD which will culminate next year in the creation of the European Council for Metal Detecting in England. Stefano Andreini President and Secretary Francesc Gómez signed the agreement with Mr. Trevor Austin Secretary General of NCMD.

On Saturday evening the D&M awards ceremony were held. D&M Awards distinguish the people, places or organisations that care for and assist in the preservation, promotion and maintenance of historical heritage.

Before the awards gala, Dr. in Geology from the University of Huelva, Juan Antonio Morales, presented his book "Beyond the Pillars of Hercules", signing copies to attendees at the end of the act.

The winners 2013 have been:

Award D&M-2013 A Personal History Categoríe

A Ms. Maria Sagrario Gutierrez Fernandez, mayor of Guadamur.

Award-2013 D&M Archaeology Categoríe

Archaeologist and anthropologist Luis Benítez de Lugo Enrich

Award-2013 D&M History Categoríe

A Memory Historical Association's 1938 Military Ebro

Award-2013 D&M Commitment To Heritage Categoríe

To the municipality of Alpuente, with its mayor, Mrs. Amparo Rodriguez Sambonet

Award-2013 D&M Best Federation / Organization Categoríe

AI NCMD National Council for Metal Detecting, its secretary general at the head, Mr Trevor Austin.

Award-2013 D&M Local Investigation Categoríe

Professor Tomas Gonzalez Cayo Picazo from Tarazona de la Mancha.



Winners in the III D&M Awards Ceremony

In the category Sports Competition Circuit Metal Detector 2013, the winners in the men's category were: Anselmo Navarro and Antonio Sánchez, in the female category: M^a Asunción and Montse Sánchez Vera. The award for Best Brand of the Year 2013 went to the MINELAB brand, winning for the second consecutive year.

An award to the company founders Garrett for his career was also made.

Then, at the end of the event, all attendees moved to the restaurant 'La Espiga Manchega', where more than 70 people who enjoyed a delicious dinner together.

The next day, as every year, was held III National Rally of Quintanar del Rey. This year has exceeded the number of participants and is becoming a national and international reference. At the conference organised by the magazine D&M came people from different countries and different regions of Spain, Andalucía, Castilla-La Mancha, Catalonia, Extremadura, Madrid, Valencia, etc... Besides tokens buried by the organisation, some medieval and Roman coins were found and made available to the authorities.

The event was also attended by the Russian magazine editors Coins, which informed us that

they are preparing an extensive report for the next issue (in Russian) on days worked in Quintanar del Rey.

Next Rally is in Extremadura in Spain, is the most crowded of participants and will be held in the month of November.



This time there were more than 70 participants in the concentration, in addition to family and friends.



The editors of the Russian Magazine "Coins", Vadim Rybakov and Olga Kuznetsova, picking up a few bottles of wine from Bodegas San Isidro, Quintanar del Rey, courtesy of the event organisers

The Robin & Karolyn Hatt Memorial Trophy Competition 2013



The date for this year's competition has been fixed for November 23, giving all clubs and regions ample time to decide when to have their club and regional heats.

All finds entered must have been discovered during January 1 and December 31, 2013 inclusive, and be monthly club competition winners.

For the Hoard section, all hoards go through automatically.

There has been a steady stream of new members to the NCMD. We run a policy ensuring every member has a chance of being part of the competition. Our own forum makes this possible.

All Central Register clubs and Individual members may post a clear picture of their best finds in the Coin, Artefact and Hoard Categories later in the year. Forum members can vote in privacy to decide on the winners, photos of

which will be entered into the final judging alongside the other entries.

It is good to know every member stands a chance of winning as we do not want anyone to be left out.

There was, as always an extremely high standard of entries last year, and I am sure this year will prove to be no exception. This makes it very worthwhile for me as I organise the competitions each year, and look forward to seeing your quality finds.

Please contact me if you have any queries.

Hilary Fagen

Competition Manager

01253 312176 or email

alex182sa@blueyonder.co.uk

New NCMD Chairman

At the NCMD AGM longstanding Chairman Steve Critchley retired from his position. The election of a replacement Chairman took place with Alastair Hackett of the Scottish Region being elected.

Also up for election this year was Vice Chairman and Steve Critchley was elected, a step back from his position as Chair and I am sure Alastair can count on Steve for support.

We would like to thank Steve and Byron for their sterling work over the years as Chair and Vice Chair and wish Alastair all the best in the new position.

Trevor Austin



Kimbo's Last Big Boxted Endeavour Dig Social Metal Detecting Fun Weekender

18 - 21 September 2014

**(NB. No arrivals before midday
on Thursday please)**

There will be an area of land for those who arrive on Thursday to detect on during that afternoon.

Location:

Hill Farm, Langham, near Colchester, Essex, CO4 5 NX.
OS Map 196 Explorer 1:2500 scale.

For full details of this event and how to book please
email: mrstiffler@btopenworld.com

**NCMD Membership card must be
shown on entry.**

Kim Clarke

MEETING DATE

Next meeting for PAAG is May 2015

NCMD meeting is 23rd November

GET IN TOUCH

For membership enquiries contact the Membership Secretary: **John Rigby**
6 Arkholme Avenue
Blackpool, Lancs, FY1 6QJ
Tel: 01253 692313
jjrigby@sky.com

For all other enquiries please contact the General Secretary: **Trevor Austin**
51 Hilltop Gardens
Denaby, Doncaster, DN12 4SA
Tel: 01709 868521
trevor.austin@ncmd.co.uk

XP Join NCMD as an Affiliate Member

The NCMD are pleased to welcome XP Metal Detectors as its latest Affiliate Member. The NCMD hopes that we will have a long and fruitful association and we look forward to their presence at Executive Committee meetings.

Trevor Austin



GoMinelabbing

On 17 May I was invited to attend the GoMinelabbing event in Buckinghamshire, organised by Joan Allen and Dave Phillips.

But What is GoMinelabbing? It is simultaneous events across the world promoting all that is best about the hobby and is promoted by Minelab Metal Detectors. The event was by invitation only and some 300 people attended, making it a fantastic gathering.

I must admit that the atmosphere was one of the friendliest and good-natured I have seen in a long while. There were obviously fields to detect which consisted of more than enough acreage to keep fellow enthusiast occupied well into the evening.



The event itself was free of charge, something rare these days, also available was a hog roast, free drinks to wash it down and for the more energetic and those who felt like a bit of bronco busting, a mechanical bull riding machine was available.

Gary Chafer, General Manager Minelab WW Consumer Markets, paid a visit in the afternoon, and watched the prize giving of a Minelab CTX3030, a Pro-Swing 45 harness and a Pro-find 25 probe rounding off what was a great and successful event.

Trevor Austin



European Council for Metal Detecting Update

At our AGM/OGM which took place on the 29 June 2014 it was agreed that the proposed European Council for Metal Detecting (ECMD) would move on a stage further by offering a meeting to the interested parties who responded to our earlier letter on the subject.

It is hoped that the meeting will take place in the first half of 2015 and a more precise date and information will be sent to interested parties when it becomes available.

The aims of the meeting will be to formalise the organisation and lay the ground rules for a constitution,

to look at the aims and aspirations of the organisation as well as future funding of the organisation. By promoting international cooperation through contact between EU member groups we will be meeting our obligation of support through our willingness to offer a venue for a first conference.

By so doing we will be maintaining the NCMD's position as the respected National organisation, in the forefront of EU MD relations.

Trevor Austin



The Riddlesden Hoard

It was just before Christmas and I was looking for a new hobby - so I asked for suggestions from people on my Twitter feed. All sorts of ideas were thrown my way like; fishing, photography, various sports and metal detecting. I'd tried detecting years ago but didn't really take to it much except searching on children's play parks trying to locate lost pocket money in the bark chippings. But something about the hobby was beginning to call me back to try again.

a great deal of research I chose to upgrade to a XP Deus which, hopefully, would cover all my requirements of wet or dry sand, plus ploughed fields and pasture.

My machine arrived and I eagerly assembled it with the 9" coil and went back over to the small one acre field I thought I'd emptied of all targets previously. Within 30 minutes I had another 15 coins in my hand and over the following month I had 100 more coins.

To be honest I'd never considered



As it happened I struck lucky at the first sweep of the detector because I found a 1884 Victoria penny. Within four weeks I'd stripped a small one acre field of everything - I was hooked.

I needed to learn more about the hobby so joined several groups on Facebook. This is when I discovered my little metal detector wasn't suitable for hunting on a sandy beach which is what I really bought it for in the first place. After

I'd ever find anything of any historical significance so I never bothered learning much about the treasure act etc. The closest I've come to thinking about silver or gold is finding lost jewellery on the beaches. But even then my first mission would be to try repatriate it with the owners if it was at all possible.

Ten weeks later I'd acquired a few permissions and for the next few weeks I went out most days



looking for anything interesting I could sell to raise money for my charity fundraising - but I'd found very little of any significance. I was even beginning to lose confidence in myself and the XP Deus, so I spoke with people and watched some videos online.

Raging with renewed enthusiasm, I set out every day on my permissions hoping to find a bit older - perhaps that elusive medieval 'hammered' coin would turn up now. I dug for hours for days on my land - but no luck.

On Sunday 16 March, I took my wife to see some new born lambs on one of my permissions (Deus in hand of course) and I swept the field as we walked and dug up a couple of signals which turned out to be scrap (again). Then as I got nearly back to the car I dug another target - which after breaking down the little clods of soil, revealed a Roman silver denarius. I suspected it was Roman but as I'd never found one before I photographed it and messaged the image to a friend. Within five minutes he came back and informed me I had found two denarii - and looking carefully I could see there were two fused together.

To cut a long story very short, I researched the Treasure Act and realised because I found two coins together, this was now legally treasure and I had 14 days to report it to my local Finds Liaison Officer in Wakefield. So I decided to pop back next day and see if I could find any more. At one point they were popping up every ten minutes and after two days I'd got nine coins in my hand.

The next day was busy speaking with various officials about what to do next. One of the things they decided to do was organise an emergency evacuation of the remaining coins - thus a team of their expert volunteers and my friends and family were being rallied. Whilst waiting for the

excavation - I decided to go back to ground zero and mark where the coins were located and have a look for a few more - which resulted in ten more silvers dating from 98AD to 222AD

The excavation day arrived and everyone assembled at my home before making our way to the secret location. My FLO Amy Downes and her team decided to dig two trenches where the main clusters were found.

The day was very hard work but great fun - with each trench trying to find more coins than the other one. I alone found seven more coins outside the trenches. We ended the day with another 25 coins (plus one artefact) making a total of 44 denarii.

The find has been officially recorded and the first option to purchase them will be by the British Museum and if they don't want them they will be offered to Bradford museums to purchase and display at Cliff Castle, Keighley.

My future detecting may never be as exciting as this experience but I can't wait to get back out there and find my first hammered coin (hopefully a gold one).

Stephen Auker



What do you do when you find ... A HOARD?

Following on in the 'What do you do if you find ...' series I thought I would look at what to do when you find a hoard?

Sounds an easy enough question to answer, however there can be more to the question than first appears. What type of hoard is it.....is it a scattered hoard, is it buried in a pot, is it coins or collection of coins and artefacts? Is it in fact a hoard at all or just an assemblage of coins accumulated in one area over time such as on a medieval fair site?

Does it have to be reported, does it constitute treasure, if so, do you remove it from the ground if it is in a pot? These are just some of the questions that are not always obvious to the beginner which I will clarify without getting too technical.

- Before we go any further we will assume that everyone is aware of the current laws pertaining to treasure:

The following finds are Treasure under the Act, if found after 24 September 1997 (or, in the case of category 2, if found after 1 January 2003):

1. Any metallic object, other than a coin, provided that at least 10 per cent by weight of metal is precious metal (that is, gold or silver) and that it is at least 300 years old when found. If the object is of prehistoric date it will be Treasure provided any part of it is precious metal.
2. Any group of two or more metallic objects of any composition of prehistoric date* that come from the same find (*see note 3 below)
3. Two or more coins from the same find provided they are at least 300 years old when found and contain 10% gold or silver (if the coins contain less than 10 per cent of gold or silver there must be at least ten of them).

Only the following groups of coins will normally be regarded as coming from the same find:

- Hoards that have been deliberately hidden.

- Smaller groups of coins, such as the contents of purses, that may have been dropped or lost.

- Votive or ritual deposits.

4. Any object, whatever it is made of, that is found in the same place as, or had previously been together with, another object that is Treasure.
5. Any object that would previously have been treasure trove, but does not fall within the specific categories given above. Only objects that are less than 300 years old, that are made substantially of gold or silver, that have been deliberately hidden with the intention of recovery and whose owners or heirs are unknown will come into this category.

- Note:

1. An object or coin is part of the 'same find' as another object or coin if it is found in the same place as, or had previously been together with, the other object. Finds may have become scattered since they were originally deposited in the ground.
2. Single coins will not be treasure, unless they are found in association with objects that are treasure, or unless there is exceptionally strong evidence that they were buried with the intention of recovery.

Section 3 (2) of the Act defines the term 'coin' as including any metal token that was, or can reasonably be assumed to have been, used or intended for use as or instead of money. This definition only includes coins and tokens made after the introduction of the first coinage into this country during the Iron Age period and excludes objects made earlier such as iron currency bars. Jettons or reckoning counters are also excluded from this definition.

3. "of prehistoric date" means dating from the Iron Age or any earlier period.

So in this scenario, you are



having a nice days detecting when you suddenly come across a couple of silver coins in close proximity, the coins are obviously Roman and therefore from roughly the same period, no more coins turn up and therefore good reason to believe that the coins were lost together and under the Treasure Act would indeed constitute treasure and should be reported at the earliest convenience to your local Coroner/Finds Liaison Officer; quite simple and straightforward.

However let us go one step further and assume that other coins similar to the two you have just found start turning up in large numbers scattered in an area of about 50 square yards/metres. Again the coins are similar in appearance and all look to be made of silver, as with the other two in all probability they were deposited together a constitute a scattered hoard and there is a good chance they are treasure.

If there are no signs of any container and the coins are in the plough soil it is advisable to collect up the coins recording their findspots with a GPS if one is available. It should be remembered that if you are in any doubt about their age then assume they are older than 300 years old and may constitute treasure. Once you have reported the coins the Finds Liaison Officer (FLO) may wish to visit the site to examine the context of the find and the findspot.

We have looked at this as it is the easiest type of hoard to deal with, a scattered hoard on the surface. But what if you detect signs of further coins buried deep below the plough soil and in all probability in a pot. This confronts the detectorists with a new set of

problems. If it is possible the best option is to locate the findspot with a GPS and re-cover the pot until it can be excavated by more experienced persons. This will ensure that any existing context is not destroyed by careless removal of the pot and coins.

However, there may be occasions whereby it is impractical to cover over the pot and await expert help, which could take several days. There could be numerous reasons for this, you may be on a rally with lots of prying eyes, you may be on a building site which is due to be bulldozed that day or the landowner may be insisting it is removed immediately.

If the find must be excavated at once then great care should be taken to try to remove the container in its entirety, with as much of the surrounding soil as possible. The find should then be taken to the nearest Coroner/FLO.

Do not be tempted to empty the pot or container; there may well be organic material inside that needs careful removal under controlled conditions and the sequence in which the coins were deposited inside the container can often provide as much information as the coins themselves.

Of course hoards do not necessarily need to be comprised of coins, take the Staffordshire hoard for example, the largest hoard of Anglo Saxon gold ever recovered. The finder however merely discovered a number of artefacts, some of which were visible on the surface, and from the number of similar artefacts that he discovered below the surface it soon became obvious that there were more to be found at a greater depth; in this case the finder acted correctly and telephoned the local FLO who



© PAS

arranged for the hoard to be expertly excavated by a team of specialists in Anglo Saxon metalwork.

What is important to remember about the Staffordshire Hoard is that the finder recognised the need for expert help in the removal of the items from the ground; and unquestionably any such large assemblage of potential treasure should be treated in the same way, whenever possible.

There may of course be occasions whereby a number of coins, more than two, from the same period which may appear to be a scattered hoard, but are not a hoard at all. Market sites, Roman occupation sites etc. turn up coins in large numbers, but because they were not deposited at the same time or lost at the same time, do not constitute a hoard as defined in the Treasure Act.

How do you tell? Well generally this will come with experience, but if you were to walk onto a field you have never detected before and you suddenly started to find Roman bronze coins for instance, the first thing to do would be to locate the findspot using a GPS, then working around the area where the coins were found see how many more you can find, look at the type of coins, are they from the same period, are there a mixture of types of coins e.g. silver and bronze, are there also artefacts, brooches and other small Roman military fittings etc., if the answer is **yes**, then the chances are you have come across a Roman settlement or some kind of military installation and the



Never be tempted to empty the contents of a container without expert help. © PAS

coins etc. are probably losses over a long period of time and would not be treasure, unless of course there were any artefacts over 300 years old which contained more than 10% precious metal, this would make those items treasure in their own right.

However, on the other hand if after searching the rest of the field and the answer is no, or only a few more are found, the likelihood is that you have discovered a small hoard, either scattered, or a small purse loss and as such should be recovered and reported to the coroner/FLO as soon as possible.

So basically once you have established the nature of your find; is it a hoard or not, scattered or a buried assemblage in a container. You have to decide whether to excavate the find yourself or report the find for expert excavation. Either way, **the important thing to remember is to preserve any contextual material and do nothing that will damage what could be a potentially important site which may result in the abatement of any reward.**

Trevor Austin



A Hoard as large as the Frome Hoard obviously needs expert excavation. © PAS

Treasure Valuation Committee

A comparison of the provisional trade valuations with the valuations Recommended by the Treasure Valuation Committee during September 2012

Trevor Austin

Unless you have been lucky enough to find Treasure, the decision making process of the *Treasure Valuation Committee* may appear enigmatic. How does the Committee arrive at its valuations? How does the Committee valuation compare with the provisional valuations from the trade to which every Treasure find is subject? These are just two of the questions on which I will try to shed light in this article.

is a fair reward? The valuation of finds, even by experts, is not an exact science, and there may be many variables to consider, especially with artefacts where no known parallel exists. The *Treasure Valuation Committee* will begin by commissioning a report from a panel of independent experts drawn from the trade.

The provisional valuation supplied by the expert advisor will contain a description of the object, the



© PAS



Once a museum has expressed an interest in a find and it has formally been declared Treasure by the Coroner, the find is the property of the Crown and the finder/s and landowner will be entitled to receive an ex-gratia reward, the value of the reward to be determined by the *Treasure Valuation Committee*. The reward will correspond as closely as possible to the selling price that might be realised on the open (UK) market between a willing seller and a willing buyer. The valuation is the anticipated "hammer price" and will not contain any deduction for commission or expenses.

So how does the TVC assess what



© PAS

provisional valuation, and the basis for that valuation.

A copy of the provisional valuation is sent to the finder and landowner prior to the meeting of the *Treasure Valuation Committee* at which the object will be valued. The finder/s and landowner are also welcome to submit their own valuation obtained from an expert. It must be remembered, however, that greater weight is given to valuation evidence obtained from a recognised trade association with its own professional code.

At the next available meeting, the Committee will examine the find/s and all the relevant information which has been presented; this will include evidence from the expert advisor, finder/landowner and the report to coroner, usually from the British Museum. If the committee feels that it has enough information to come to a fair conclusion it will do so. If on the other hand further information is required, or a further valuation from expert advisors is felt to be necessary, the Committee will defer its decision until it receives that information/valuation.

In 2008 while serving on the



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Treasure Valuation Committee I published a comparison chart of recent treasure cases in order to see the number of cases that fall within the provisional valuation. I thought it would be a god idea now that I have retired from the committee, to update that information. I have therefore disseminated valuation information from the minutes of the TVC meetings which are available online at <http://finds.org.uk/treasure/minutes>

The chart below contains details of some 51 cases from the September 2012 meeting comparing the recommended valuation from the *Treasure Valuation Committee* with the provisional valuation from the trade, and where applicable, the finders own valuation. Where the *Treasure Valuation Committee* has recommended a valuation within the range of the provisional valuation/s it will, for the purpose of this exercise be listed as a match.

The analysis of the chart shows that there are 32 cases which match the provisional valuation provided by the trade, seven over and seven below. (See table). Five were deferred or awaiting second valuation.



© PAS

Meeting	Case/Name/Object	Provisional Valuation	Recommended Valuation	Comments	Finders Valuation Where applicable	Over/under provisional valuation
Bronze Age						
September	B/Age Hoard. Hindon	£4,122	£4,500			Over
September	Gold pendant. Fransham	£800-£900	£600			Below
September	Gold metal working debris. Deopham	£700-£750	£780			Over
September	Whitchurch B/Age Hoard	£500	£650	2nd Viewing	£400-£450	Over
September	Wardour B/Age Hoard			Awaiting second valuation		
September	Manorbier B/Age Hoard	1. £900 2. £385	£575			Matches
September	Boughton B/Age Hoard	1. £11,000 2. £5,100	£6,000	2nd Viewing		Matches
September	B/Age Torc. Corrand	1. £120- £150,000 2. £220,000	£150,000	2nd Viewing		Matches
Iron Age Artefacts						
September	Iron Age Hoard Stockbury	1. £1,500 2. £90	£250	2nd Valuation		Matches
Roman						
September	Gold Earing. Long Newton	£300-£350	£300			Matches
September	Roman gold finger ring. Sedgford	£400	£400			Matches
September	Gold Ring. Ricall	£900	£800			Below
Early Medieval						
September	Penannular Ring. Runhall	£300-£350	£250			Below
September	Silver scabbard mount. Little Chishill	£400-£450	£380			Below
September	Silver Ingot. Fillongley	£75-£85	£80			Matches
September	Silver strap end. Lyminge	£380-£420	£350			Below
September	Viking Silver ingot. Cambridge	£85-£95	£85			Matches
September	Gold Pendant. Langton by Wragby	1. £700-£800 2. £350	£350	2nd Viewing		Matches
September	Silver Pendant. Stainforth	£900	£900	2nd Viewing		Matches
September	Viking Hoard. Silverdale	1. £61,580 2. £124- £149,000 3. £95,000 4. £56,605 5. £50,150- £60,330 6. £31,000	£109,815		£88-£103,000	Matches Provisional Over Finders

Meeting	Case/Name/Object	Provisional Valuation	Recommended Valuation	Comments	Finders Valuation Where applicable	Over/under provisional valuation
Medieval Artefacts						
September	Silver Pendant. Thrupton	£60	£60			Matches
September	Gold Pins. City of London	£200		Deferred		
September	Silver seal matrix. Little Oseburn	£800	£800			Matches
September	Silver-gilt strap fitting. Hyde	£1,500	£1,200			Below
September	Silver gilt Seal I Matrix. Eastkee	£1,350	£1,350			Matches
September	Gold Finger Ring. Sherburn in Elmet	£4,000	£4,000			Matches
September	Gold Tau Cross. Gowcott with Lenborough	£450	£550	2nd viewing		Over
September	Silver gilt Pendant with 3 Coins. Wragby	£2,500	£2,500	2nd viewing	Deferred for examination of coins	Matches
September	Silver mount. Oxborough	£35	£35			Matches
September	Silver pilgrims badge. Outwell	£800		Differed for 2nd provisional valuation		
Post Medieval Artefacts						
September	Silver spectacles and case. S Oxfordshire	£225	£250			Over
September	Silver fittings and fragments. Stow on the Wold	£100	£90			Below
September	Silver Pendant. Freshwater IOW	£175	£175			Matches
September	Gold mourning Ring. Outwell	£650	£650			Matches
September	Toilet implements. Thames foreshore	£200	£200			Matches
September	Gold Aiglet. Wing	£450	£450			Matches
September	Silver Vervel. East Stratton	£700	£700			Matches
September	Silver Vervel. Wymondham	£500	£500			Matches
September	Silver Vervel. Pulham Market	£500	£500			Matches
September	Silver Vervel. Clay next t Sea	£6,000	Deferred for further valuation			
Iron Age Coins						
September	2 Iron Age coins. Gotherington	£460	£460			Matches
September	2 Iron Age coins. Stoke Orchard	£460	£460			Matches
September	3 Iron Age coins. Bedworth	£1,925		Deferred		

Meeting	Case/Name/Object	Provisional Valuation	Recommended Valuation	Comments	Finders Valuation Where applicable	Over/under provisional valuation
Roman Coins						
September	Roman Coins. Warminster	£25	£25			Matches
September	17 Bronze coins. Nantwich	£25	£25			Matches
September	Roman coin Hoard. Hebden	£350	£900		£1,000-£1,500	Over Provisional. Below Finders
September	17 Silver Denarii. Attleborough	£255-£275	£370			Over
Early Medieval Coins						
September	Anglo Saxon coin, pierced to form dress accessory. Steeple Langford	£125	£125			Matches
September	Silver gilt Brooch made from goat. Calbourne IOW	£20	£20			Matches
September	4 Silver pennies. Stogumber	£100	£100			Matches
September	5 Early medieval coins. Norwich	£495	£495			Matches

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New Clubs Join Yorkshire Region

A new club, Coil to the Soil Doncaster Private Members Group has joined the Yorkshire Region. The club, which is totally separate from Coil to the Soil Forum,

consists of members from within the Yorkshire county. Membership will be ratified at the next committee meeting in September.

Also joining is the Wharfedale

MDC from Leeds, although this is only a small club at present, it is hoped that it will fill the void for people wanting to join a club in that area.

We welcome them into the Yorkshire Region and hope to have a long and fruitful association.

Trevor Austin

OBITUARY – JIM HALIDAY

The first time I met Jim was at one of his regular finds days at York. He welcomed me into his 'office' to examine my finds and I was immediately impressed by his vast knowledge.

He told me of the many "wonderful" finds he had seen over the years and showed me some items brought in that day. "Now then lad" he said to me, "can you draw"? Someone had brought in a large shield shaped weight and was due to pick it up in an hour.

So began a period of learning, how to draw properly in an effort to emulate the marvellous illustrations produced by Anne Hodgson in Jim's section of *'The Searcher'* magazine.



Always encouraging, my efforts were usually met with "that's wonderful", can you do some more. Through Jim I was introduced to many people in the established archaeological circle, all of whom had the highest regard for him.

I will always have fond memories of Jim a stalwart of our hobby, a wonderful man a true Yorkshireman.

John Middleton

I would also like to pass on condolences from the Hoyland Searchers, Down to Earth Doncaster and all Jim's friends at the NCMD Yorkshire Region.



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Midlands Federation Quiz Night

The Midlands Federation of MDC's annual quiz competition has in recent years been dominated by a team from the Coventry Heritage Detector Club.

However, the CHDS was beaten into second place this year by the Wyre Forest 'A' team. The photograph shows the triumphant team holding the trophy. The team members are John and Elaine Bridgewater, Gordon Jones and Anne Caker.

Whatever the outcome participants always enjoy a fish and chip supper which is

delivered by a local fish saloon during the interval. Next year's competition looks like being a thrilling needle match and no doubt the rival teams will be studying hard all year in an effort to win the coveted trophy.



CENTRAL REGISTER

LCSS donate to DLRAA – a worthy cause!

The Loughborough Coin and Search Society (LCSS) was formed 40+ years ago, and has a membership of around 50-60, amongst which I'm glad to say, are some of the club's founders. Our club has always raised money for local charities and deserving causes in the past and our aim is to continue doing so and alongside this also we always hope to be able to give the

residents a glimpse into the past too.

Derbyshire Leicestershire & Rutland Air Ambulance appeal was our chosen charity from 2011-2013, We donated two cheques totalling £1,456.72. £1,026.72 of which was raised by the club and some generous landowners. The second cheque for £430 was very kindly donated

by the Leicestershire Prison service as three of our members work in the service.

I know that all club members will want to join me in thanking and calling for as much further support as possible for the DLRAA who do such a marvellous job and rely solely on charitable donations. I personally want to thank all the club members for attending our

digs and putting their hands in their pockets, and a special thanks to our three members who work for HMPS and the Leicestershire prison Service itself for their wonderful charity donation cheque. But more importantly to the landowners for being so generous

Andrew Peers



Left to right: Jeff and Elisabeth Hughes, Barrie Davis, Tony Williams, Gerry Betts, Andrew Peers, Gary Wigston. Photo's by Gavin Wyatt.

Battle of Bannockburn – Part 2



In the last edition of *Digging Deep*, Lesley Sleith, Chair of the Scottish Region gave a detailed account of the survey of Bannockburn battlefield area in February this year. The survey was recorded by the BBC, and if you've been watching their recent two-part series on 'The Quest for Bannockburn', you will have noticed a number of detectorists assisting Neil Oliver and Tony Pollard in their efforts to pinpoint the location of this iconic battle fought in 1314.

It's not the first time that Neil and Tony have tried to locate the battlefield. They tried to find it before, on TV, when they did a show called *Two Men In a Trench*, way back in 2002. They tried but they failed ...

This time it was a bigger 700th anniversary deal spread over two episodes, into which they endeavoured to fit the complete story of the two-day battle. They got help from the University of Glasgow, the National Trust for Scotland,

Historic Scotland and Stirling Council and of course, the very latest technology – laser mapping and CGI.

Over 50 detectorists comprising members of the Scottish Artefact Recovery Group (SARG) and a number of independent detectorists, were invited to assist, and a lot of digging was carried out revealing, well ... precious little of importance at the end of the day to show for all their efforts. However, everybody agreed that it was a fascinating experience and a unique opportunity to detect in an area associated with one of Scotland's pivotal historical events.

In total, more than 3,000 metal objects were found in the general Bannockburn area, including an 18th-century coin and a modern-day toy cannon, and pieces of medieval pottery. However, after due dating and verification processes, only a handful, including a heel spur and stirrup, were deemed to be from the correct period and possibly



relevant to the battle.

The dig did however throw up one important find which was almost certainly a relic from the battle – a cross-shaped harness pendant (illustrated), typical of the type that would have been used by English cavalry at that time.

Dr Natasha Ferguson from the Treasure Trove Unit, validated the cross as coming from the late 13th to the 14th century. The pendant was found close to the southern bank of the Bannock Burn, near to

the area where English troops camped on the Carse, on the other side of the burn.

Bannockburn therefore continues to remain a frustrating and elusive area for archaeologists, and it's possible that anything of significance that still exists might now have sunk out of range of detectors since much of the suspected battleground was known to be soft and marshy in places all those centuries ago.

Alastair Hackett

NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR METAL DETECTING

Membership Renewal Form



MEMBER OF: SPORT AND RECREATION ALLIANCE

Dear Individual Member

Your membership of the National Council for Metal Detecting expires on the 31 March 2014. We hope that you have received prompt attention throughout the past year and thank you for your continued support of the hobby.

Subscription for 2014/15 for Individual members on the Central Register, £8-00.

(Please note subscription for individual members of a NCMD region may vary and individual members are advised to contact their Regional Secretary)

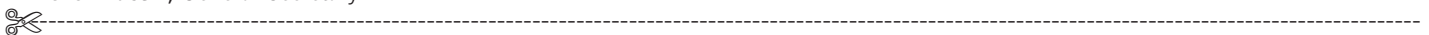
If you have not yet renewed your membership, please complete the attached form and return with your subscription.

All cheques should be made payable to the National Council for Metal Detecting and returned to the address below.

Alternatively you may wish to pay online at www.ncmd.co.uk/membership.htm by either PayPal or Debit/Credit card.

Please ensure that all information we hold on record is correct. If you have already sent your subscription for the forthcoming year, please ignore this reminder.

Trevor Austin, General Secretary



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Treasure Trove in Scotland Annual Report 2013/14

The annual report of Treasure Trove in Scotland has recently been published.

Finds this year have been particularly interesting and include an impressive enamelled Iron Age strap fitting, a Roman wine dipper and a gold Merovingian coin, the first of its type to be found in Scotland. Significant finds from more recent periods include 16th century gold jewellery as well as medals and other objects relating to the politically turbulent times of the 17th and 18th centuries.

Interestingly, there has been a significant rise in the number of chance finds reported. The Treasure Trove Unit experienced a

35% increase in items being submitted in 2013/14 compared with the previous year. This is due in large part to outreach work by the Treasure Trove Unit in the form of Finds Days and meetings in all parts of Scotland,

When taken with the higher levels of reporting seen in recent years, this reveals an overall increase in excess of 100% since 2011/12.

The report can be viewed at:
http://www.treasuretrovescotland.co.uk/Documents/Annual%20reports/TTU_Annual_Report_13_14.pdf

Alastair Hackett



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The DEUS HANDBOOK

By Andy Sabisch

During the past 30+ years Andy Sabisch has published more than 3,000 articles in numerous magazines and newspapers around the world along with more than a dozen books on treasure hunting. He has worked with many of the major manufacturers in the design and field testing of new detectors and have been one of the primary field test writers for the US magazine Lost Treasure for more than 20 years.

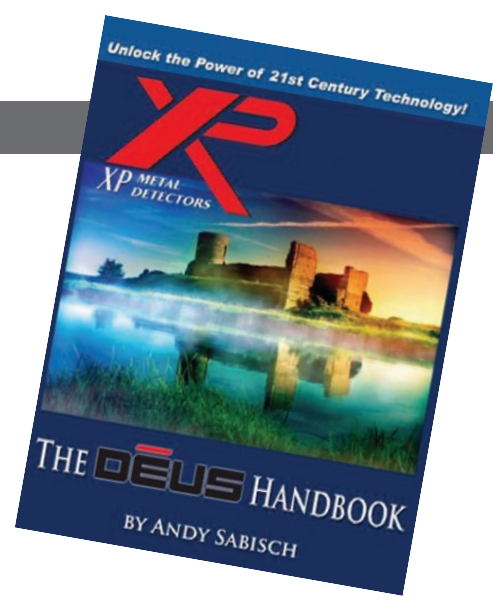
Now Andy Sabisch introduces The DEUS handbook!

"This handbook contains the information that will help you

quickly master XP's flagship detector – the DEUS – and includes input provided by experienced detectorists from around the world as well as the XP team itself." A .Sabisch

Some of the topics covered include:

- Learn what each control or feature does and how to adjust them for any condition you might come across and for virtually any application.
- Proven tips and techniques provided by veteran detectorists for various types of hunting.
- Accessories that can improve your success; protect your



equipment and maximise the performance of your Deus.

- Innovative ways to use the Deus in shallow water to find gold jewellery, old coins and relics.
- Boost your detector's performance with the right adjustments.

<http://www.sabischbooks.com/books/xp/>

I was particularly impressed recently after reading the XP Handbook by Andy Sabisch, its in-depth knowledge will help anyone, beginner and expert alike to get the most out of their machine.

With extra programs included by notable detector users for different sites and locations, there is something for everyone.

Trevor Austin

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