## NEWS

# **Dr Roger Bland Resigns**

All the latest news from the National Council for Metal Detecting

There has been an internal British Museum Review of the PAS carried out by its Deputy Director Jonathan Williams, to identify where the Scheme best fits within the current Museum structure.

The outcome of the Review, effective from the 1 May has seen the PAS moved from the Department of Britain, Europe and Prehistory under Dr. Roger Bland, to Learning, Volunteers and Audiences under Susan Raikes. Since the Review Roger has resigned from his post

I am sure many of you have

and will leave the employ of the British Museum in July.

It was regrettable that the Portable Antiquities Advisory Group (PAAG), of which the NCMD is a member, was not consulted on the terms and reference of the Review and so was unable to advise on such matters as it was supposedly set up to do.

The NCMD hopes that the new managers of the Scheme will seek to ensure its continued success in the face of current financial



constraints as well as those planned under the forthcoming Government Comprehensive Spending Review.

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# **An Unusual Find**

come across bird leg rings whilst out detecting. However nearly always these are the plastic coated aluminium type used on racing pigeons and, like many detectorists over the years, I have found dozens of these often with an accompanying leg bone. A tired pigeon resting up is an easy target for a hungry fox, a buzzard or good aerial prey for the Peregrine falcon. Pigeon rings have detailed codes on them that can be matched up to the owner of the bird through a link on the relevant websites. I have contacted a few owners, but they are only interested to know if vou have the live bird and not for confirmation that it is dead, so now I just put them in the bin with the rest of the modern metallic dross most fields produce these days.

Last year whilst detecting on a club outing, I located a small aluminium ring covered in stamped letters and numbers, still encircling the leg bone; it was clearly a bird ring of some importance. Careful examination under a lens revealed

the wording 'Inform the British Museum, London SW7' followed by a letter/number identification code. Inform the British Museum mmm is this something my FLO had not informed me about, that the PAS was seeking to add bird leg rings to their database?

A quick Internet search and all was revealed. The BM name and location is used by the bird ringers, in this case the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO), as this would be more easily identifiable if a leg ring was recovered overseas and therefore stand a better chance of being reported. The actual address is for the Natural History Museum, although the letters NH to indicate this did not appear on the ring I had found.

Once this was clarified I then passed on the leg ring code and the location of where it had been found and how to the BTO website www. bto.org and awaited a response. A few days later the details came back from them explaining that the ring had been put onto a Snipe in September 1996 and they also

gave details of the location of where the bird had been ringed. The find site of the ring was 11km away to the south-east from where the Snipe had been ringed. Now I am not sure how long a Snipe lives, but it would seem likely that this individual had long been predated by one of the local population of Sparrow Hawks and its leg ring lay in the field some years before my XP located it. Still that particular Snipe now has a bit more history added to its file.

So, if you do find a non-racing pigeon bird ring, make sure you have it recorded and help the work of the volunteer bird ringers and the scientific work they undertake into bird migration and so on.

**Steve Critchley** 





selling metal detecting magazine contains a wealth of information about this fascinating hobby.



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# **Update on ARCH**

In October 2014 we received the news that the Government had approved our plans for a new model for English Heritage. On 1 April 2015, English Heritage separated to become two organisations:

**Historic England**, a public body to champion and protect England's historic environment, everything from prehistoric remains to post-war office buildings; and,

The **English Heritage Trust**, a new independent charity retaining the name English Heritage, to look after – on behalf of the nation – the National Heritage Collection of more than 400 historic sites across England including Stonehenge, Dover Castle and some of the best preserved parts of Hadrian's Wall.

### **English Heritage (EH)**

The charity is receiving a one-off grant from Government of £80m, primarily to address the high priority conservation backlog across its estate. This will amount to the largest conservation programme in its history, but it will need to continue to grow its commercial and fundraising income in order to achieve a target of financial breakeven by 2023. English Heritage already brings the story of England to life for over 10 million people each year. The charity's vision, values and priorities are set out clearly on the new English Heritage website and in its Making History launch prospectus.

### **Historic England (HE)**

Historic England will champion the historic environment all around us. It will provide expert advice to everyone from national policymakers to local communities, from owners of listed buildings to volunteers saving heritage at risk. It will promote constructive conservation, produce research and provide grants to aid better understanding and enjoyment of our historic environment.

Historic England will licence the new English Heritage charity to look after the sites in the **National Heritage Collection**, all of which remain under the ownership or guardianship of the nation. We have

published details of the major projects that Historic England will be undertaking

Simon Thurley, the Chief Executive of English Heritage for the last 13 years is stepping down. Simon will be succeeded by Kate Mavor as Chief Executive of the English Heritage charity and Duncan Wilson Chief Executive of Historic England.

Historic England is committed to protecting the historic environment from the impact of crime and anti-social behaviour and we look forward to working with NCMD, the Police and the Crown Prosecution Service to tackle heritage crime and in particular, unlawful metal detecting.

To complement the launch of Historic England we have developed a range of social media platforms that will provide an impressive 'reach' to communities and practitioners. We would be delighted if members would subscribe and link to own sites and platforms:

Website: www.historicengland.org.uk

**Twitter:** Heritage Crime - https://twitter.com/HEHeritageCrime **Twitter:** Home Channel - https://twitter.com/HistoricEngland/media

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/HistoricEngland

Linkedin: https://www.linkedin.com/company/historicengland/

**Google+:** https://plus.google.com/110516261682047312474/posts

**You Tube:** https://www.youtube.com/channel/ UChsbpRsD0SiZNsvwdZAR4zQ

Mark Harrison FSA

National Policing and Crime Advisor Twitter @HEHeritageCrime

# The Law In Scotland

This is just a brief reminder to everyone, particularly to the many newcomers to our hobby, that the Treasure Trove laws in England and Scotland are quite different. You may already be familiar with English procedures but if you are unaware of the law in Scotland, the key points are listed below:

- All ownerless humanly-made objects in Scotland are the property of the Crown
- This applies irrespective of what the object is made of, or how it came to be in its place of discovery
- 3. There is no date limit on objects that can be claimed but the law is applied sensibly. Generally speaking, the Crown will have little or no interest in objects that are less than 300 years old.
- 4. Neither the finder nor landowner has any title to such objects
- The Crown is not obliged to pay any rewards for objects that it claims. If however, it decides to

- claim an object, it will normally pay the finder a reward based on its full market value
- 6. The territorial cover of the law extends to low water mark, and includes harbour waters; it thus overlaps with maritime law.

All of this may come as a surprise to many people, but the system is in fact a fair one, and is intended to help protect Scotland's archaeologicalheritagebyrewarding finders of historic or archaeological objects. If the Crown decides not to retain an object, it is returned with a certificate transferring ownership to the finder.

So, if you are thinking of taking up metal detecting or you are considering detecting in Scotland for the first time, please ensure that you follow the law and submit all items that are of archaeological or historical interest to the nearest museum in the first instance.

For more details, see www. treasuretrovescotland.co.uk

Alastair Hacket

# **Insurance update**



Our insurers have put together a single page document which members can show to landowners, farmers etc. You can print out this document from our website **www.ncmd.co.uk** 

**Trevor Austin** 



## **Treasure Chest Exhibition**

## **Exhibition of Metal Detecting Discoveries**

Venue: Chester Town Hall Date: Saturday 1 August 2015

Time: 10am-4pm Admission: Free

Detecting enthusiasts from across the Northwest region will descend on Chester Town Hall in August for the Treasure Chest Exhibition 2015 - an Exhibition of Metal Detecting Discoveries.

Members will be setting up stalls to show off some of their most precious and interesting finds.

Visitors can bring along any unidentified or interesting finds themselves, as the Portable Antiquities Scheme's Finds Liaison Officers will also be on hand to give advice and to identify and record

The clubs will have lots of coins and artefacts on display, but each club will also have a special case, dedicated to this year's theme -'Locks & Keys Through the Ages'. This themed showcase will be entered into a competition, to be judged by popular TV Historian and Author Mark Olly, Elizabeth Royles, Keeper of Early History from Grovenor Museum Chester, and Steve Critchley Vice Chairman of the NCMD.

There will be plenty of exciting finds for visitors to examine, and for younger visitors, there will be 'touch' trays full of interesting artefacts and coins.

Co-organiser Dave Edwards said: "It should be a great day out. We've had tremendous support from clubs from throughout the region and it's a great venue, full of history in its own right...There have been a lots of new finds found since our last exhibition in 2013, so there will be plenty of new pieces to look at..."

"The theme of Locks & Keys should throw up some interesting items too. We thought it would make a good theme, open to everyone, as most detectorists have found a key or lock, in fact I have seen some truly spectacular medieval

keys that have been found in the region."

There will also be a trade stand from Joan Allen a leading dealer in detecting equipment and accessories, offering tips, advice and some great bargains. Refreshments will be available throughout the day.

Chester Town Hall is in the centre of the town, which is well served by public transport and has ample parking provision. For further details about the venue and how to get there, visit www. chestertownhall.co.uk

# Change of Address?

Could I remind members of the importance of keeping their membership details up-to-date.

If you happen to change your address could you please let the General Secretary know, the contact details are on your membership card.

**Trevor Austin** 



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## MIDLAND REGION

# **Richard III Burial**

The Midlands Region has enjoyed fame recently since the discovery of the remains of King Richard III under a car park in Leicester.

Richard's battle-scarred skull and skeleton were found under Greyfriars Car Park in Leicester in September 2012 and it was revealed in February 2013 to be that of the 15th century monarch who died at the Battle of Bosworth in 1485. Experts confirmed the find after comparing DNA from the skeleton with that of two of Richard's living descendants.

Richard III, was born on 2 October 1452 at Fotherinhay Castle in Northamptonshire, he was the last Yorkist king of England. His father was Richard Plantagenet, Duke of York, and his mother Cecily Neville. One of the major causes of the Wars of the Roses was his father's conflict with Henry VI, something that dominated Richard's early life. In 1460 his father and older brother died at the Battle of Wakefield and the next year his brother Edward, became Edward IV and created Richard Duke of Gloucester.

The brothers were exiled in 1470 when Henry VI was briefly restored to the throne but upon their return to England the following year, Richard contributed to the Yorkist victories at Barnet and Tewkesbury that restored Edward to the throne. Edward died in April 1483 and Richard was named as protector of the realm for Edward's son and successor, the 12-year-old Edward V. Richard became involved in a power struggle with Edward's queen, Elizabeth Woodville, about the young king who was the rightful heir but too young to rule and he managed to imprison Edward V and his younger brother, Richard, in the Tower of London, the two boys were never seen again. An act of Parliament declared the nephews illegitimate, supposedly due to an earlier, secret marriage of Edward IV that invalidated his marriage to Elizabeth, and Richard III was crowned on 6 July 1483.

A rebellion raised by the Duke of Buckingham in October quickly collapsed, but Buckingham's defection, along with his supporters, eroded Richard's

power and support amongst the aristocracy and gentry. In August 1485, Henry Tudor, Earl of Richmond, who was a Lancastrian claimant to the throne landed in South Wales and engaged Richard in battle on Bosworth Field on August 22nd. Although Richard possessed superior numbers, a number of his key lieutenants defected and, refusing to flee the battlefield, Richard was killed in battle and Henry Tudor took the throne as Henry VII. Records say that King Richard - immortalised by Shakespeare as a hunchback who died after uttering the line "A horse, a horse, my kingdom for a horse!" - was buried under the choir of Leicester's long-demolished Greyfriars church, now the site of a car park used by social workers.

Following extensive tests and research carried out on the remains at Leicester University many facts emerged that further confirmed that the bones were indeed those of Richard. The wounds, there were eleven of them, nine to the skull and two to the pelvis, showed that he had been struck down from

above, thus confirming that he was dismounted and without his helmet at the time.

A legal battle ensued before a judicial review in London determined that the Ministry of Justice acted properly in allowing Leicester University archaeologists to remove the remains and to announce that he would be reinterred in Leicester Cathedral. The plan was supported by Michael Ibsen, a 17th generation nephew through Richard's sister Anne of York who provided DNA evidence, but opposed by other relatives in the Plantagenet Alliance, who argued that Richard has no connection with Leicester beyond his death near the city and subsequent "despoliation and appalling burial".

They argued that York would be a more appropriate city for his internment, especially since he might have been intending York Minster to be his mausoleum, and that failures to take into account relatives' wishes or the king's own preferences was a breach of human rights. However, the judicial review eventually put an end to the dispute



An escort of army cadets with the coffin bearing carriage



The carriage bearing Richard III's coffin at Bosworth Battlefield.



This was the Lighting of the Beacon during the Service of King Richard III at Bosworth Battlefield it stayed alight until his Internment at Leicester Cathedral.



A Knight escorting Phillippa Langley of the Richard III Society to where she presented the Casket of Soils to the Bishop of Leicester.



Loyaute Me Lie is translated to "Loyalty Binds Me" and was the motto of King Richard III. Here is a casket which was hand made by one of the direct descendants of his immediate family. This casket contains soils from three key sites and these were from Fotheringhay, the place of King Richard's birth, Middleham in Yorkshire which represented his connection with the North of England and soils from the Battlefield at Bosworth. This casket was placed beside his Coffin when it was interned.



A group of appropriately attired visitors drink to the King at Bosworth battle field.

and thus Richard's remains will left it naked slung over a horse." stay in Leicester.

The media literally had a field day when the coffin of the Plantagenet King was paraded around Leicestershire villages on 22 March 2015 before arriving at Bosworth Battlefield, the scene of Richard's darkest hour. Screenwriter Philippa Langley of the Richard III Society, who spent seven years searching for the monarch, said: "The last time he visited this battlefield, he

Members of the Midland Federation of Metal Detecting clubs were fortunate to be able to obtain golden tickets to the event at Bosworth Battlefield and noted photographer Kenneth Walker, a member of the Coventry Heritage Detector Society, was there to take these superb photographs.

Richard III was interred on 26 March 2015 in a specially prepared grave within Leicester Cathedral. The NCMD was represented at the interment by John Maloney, delegate for the Central Register, and Andrew Peers. Both John and Andrew are members of the Loughborough Coin Collecting and Search Society. John and Andrew were fortunate indeed to receive invitations to this prestigious event. Leicester Cathedral made 200 seats available for members of the general public at each of the three services connected with

the re interment. This represented one third of all the seating in the Cathedral for these events. Names were selected at random from those that applied, and those selected received a personal invitation from the Dean. I am sure that John and Andrew will treasure their invitations and the experience of being there for many years to come.

Alan Charlish Midland Federation

## WESTERN REGION

# Wyvern Detecting Club (Swindon)

## By Royal Appointment?

Wyvern Club members regularly donate their pre-decimal coins to various Charity organisations. Peter Pearce, the Site Officer had a request from the owner of a shop in an antiques arcade for some old coins to give away to children of the visitors. The coins are put in a small plastic coin holder. A full description of the enclosed coin is attached and these are given free of charge to all children who show an interest in history and coins in general.

Recently, the Duchess Cambridge, Kate Middleton visited the arcade along with the future King, little George. One of our donated pennies was presented to Kate as a gift to baby George. So through a coin the Club has made a Royal connection!

For details of the Club, visit the website: www.wyvernhds.co.uk



# 1000th Find Recorded by York Club

It's been a great start to the year for York and District Metal Detecting Club (Y&D MDC) and in particular for member Dave Cooper and our FLO Rebecca Griffiths.

Dave won the Yorkshire Federation (FED) and Y&D MDC's find of the year competitions with his figurine of the god Mercury found in the Selby area and has offered to donate it to the Yorkshire Museum. See https://finds.org.uk/database/ artefacts/record/id/721440

Becky recorded the figurine, her 1000th record on the PAS Database this year, wow, that's 200 finds recorded per month! http://www.yorkmix.com/life/



Community archaeologist Heather & Y&D MDC member Tom GPS'ing

history/ancient-roman-god-figurediscovered-and-its-the-1000thfind-by-local-history-hunters-thisvear/

Dave, always keen to help in the community has recently taken part with other Y&D MDC volunteers in the Dig York Stadium project led by lan Milsted where club members flagged up ferrous and non ferrous targets which were then plotted by GPS enabling a metallic survey of the site to be accurately mapped. See https:// digyorkstadium.wordpress.com/

Dave commented: "I could never have imagined, the reaction to my finding, the Roman figurine of



Dave Cooper helping the community

Mercury, in Selby, back in November. I am of course, very pleased with all the attention it has generated, and proud to receive the awards you mentioned. As I discussed with Becky, York Museum are very welcome to have the figurine, to add to their collection of Roman artefacts, should they wish and I would like to thank all concerned, for their help and comments, associated with my find."

Becky said: "Y&D MDC have been diligently recording their finds with the PAS for a number of years now and have contributed over 3000 new artefacts to our database. This latest discovery by Dave Cooper



Dave Cooper with his FED & Y&D MDC

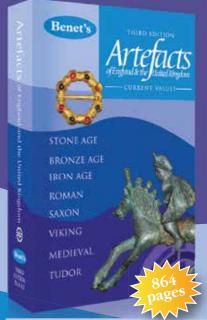
really highlights the importance of recording archaeological finds made by members of the public."

"Not only does this object represent a wonderful example of Roman workmanship but also holds the potential to provide a fascinating insight into the religious practices of Roman Britain. The quantity and quality of archaeological finds made by members of the public and, in particular, detector users is continuing to inform our understanding of the human past and the resulting dataset held by the PAS provides a vital resource in the study of that past."

#### **Phil Dunning**



Mercury



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The long awaited third edition of Benet's is finally here. With an extra 250+ pages and 1,000 additional images together with all prices fully updated.

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# **Pottery Incising Tool?**

I found this object some years ago on an Anglo Saxon site that has yielded many coins and artefacts. They include brooch fragments, pins, wrist clasps, strap ends etc. The object is made of lead, its length is 3cm and it measures 2cm at its widest point. I believe it was used to incise pottery, although there are those that are not so sure.

Being made of lead it is too soft to have been used as a tool for another purpose. Using it as a pottery tool seems to make sense as it would have been easy to make and, easily replaced. Has anyone else found a similar object, and what do they think?

**Barry Freeman** 





### **MEETING DATES**

NCMD OGM 15 Nov 2015 TVC 8 July 2015

### **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



# Richard I – The Lionheart

When we became detectorists we also became interested in history. The things that detectorists find and see at the clubs make it that way. It was King Henry II that introduced the Treasure Trove Law that was the downfall of his son Richard the Lionheart.

Henry II decreed that any treasure that had been deliberately buried was done so to avoid paying taxes therefore it belonged to the Crown. The Treasure Trove law was used until 1997 when the Treasure bill was introduced and made law in England.

Richard I, King of England for 10 years but only spent six months in England and spoke several dialects of French but never spoke Anglo/Saxon. The link with us is that he died enforcing his right as over lord to Treasure Trove.

A peasant had found a hoard of gold Roman coins of which the owner couldn't be found and this would now belong to the Crown. Richard wanted them for himself however this was to cost him his life.

Richard and his army besieged



castle Chalus in France and in the evening he would walk around the perimeter. A crossbow man on the battlements would do a jig waving his bow and and frying pan that he had been using during the day to ward off missiles shot at him. Richard found this amusing and would applaud, but on the early evening of the 25 March 1199 and without his chainmail on, Pierre Basile a young crossbow man shot the King in his shoulder near the neck. Richard was taken back to his tent but his surgeon could not remove the arrowhead. Another surgeon nicknamed 'the butcher 'removed it but in doing so paralysed the Kings arm.

Twelve days later on the 6 April Richard died. The wound had become gangrenous. But before his death as his last act of mercy he pardoned Pierre and sent him on his way with 100 shillings. It is said that Richards's sister had the crossbow man arrested, flogged to death then his body dragged apart with horses.

Richard's entrails are buried at the castle where he died in Chalus, his heart was embalmed with frankincense and held at Notre Dame in Rouen until its discovery by a local historianin July 1838. Contained in a lead box inscribed with the words "Here is the heart of Richard King of England". It now rests at Rouen in Normandy, the rest of his body lays at rest at the feet of his farther Henry II at Fontevraud Abbey.

But it still goes on, as nobody has ever been able to work out what germ infected Richards blood causing his death. Now a leading forensics expert, Philippe Charlier known as the real Indiana Jones of the graveyard has just been given permission to use minute particles. The results will be known shortly.

Richard the Lionheart was the first King to wear the three lions as his coat of arms, today we feel proud of our cricket and football teams wearing the three lions of England on their shirts and caps when they represent their country. Richard is still one of the most loved Kings of England.

#### Sid Hallam



### **NCMD**

### DATA PROTECTION PRIVACY POLICY

#### **DATA PROTECTION PRINCIPLES**

There are eight main principles within the Act. Specifically, the Principles require that personal data:

- shall be processed fairly and lawfully and shall not be processed unless specific conditions are met;
- 2). shall be obtained only for one or more specified and lawful purposes and shall not be processed in any manner incompatible with that purpose or those purposes;
- shall be adequate, relevant and not excessive in relation to the purpose or purposes for which they are processed;
- 4). shall be accurate and where necessary, kept up to date;
- 5). shall not be kept for longer than is necessary for that purpose or those purposes;
- 6). shall be processed in accordance with the rights of the data subject under the Act; and that:
- appropriate technical or organisational measures shall be taken against unauthorised or unlawful processing of personal data and against accidental loss, destruction or damage to personal data;
- 8). personal data shall not be transferred to a country or territory outside the European Economic Area unless that country ensures an adequate level of protection for the rights and freedoms of data subjects in relation to the processing of their personal data.

The National Council for Metal Detecting is a registered Data Controller under the Data Protection Act 1998. Registration Number Z1802485

#### PURPOSE

An essential activity within the National Council for Metal Detecting (hereafter known as The NCMD) is the requirement to gather and process information about its members in order to operate effectively. This will be done in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998 (the Act), and other related government legislation.

The NCMD - acting as custodians of personal data - recognises its moral duty to ensure that all such data is handled properly and confidentially at all times, irrespective of whether it is held on paper or by electronic means. This covers the whole lifecycle, including:

- · The obtaining of personal data;
- · The storage and security of personal data;
- · The use of personal data;
- The disposal / destruction of personal data.

The NCMD also has a responsibility to ensure that data subjects have appropriate access upon written request - to details regarding personal information relating to them.

### PERSONAL DATA HELD ABOUT NCMD MEMBERS WILL BE RESTRICTED TO -

- Name
- Address
- Phone number
- Mobile phone number
- Email address
- Membership number
- Club and or Region

### USE OF PERSONAL DATA:

- The Personal Data collected from you may be processed by The NCMD to enable it to contact you by electronic mail, postal mail or telephone, to communicate details of resources and materials, events, seminars, publications and news bulletins.
- The information we hold may be used by the committee members for the purpose of NCMD duties.
- 3) Your personal data will, on occasion, be made available to third parties who perform services (e.g. solicitors, auditors, its insurers Perkins Slade etc) or communicate on behalf of The NCMD to its members via newsletters or other printed matter (e.g. Warners Plc etc).
- 4) Any such disclosures will be subject to written contracts, confidentiality requirements and/or security arrangements where necessary in order to protect your personal data.

#### **DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL DATA**

The NCMD may disclose Personal Data if required to do so by law or in the good-faith and belief that such action is necessary to:

- 1). confirm to the edicts of the law or comply with legal process served on The NCMD:
- 2). protect and defend the rights or property of the NCMD

### JURISDICTION AND CHOICE OF LAW

This Data Protection Policy shall be governed by the law of England & Wales, and You shall submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of the English Courts.

NCMD 2009

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