

**National Council for Metal
Detecting**

Member of: The Central Council of
Physical Recreation.

***NCMD News and Views.
Autumn 2005***

The National Council would welcome
replies and comments on the information
contained in *News and Views*.

Email editor at.

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NCMD Membership.

Information about the benefits of NCMD
membership for individuals and clubs may
be obtained from Trevor Austin, NCMD
General Secretary, 51 Hilltop Gardens,
Denaby, Doncaster, DN12 4SA.

E - mail: trevor.austin@ncmd.co.uk

NCMD Website: www.ncmd.co.uk

**Notes from the NCMD Annual General
Meeting held on 31st July 2005.**

1. Chairman's opening of AGM.

In the absence of the Chairman, David
Barwell, Steve Critchley was invited to
deputise for the duration of the A.G.M.

**2. Minutes of AGM held on 6th June
2004 and matters arising.**

Bob Whalley, Western Region,
proposed that the minutes of the
previous AGM held on Sunday 6th
June 2004 was an adequate record.
Ken Willcox, Anglia Region, seconded.
Vote : unanimous.
Matters Arising :- None.

**3. Financial report and adoption of
annual accounts.**

The Annual Summary of Accounts was
circulated.

A proposal to adopt the accounts was
made by Yorkshire Region and
seconded by Anglia Region.

Vote : unanimous.

The Financial Report and Annual
Accounts are available to all clubs and
individual members from the regional
representatives or by application to the
General Secretary.

A vote of thanks was given Phil Talbot,
Treasurer, on behalf of the committee
for the preparation of the annual
accounts.

**4. Election of officers for ensuing
year**

Officers standing down this year are
Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer
and Public Relations Officer.

Steve Critchley thanked all the retiring
officers for their continued hard work in
support of our hobby.

Our other Officers are not due to stand
down this year.

Chairman

Trevor Austin read a letter from David
Barwell stating that, due to illness, he
will stand down as Chairman. David
will continue to support the NCMD as
much as possible.

Treasurer

Trevor Austin read a letter from Phil
Talbot regarding his post of Treasurer.
Due to illness he has proposed that a
new Treasurer is appointed. Phil has
stated he will continue to help in the
interim.

**The following appointments were
confirmed.**

Chairman :- Steve Critchley

Proposed by North West Region,
Seconded by Western Region.- Vote :
Unanimous

Treasurer :- Not Appointed. No
proposals received. - All present were
requested to consider this position.

Public Relations Officer :-

As Clive Sinclair, the current holder of this office was not able to attend this meeting, no proposals were received and the post will be discussed at our next O.G.M.

Vice Chairman :- Bob Baldock

Proposed by Anglia Region
Seconded by North West Region
Vote : Unanimous.

5. Co-opted officers

Bob Whalley, our PAPBAG Representative, (Portable Antiquities Project Board and Advisory Group) is stepping down this year. Bob Baldock has been appointed to succeed Bob Whalley. Proposed by Midland Region, seconded by Yorkshire Region. Vote:- unanimous.

6. Election of two Honorary Examiners for the annual accounts

A Proposal to appoint Joe Rigby as an Examiner for the annual accounts was made by Western Region and seconded by North West Region.

A further proposal to appoint Brian Pollard as an Examiner was made by Yorkshire Region and seconded by Western Region.

Vote: Unanimous for both appointments.

7. Election of a Representative to the CCPR.

(Central Council for Physical Recreation)

Del Samuels is stepping down from this position after a number of years.

Barry Morgan had previously been shadowing Del as CCPR officer. A proposal to appoint Barry Morgan as CCPR Representative was made by

Anglia Region and seconded by Yorkshire Region. Vote: Unanimous.

8. Review and approval of the list of affiliated members.

Affiliated members on the approved list are Treasure Hunter, Searcher and Minelab.

Renewal of the affiliated members :
Searcher – proposed by Anglia Region and seconded by Midland Region. Vote: Unanimous.

Treasure Hunting – proposed by Midland Region seconded by Anglia Region. Vote: Unanimous.

Minelab – proposed by Anglia Region seconded by Yorkshire Region. Vote: Unanimous.

9. NCMD Constitution. To receive and vote on motions from the Midland and Southern Regions.

A motion from **Midland Region** regarding Clause 11,line 1. (General Committee) was read out, proposing that the **General Committee shall consist of four members from each Region** (rather than existing statement of two members)

The proposal is intended to overcome the present and potential future difficulties of accommodating and encouraging dedicated persons who wish to become involved with and prove useful to the NCMD.

Proposed by Bob Baldock (on behalf of Midlands Region) seconded by Anglia Region. Vote : Unanimous.

Motion from Southern Region.

“That the Constitution Sub-committee’s recommendations laid out in it’s review of the Constitution be accepted subject to any final alterations being deemed necessary at a special meeting of the NCMD Management Team, to be convened as soon as

possible after the Annual General Meeting 2005.

As there was no representation from the Southern Region at the A.G.M. It was not possible to make a decision regarding the motion. It was decided that the motion would be discussed at the next meeting.

10. Independent and Central Register Representatives.

The General Secretary, Trevor Austin, is a permanent representative for our Independent Membership.

Second Representative for Independent Membership.

Steve Critchley

Proposed by Anglia Region

Seconded by Western Region.

Vote : Unanimous.

Third Representative for Independent Membership John Rigby.

Proposed by Western Region,

Seconded by Anglia Region.

Vote : Unanimous.

Fourth Representative. No proposals received. This vacancy will be made known through the normal communication channels.

NCMD National Finds Competition.

The current competition, the Robin Hatt Competition, is for single finds of coins and artefacts. It had been agreed at a previous meeting that a further competition for hoards will be implemented and called the Karoline Hatt Competition. The rules covering the competitions therefore required revising in the light of the new category. Joe Rigby, North West Region presented a revised set of rules at this meeting. These were distributed. A proposal to accept the revised rules was made by South Wales Region seconded by Midland Region.

Vote: unanimous. The new rules will apply from the 2005–2006 competition.

2004-2005 NCMD Finds Competition Results. Robin Hatt Trophy.

Artefact Section.

The winning artefact was a Roman Patera (pan) entered by David Whalley, Western Region.

Second place was achieved with a Mediaeval casket/trunk key entered by Derek Bell, North west Region.

Coin Section.

The winning coin was an Edmund Penny entered by Peter Spencer, Yorkshire Region.

Second place was achieved by a Valentinian I, Siliqua, entered by Dave Spaney, North West Region.

Third place was a Gold Stater, 95 – 65 BC, entered by Brian Cavill, Western Region.

The Chair thanked all our members from the Regions who contributed to make this national competition so successful and to Joe Rigby for adjudicating and counting the votes on behalf of the National Council.

Presentations to the winning entrants were made by Joe Rigby to the Regional Delegates who will arrange for personal presentations in their own Regions.

Notes from the NCMD Ordinary Meeting held on 31st July 2005.

1. Review of Correspondence

Trevor Austin had been corresponding with the Scottish detectorists', including the Edinburgh Club. He read out an update confirming that the Scottish clubs had voted unanimously to approve a proposal to create a Scottish Region and apply to become a Region of the NCMD.

There are a number of clubs interested in joining the Scottish Region and they will submit their constitution with a formal application to create the Scottish Region. There may need to be a line in the Code of Conduct, which mentions the difference between Scottish and English law.

Trevor further reported on correspondence including the following:

Several letters regarding DEFRA.

Letter from Peter Barker, Solihull, who had produced a book giving details of finds from one of the sites he has been detecting on in Hampshire.

Letter from Jersey Metal Detecting Society (received in February) stating that a large number of detectorists were not aware of the laws relating to Jersey. Trevor Austin has put some information on the National Council website regarding the regulations for Jersey.

A sample of a book by Brian Grove called the Treasure Hunters Handbook, which describes the many different kinds of treasure that can be found in Britain and where and how they can be found.

The current Treasure Registrar has now left the British Museum and she had written to give details of her

replacement – Fi Woor. Fi has been appointed as Assistant Treasure Registrar and the Registrar position will be filled in due course (by September). Fi can be contacted on fwoor@thebritishmuseum.ac.uk / 020 7323 8618.

Review of Coroner Services : Trevor received a letter regarding the review of coroner services. Ministers have expressed their intention to publish a draft Coroner and Death Certificate bill during the course of the first session of parliament from now until November 2006. They are still planning to publish a white paper later in the year.

The responsibility for the administration of Treasure is currently under review. A meeting with the DCMS is currently being arranged to discuss this issue.

2. CCPR Report

A report was given on the CCPR by Del Samuel and Barry Morgan. CCPR are generally engaged with DEFRA regarding problems of outdoor pursuits and the restrictions caused by environmental schemes.

3. CSS / ELS Update

3.1 Report on meeting with DEFRA held in London on 17 June

As part of the preparation for that meeting, DEFRA reissued their guidance note and they had taken on board some of the comments that NCMD had made although there were still a number of outstanding issues. The meeting on 17 June was to deal with the guidance notes on Countryside Stewardship and also the Entry Level Schemes (ELS).

With the exception of SSSI's (Sites of Special Scientific Interest) and SAM's (Sites of Ancient Monuments), with

regards to ELS there are no restrictions on metal detecting. Once all the details are finalised, guidelines will be issued to all members. NCMD need to clarify the position regarding Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty. It was agreed Peter McCrone, DEFRA, would be invited to a future meeting to discuss this further.

3.2 PAS Update. Portable Antiquities Scheme.

Report on Portable Antiquities Project Board Advisory Group, PAPBAG, meeting held in London on 17 May

Roger Bland, PAS, has produced a project proposal for assessing **night hawking**. Night hawking doesn't just take place on scheduled sites; it can take place on any farmland, where people don't have permission.

A draft leaflet, tied in with the initiative to prevent the **illegal obtaining of artefacts on e-bay etc**, has been produced giving advice for people buying archaeological objects found in the UK, and providing five questions to be answered before buying, and the ways to deal with the answers.

A draft Landowners Leaflet has been produced by Michael Lewis, PAS, designed to provide advice to landowners on the Portable Antiquities Scheme, metal detecting and searching for archaeological objects in England. He has asked for NCMD thoughts on the leaflet. Comments and thoughts have been collated and sent to Michael Lewis.

A draft Code of Practice for Responsible Metal Detecting has been produced by Mike Hayworth, Confederation of British Archaeology (CBA). This has been circulated for comments, with a view to producing a

document, which is signed up for by all parties (NCMD / PAS / CBA). NCMD have replied to the draft which will be discussed further at the next PAPBAG meeting.

There are a number of other outstanding issues such as the Environmental Stewardship situation English Heritage's 'Our Portable Past policy review', which may make it difficult to make further progress with the current draft 'Code of Practice' as it stands. We await the outcome of these issues so that the NCMD can properly address the matter in the full possession of all the relevant facts.

4. Receiver of Wrecks Update

Barry Morgan reported on a discovery of a wreck in Scotland where gold bullion and coins have been found. The Police and Receiver of Wrecks are involved.

5. Any other business

5.1 Trevor Austin described a sample of software which allows the printing of postage from your PC. The programme was not available when the franking machine was purchased. This would enable John Rigby, Membership secretary, to print an envelope with a logo and process normal mailing requirements, but not recorded delivery. John is to find out further details and report back.

5.2 Discussion took place regarding the distribution of **NCMD Leaflets with Minelab**. A membership form would also need to be included with the leaflet.

A proposal to accept this Minelab offer was made by Anglia Region seconded by Yorkshire Region.

Vote : Unanimous.