

**NCMD**

TO PROMOTE  
TO PROTECT  
TO ENCOURAGE



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## **National Council for Metal Detecting**

Member of: The Central Council of  
Physical Recreation.

### ***NCMD News and Views. Summer / Autumn 2006***

The National Council would welcome  
replies and comments on the information  
contained in

*News and Views.* Email editor at:  
bob@ baldock48.freemove.co.uk

#### **NCMD Membership.**

For membership joining applications,  
information and fees please contact:  
John Rigby, Membership Secretary.  
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#### **Enquiries.**

For all other enquiries please contact:  
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NCMD Website: [www.ncmd.co.uk](http://www.ncmd.co.uk)  
NCMD Forum: <http://ncmd-forum.co.uk>

#### **1. Report of the NCMD A.G.M held at the Innkeepers Lodge, Northampton, on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2006.**

#### **Election of officers for ensuing year**

Officers standing down this year are  
Chairman, Vice Chairman, General

Secretary and Public Relations Officer.

Steve Critchley, Chairman, 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.

The following appointments were  
confirmed.

\*\* indicates the retiring officer.

#### **Chairman :-**

**\*\*Steve Critchley**

Proposed by North West Region  
Seconded by Western Region  
Vote: Unanimous

#### **General Secretary :-**

**\*\* Trevor Austin**

Proposed by Midland region  
Seconded by Yorkshire Region  
Vote: Unanimous.

#### **Treasurer :**

**Dave Philpots**

Proposed by Midland Region  
Seconded by Western region  
Vote: Unanimous.

#### **Public Relations Officer :-**

**\*\*Clive Sinclair**

Proposed by North Western Region  
Seconded by Midland Region  
Vote: Unanimous.

#### **Vice Chairman :-**

**\*\*Bob Baldock**

Proposed by Midland Region  
Seconded by Anglia Region  
Vote: Unanimous

#### **Membership Secretary :-**

John Rigby  
Proposed by Yorkshire Region  
Seconded by North Western Region.  
Vote: Unanimous.

#### **Representative to the CCPR.**

(Central Council for Physical Recreation)

Barry Morgan

Proposed by Midland Region  
Seconded by Anglia Region.

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Vote: Unanimous.

A proposal to include the **Assistant Secretary** as an Executive Officer of the NCMD was also approved. This position is currently held by Sue Austin of the Yorkshire Region.

**Affiliated Members** on the approved list are Treasure Hunting, The Searcher and Minelab.

A unanimous decision was taken to approve the list of affiliated members.

### **NCMD Constitution.**

**To receive and vote on a number of amendments to the constitution.**

The Vice Chairman, Bob Baldock, presented the proposed changes to the constitution. Each recommendation was discussed and the results of the voting on each proposed change was recorded.

The final version was proposed for adoption by Midland Region, seconded by Anglia Region. Vote. Unanimous.

Clive Sinclair, PRO, will assemble the formal NCMD Constitution document, revised AGM 2006.

Copies will be available on request.

## **2. NCMD National Finds Competitions.**

The Annual Karolyn and Robin Hatt Memorial Finds Competitions.

Robin and Karolyn Hatt, as original editors of The Searcher magazine, gave considerable support and encouragement to the NCMD in its early days.

In order to mark its continuing appreciation of that contribution the NCMD initiated annual memorial finds competitions in the names of Karolyn and Robin which are open to every NCMD member.

The annual competitions are based upon metal detecting finds made by members during a calendar year 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> December.

The competitions comprise three separate categories:-

Robin Hatt Memorial Competitions for Best Individual Coin and Best Individual Artefact.

Karolyn Hatt Memorial Competition for Best Hoard (Coins and/or Artefacts).

Entries for the competitions are submitted by NCMD Regions and the Central Register of Clubs and Individuals who will have held their own competitions to select objects for entry to the national finals.

The 2005 National Final was held at the NCMD Annual General Meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2006. A display was arranged for delegates and attending finders to view all the entries. Voting was by secret ballot of the nominated Regional and Central Register delegates.

The entries for the 2005 competitions were as follows.

### **Coin Competition:-**

**1.** A Phillip III Ducatone of 1634. Entered by Dennis Gill of the Western Region.

This is a large silver coin of Italy. It was the equivalent of the gold Scudo.

**2.** A Merovingian svedo Tremissis. Entered by Phil Dunning of the Yorkshire Region.

This coin was an early mediaeval plated forgery of 500 to 580.

**3.** A Henry VI Gold Noble of London. Entered by Glyn Peak of the North West Region.

The coin depicts the monarch in a galleon. This is of the Annulet Issue type. 1422-1427. The annulets are by the sword arm on the obverse and in one spandrel on the decorated cross reverse.

The winning entry was the Gold Noble.

#### **Artefact Competition:-**

1. A Late Bronze Age looped and socketed copper alloy axe head, Irish type. Entered by Mike Tonge of the North Western Region.

2. An early medieval, mid to late 6<sup>th</sup> century, Disc Brooch. Entered by Wayne Powell of the Midlands Region. The brooch is made of copper alloy and gilded; it was originally jewelled with a highly decorated upper surface.

3. A 17<sup>th</sup> century silver gilt Pin. Entered by David Whalley of the Western Region.

4. A Roman Nail Cleaner. Entered by Michael Goodman of the Central Register. This object is of copper alloy.

The winning entry was the 6<sup>th</sup> century Disc brooch.

#### **Hoard Competition:-**

Only one hoard was entered this year, no voting was necessary. The hoard of seven gold Bronze Age bracelets, entered by David Perkins of the Midland Region, was declared the winner.

Trophies were presented to each of our winning members or their appointed delegates by Harry Bain of 'The Searcher' who we would like to thank for their continued support of the competitions and the hobby.

The NCMD wishes to thank all our members who entered their finds at local and region competitions to ensure the continued success of our national event.

Hilary Fagin, North Western Region, is our newly appointed NCMD Competitions Manager.

### **3. Countryside Stewardship. CSS.**

The NCMD have recently received Guidance Notes, version 7.1 (June 2006) regarding metal detecting access to CSS land, as issued to DEFRA staff, and includes the appropriate forms required to make an application.

A few extracts from the Guidance Note are included below. Members are advised to obtain a copy before any application is made.

*We shall shortly be receiving a list of the DEFRA, Regional Historic Environment Advisors. This will be available to members on request.*

#### ***Aim of the guidance***

This guidance aims to promote best practice and facilitate metal detecting on land under the Countryside Stewardship Scheme.

#### ***What is the Countryside Stewardship Scheme?***

Countryside Stewardship is a scheme run by DEFRA, which makes payments to farmers and land managers to improve the natural beauty and diversity of the countryside. Its objectives are to:

- Sustain the beauty and diversity of the landscape;
- Improve and extend wildlife habitats;
- Conserve archaeological sites and historic features;
- Improve opportunities for countryside enjoyment;
- Restore neglected land or features;
- Create new habitats and landscapes where appropriate.

#### ***Applying to Metal Detect***

When a metal detectorist, either an individual or a group, wishes to detect on a holding with a Stewardship agreement, Defra would require certain details regarding the area selected to be searched and the appropriate forms are included in the Guidance Notes.

Finds Liaison Officers have been charged with assisting completing the application papers for metal detecting on CSS land.

DEFRA will reply to all applications within 15 working days. Once an application to metal detect has been made, DEFRA may consult the HER and English Heritage for further information, if necessary.

A review of the operation of the system will be undertaken in September 2007. This would give all parties an opportunity to assess the efficiency of the Guidance Note in facilitating metal detection access to Countryside Stewardship land.

It should be noted that the CSS procedures do not apply to the more recent Entry Level Scheme (ELS). The uptake for ELS is around 70% of landowners and around 40,000 farmers and landowners signed up in 2005. Access to ELS is with the landowners permission and voluntary recording of finds.

## 5. NCMD Forum

The Forum continues to grow steadily, discussion threads have now started up and a considerable amount of information is available to members within the various sections of the forum.

The number of members so far registered indicates a good level of interest.

We intend to add further sections, including 'items for sale' and a documents section containing the most useful documents such as Membership Application Form, Code of Conduct, Code of Practice and Landowner Search Agreement Form.

Measures have been taken to increase security and maintain functionality by copying and backing up on a regular basis to a 'back up' server hosted locally.

In the unlikely event that security was breached, or the server was lost, the site could be resurrected in a short time with minimal loss of existing data.

A suggestion has been made by a few members that the creation of a separate 'open' sub-forum be considered, which would provide a 'repository' for non-members showing an interest to find out more about the NCMD. This sub-forum would need close supervision but it is felt by Administrators that this would serve well to gain additional members.

All NCMD members are encouraged to register on the forum. Just logon to the web address at the beginning of this newsletter and you will be guided through the procedure.

## 6. Review of Coroners

As reported previously a Coroners Review is in progress with a move towards regional coroners and the creation of a single coroners office for treasure matters.

Under the changes the review body wish to include the duty to *deliver* an item suspected to be treasure as well as report it. NCMD would need safeguards for such a change and we are to ask exactly how this would work.

A further item reported in the review was a duty to report an item that came into someones possession that they believed was unreported treasure. We are finding out more about this proposal.

## 7. NCMD 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Next year is the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the NCMD. How should we celebrate this event?

Suggestions and ideas would be appreciated from all our members. These can be emailed to the editor.

In connection with our anniversary it is

proposed that the NCMD produce a paper describing the history of the NCMD.

**8. Portable Antiquities Scheme.  
Annual Report 2005-6.**

The PAS, 2005 – 6 Annual Report will be published in early November.

The launch date has not yet been released but the NCMD will be invited to attend.

It is the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the PAS next year.