

Treasure Talk SA

Mei - June 2016

Vol 31 - 5



Nudist Beach Hunting - Henry Clapton

Battle of Kraaipan - Lukas van der Merwe



TREASURE QUEST TREASURES


QUALITY METAL DETECTING ACCESSORIES



Beach Sand Scoops
Relic Spades
Hand Diggers
Finds Pouches
Treasure Hunting Books
Detector Harnesses



LET THE ADVENTURE BEGIN

WEB: www.treasurequesttreasures.co.za
EMAIL: info@treasurequesttreasures.co.za
 TREASURE QUEST TREASURES
PHONE: 083 366 9445 / 072 297 7833



QUALITY PRODUCTS



Now exporting to France
USA & Australia.

Products also available at



Contents / Inhoud

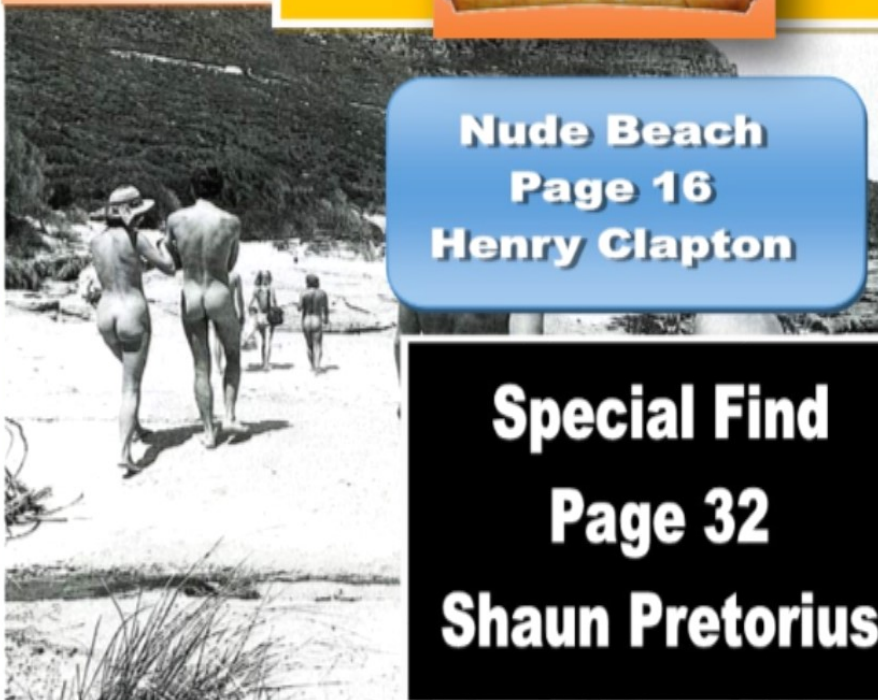


Namibia Treasure
Page 6
Fox News

Kraai Pan
Page 8
Lukas van der Merwe



27 Th Annual Hunt Natal
Page 19
Wolfgang Roux



Nude Beach
Page 16
Henry Clapton

Special Find
Page 32
Shaun Pretorius



FROM THE EDITOR VAN DIE REDAKTEUR

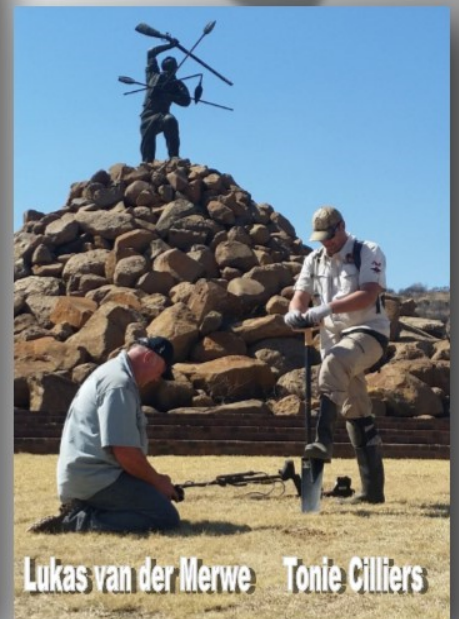


Use your imagination while Treasure Hunting
and soon your
information sources will
become endless.



8 RULES TO A BETTER LIFE

1. NEVER HATE
2. DONT WORRY
3. LIVE SIMPLY
4. EXPECT A LITTLE
5. GIVE A LOT
6. ALWAYS SMILE
7. LIVE WITH LOVE
8. BEST OF ALL, BE WITH GOD



Lukas van der Merwe Tonie Cilliers

In the news

BREAKING
NEWS

by



500 year-old shipwreck loaded with gold found in Namibian desert

Diamond miners recently discovered a ship that went down 500 years ago after draining a man-

made lagoon on Namibia's coast.

While shipwrecks are often found along Africa's Skeleton Coast, this one

just so happened to be loaded with \$13,000,000 worth of gold coins. It also answers a centuries-old mystery and is what some archaeologists are calling one of the most significant shipwrecks ever found.

The wreck was first discovered along the coast near Oranjemund by ge-



ologists from the mining company De Beers in April 2008. One reason it took centuries to find is because it was underneath the ocean floor. "The mining site concerned was actually located in the surf zone, where the violent action of the waves theoretically made mining impossible," archaeologist Dr. Dieter Noli told

FoxNews.com. "So what the chaps do is push up a huge sea-wall with bulldozers parallel to the beach, with the ends running back to the beach. The result is a large man-made lagoon, with the surf pounding on the outside. Then they pump the sea-water out of the lagoon."

It was in this drained lagoon that the wreck was discovered. Noli, who is chief archaeologist of the Southern Africa Institute of Maritime Archaeological Research, wasn't too surprised—with the abundance

of shipwrecks on the coast (Portuguese sailors once called it "The Gates of Hell"), he knew the geologists would turn up something sooner or later.

"Having first started doing archaeological work...for the mine in 1996, I had at that point been preaching to them



Gold coins and a cannon discovered in the Namibian shipwreck (Dieter Noli)

for a dozen years that 'one day' they would find a shipwreck, and to let me know when they do," he told Foxnews.com. "When asked what exactly I was *really* expecting to find, I said 'a Spanish sword and a bag of gold.'"



A day after the discovery, the geologists notified Noli that they'd found some 'strange stuff' on the beach— bits of metal, wood, copper half-spheres and what looked like copper or bronze pipes. They emailed him an image of one of the "pipes," which Noli immediately recognized to be a piece of 16th century artil-



The Bom Jesus - or Good Jesus - and its treasure trove contents were first discovered along the Namibian coast near Oranjemund by geologists from the mining company De Beers in April 2008 (Pictured: Some of the Spanish coins)

lery.

"I phoned [Chief geologist Juergen Jacob] back and told him that said pipes were in fact rather old breech-loading cannons. 'How old?' he wanted to know. '1535, give or take two months,' I suggested. Since the ship wound up being from 1533, that was a pretty close guess!"

While there are plenty of shipwrecks in the area, almost all of them are "recent"— as in having sunk only in the last 120 years or so. The oldest shipwreck found in the area at that point was *The Vlissingen*, which went ashore in Meob Bay in 1747

Upon his arrival to the site, Noli realized pretty quickly this new find would be the oldest one yet. "Once [there], the copper half-spheres had me flummoxed," he said. "But then I saw the wooden stock of a matchlock musket lying at my feet. Picking it up, I saw that the style

of the stock — made to fit against the cheek, rather than against the shoulder — indicated that it was from the early century, matching the age of the cannons. Right then I knew that we had a ship from the early 16th century and that there would be a lot to find in very good

nick, because if the stock of a musket survived, a LOT of other stuff would have done so as well."

Once they realized what they had on their hands, Noli went about trying to convince the Namdeb Corp. to let them work more on the site — no easy task, considering the huge cost of keeping the site dry for two weeks beyond the mining period and maintaining the seawall, which is a 24/7 job for

two D-9 dozers, a fleet of trucks and some really huge pumps. In the end, he simply let the pictures of spoils from the dig do the talking.

According to Noli, "As luck would have it, we found the treasure chest on day six. Academic arguments are all very well, but once you have literally filled your hat with an 25.5 lb mixture of Spanish and Portuguese gold coins (there were indeed swords as well), the value of the site is no longer in doubt."

The ship was identified as *The Bom Jesus*, or "The Good Jesus", a Portuguese ship that went missing 500 years ago while en route to India. The ship was loaded down with gold, tin, ivory tusks, and 44,000 pounds of copper ingots when it apparently went to its watery grave. In fact, it was the copper ingots that ended up playing a key role in



A selection of items from the ship with a trowel below them for scale. The best preserved astrolabe is in the middle, a frying pan on the right, some pottery on left, a pewter plate above and a section of a pewter bowl

the wreck's preservation site."

“Marine organisms may like wood, leather book covers, peach pips, jute sacking and leather shoes, but copper really puts them off their food – so a lot of stuff survived the

she broke up, starting with the superstructure.

“The treasure chest fell free from the captain’s cabin, sinking intact to the seabed,

grating hull,” Noli theorized.

As for what it was doing off the coast, he’s hoping Portuguese records may shine some light on the matter.



Some rosary beads and a silver Portuguese coin that were found among the haul of the Bom Jesus

So who gets the gold?

“The Namibian government – every single coin,” he said. “That is the normal procedure when a ship is found on a beach. The only exception is when it is a ship of state – then the country under whose flag the ship was sailing gets it and all its contents. And in this case the ship belonged to the King of Portugal, making it a ship of state – with the ship and its entire contents belonging to Portugal. The Portuguese government, however, very generously waived that right, allowing Namibia to keep the lot.”

500 years on the bottom of the sea which should really not have done so,” Noli said. “All this adds up to an extremely unusual situation, which led to truly excellent preservation of an in any event unique

where it was subsequently crushed, pinned down and protected by a massive piece of the side of the ship which broke free from the disinte-

How the ship went down and what it was doing off a notorious stretch of coast famous for its storms and fog remains unknown, though Noli has his theories.

He believes that a combination of too much heavy cargo and poor weather made the captain decide to run the vessel ashore by putting out his bow anchors and slowly beaching her. The ship then hit a blinder in the surf zone, where she heeled over in the pounding waves. All attempts to free her failed and



Archaeologist Dr Dieter Noli demonstrating the use of an astrolabe found among the ship’s wreckage

Battle of Kraai Pan

Jono General

Historical Metal Detectives
Together with
Pretoria University
Mission Kraaipan

**Breaking
News!**

Gen. De la Rey attacks the armoured train, Mosquito

The first shots
of the Anglo Boer War
are fired at Kraaipan

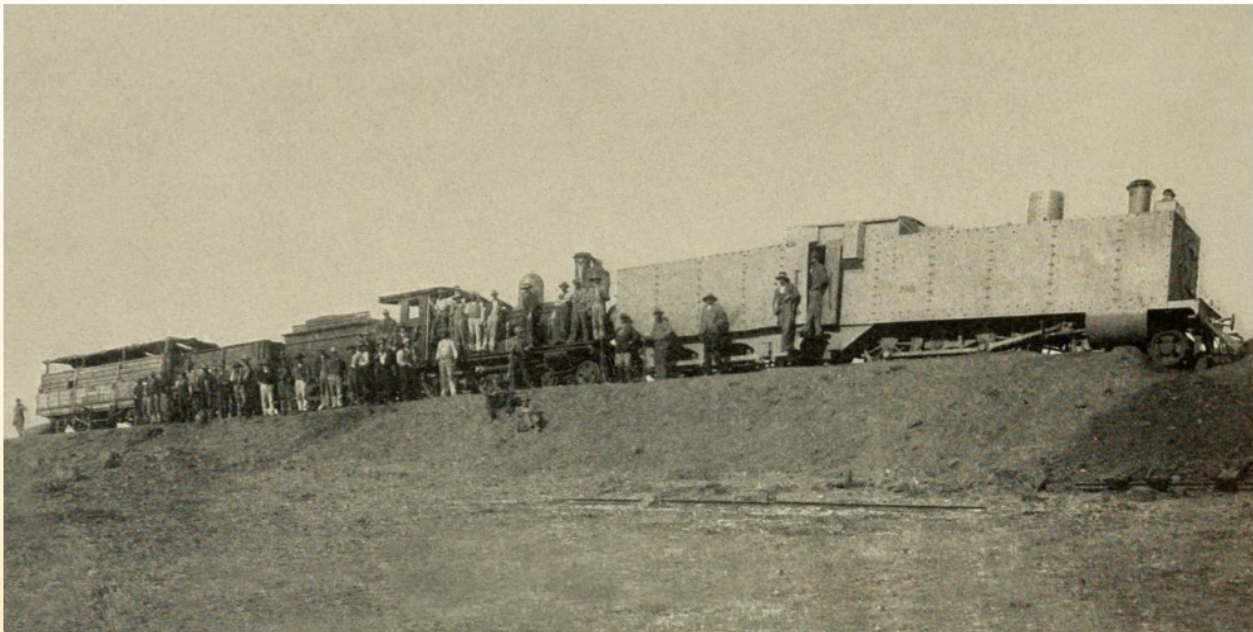


Battle of Kraaipan

By Lukas van der Merwe

Another tick on my Treasure Hunting bucket list was when Jono phoned me and said there is a chance for us to hunt the Battle of Kraaipan . To hunt one of this historical sites is very special and it was also organized by the University of Pretoria

The Battle of Kraaipan was the first engagement of the Second Anglo-Boer War, fought at Kraaipan, South Africa on 12 October 1899. On 11 October 1899 President Paul Kruger of the South African Republic in alliance with the Orange Free State declared war on the British. That night 800 men of the... Potchefstroom and Lichtenburg commandos under-



General Koos de la Rey (one of General Piet Cronjé's field generals) attacked and captured the British garrison and railway siding at Kraaipan between Vryburg and Mafikeng, some 60 kilometres south west of Mafikeng. Thus began the Second Anglo-Boer War. Under the orders of Cronjé the Mafeking railway and telegraph lines were cut on the same day. The armoured train, "Mosquito", carrying two 7-pounder cannons, rifles, ammunition and supplies was derailed and after a five-hour fight the British surrendered the next morning. The cannons, rifles, ammunition, supplies and prisoners were taken. The Boer troops discovered British Mark IV ammunition (better known as dum dum) on the train. This incident made De la Rey famous, but exacerbated his conflicts with the cautious and unimaginative Cronjé, who sent him to block the advance of the British forces moving to relieve the Siege of Kimberley in the north-east of the Cape Colony.

Jono Picked me up late on Tuesday , the 2 nd of February and went to Mafikeng and arrived late that night. On the road , was just talking about the opportunity to hunt on such an historical site. Harmony was mining near Kraai Pan , and the community had to be moved. Harmony gave them a opportunity to empower them self by getting the Pretoria University to set up a Museum there . They asked us to use Metal Detectors to find some relics which they wanted to display in the Museum.



Our Basis - North West Game Reserve

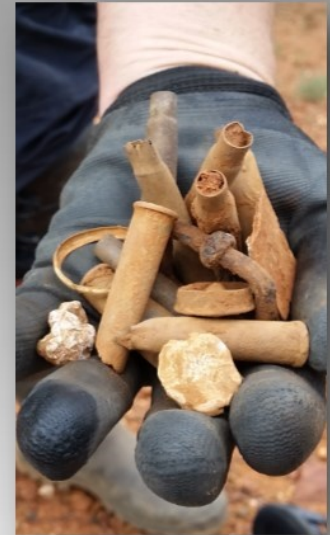


Early Hunt Around our Base



Metal Detecting and Nature come's together !





First Visited a couple of sites around Mafikeng



The siege of Mafeking lasted seven months from October 1899, when the little town was surrounded by a Boer force of some 5,000 men under a redoubtable leader, Piet Cronje. The British garrison commanded by Colonel Robert Baden-Powell (B-P for short) numbered about 2,000 officers and men. Also in the town were some 7,500 black Africans, some of whom were refugees from the surrounding country. One of the reasons why the siege was bound to be in the news was the presence in the beleaguered town of journalists from four London papers – The Times, Morning Post, Daily Chronicle and Pall Mall Gazette. Their dispatches were slipped through the Boer lines by native runners who carried them to a telegraph office fifty miles away. To conserve supplies for his fighting men, B-P made many attempts to get the useless mouths among the native Africans to leave the town – without much success since they had to run the gauntlet of the besiegers and most of those who made the attempt were either shot or flogged and sent back. The modern allegation that he deliberately starved the Africans to feed the whites and force the blacks out, however, has been vigorously challenged.





Work to build defenses around the 6-mile (10 km) perimeter of Mafeking started on 19 September 1899; the town would eventually be equipped with an extensive network of trenches and gun emplacements. President Kruger of the independent Boer South African Republic declared war on 12 October 1899. Under the orders of General Cronje the Mafeking railway and telegraph lines were cut the same day, and the town began to be besieged from 13 October. Mafeking was first shelled on 16 October after Baden-Powell ignored Cronje's 9 o'clock deadline to surrender



Visiting the Battle of Kraaipan

12 October 1899



On the eve of the Anglo-Boer War Cmdt.-Gen. Piet Joubert appointed De la Rey as Gen. P.A. Cronje's advisor on the Western Front. It was extremely difficult for De la Rey who was against the war in the first place to be responsible for the first skirmish of the war at Kraaipan where he had to derail an armoured train. On 12 October 1899 he captured twenty six British soldiers as well as three guns, a number of rifles and ammunition.



Relics of Kraaipan



Pieces of the Armour Train and Rails



Button , Pipe Cover and Bullet Casings



Also Visiting the Local Tavern

Visiting Other Sites



Great Week..Thanks Jono !

Nudist Beach Hunting

By Henry Clapton

Living and treasure hunting in Cape Town (South Africa) during the early nineties had me hunting all sorts of beaches.



to secure their own little favourite spots amongst the rocks and dunes. It was an awakening sight seeing so many folks in the nude. I was a little embarrassed at first

Cape Town is renowned for its pristine coastline and beautiful beaches. I was in detector heaven. Metal detecting was basically an unknown hobby many years back. I had the beaches all to myself. I never ever saw another detectorist in my years of hunting there.

I worked all the beaches in a rotating pattern from one side of the peninsula to the other. This went on for a long time and I eventually got a little bored searching the same beaches all the time. I decided to look for new ground to cover. Sand Bay is Cape

Town's world famous nudist beach and as a young guy I thought of the beach as taboo. You would never catch me out there with no kit on, forget about it.

Then I got thinking. So many people love that beach, especially tourists. There must be goodies in the sand out there. I plucked up the courage early one morning and decided to walk the remote bush path that lead to the beach about two kilometres away. I thought the beach would be deserted and I was wrong. The nudists get there early

but this quickly went away. After a while one gets so used to the nakedness and you don't seem to pay attention to it anymore. My objective was to see what the beach looked like and where I could possibly do some hunting. By the time I had walked the whole length of the beach it became clear that the nudists lie in the sun all over the place. From hidden rocky coves to right out in the open on the dry sand, it was a free for all out there.

On my return trip to the car the beach had filled up drastically and I was having difficulty getting out of there with a straight face. I made



mental notes of what I had just seen and plotted my return. I decided to hit that location at the first sign of bad weather. The nasty weather should keep them away and let me have full run of the beach. It was a few weeks later that the right conditions presented themselves and I made straight for Sand Bay early one cold windy morning.

From the minute I turned the detector on I started getting signals. I was totally surprised at what I was finding. The coins were everywhere, old and new. I found so many silver coins and

jewellery on that hunt it blew my mind. Needles to say I returned to the site many more times and every hunt was successful. The nudists are a diehard bunch, they love the beach and many of them come down regardless of the weather. This in turn put me on a collision course with these inquisitive sun worshippers.

I had many conversations with totally nude people asking about my activities. At first this was a little awkward but in time I thought nothing of it. Just don't stare to long at anybody; you may get an unsatisfactory reaction. Keep eye contact rather, it's safer and don't wear dark sunglasses!

The key to all these good finds was the fact that the nudists would walk to the beach fully clothed and only once in their favourite spot would they disrobe. This was the trick. As they removed the clothing all

sorts of goodies were getting lost in the sand. It's a simple concept and I used it to my advantage many times.

Just be very careful when hunting these beaches. Check with authorities that detecting is allowed, some countries may have strict rules regarding this, go after hours or at night. Some nudist beaches require everybody to be nude while on the beach; if this is the case remember to use sun



block on your sensitive areas. Lastly, if you have to look, only look once, never look twice at a nudist, you don't want to be forcefully removed from the beach with a broken detector and bent scoop.

Good luck and happy hunting!!



You Can send your Story under these Headings



Field Test



Treasures in the Headlines

BREAKING NEWS

Beach Finds



Coins



War Relics



Dump Digging



Club News

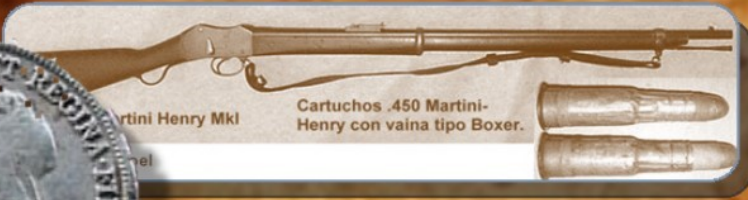


More about my Find ?



27 TH Annual Boer War THunt

NATAL



Spionkop
Harrismith
Moorivier
Chieveley
Tugela
Swartkops



ILLUSTRATING Lukas van der Merwe L-MAY-JUN
e-mail

ZAR.skattejagters@gmail.com

Tel - +27820727747



31 - 07 Sept 2012

Day 3 & 4 continued: Dave's amazing Cartridge Hoard

Whilst I was detecting at the camp at Harrismith on the Monday morning (3 September), I could see a commotion further on with some guys running around excited waving to the film crew to join them.

It took me a while to get there and as I walk towards the group I found most of them on their knees digging two large holes with hundreds if not thousands of live cartridges (303 bullets) lying all around.

What happened was that Dave van Rensburg, at 72 the oldest in our group, earlier detected a Lee Enfield (or Lee Metford) cartridge and when he started digging, one after the other live rounds popped out. His hole just got bigger and bigger.

It was then realized that some soldiers, more than a hundred years ago, buried live rounds in an army case (or cases) that had rotten away through the years.

The most amazing thing is that some of the bullets were still enclosed in their original paper wrappings (10 rounds each) and one could still read the red printed words on it (and dated 31 March 1898).

CARTRIDGES

SA BALL

303 INCH

CORDITE

31/3/98

A second hoard was then discovered just an arm length away and thousands more came up!

See following pictures. Dave is the guy in brown clothes on the right hand side of the third picture.



This was officially declared the "Find of the Day" on day 4



Day 5 & 6: The Merry Mud Men

On the 5th day of the hunt it started to rain. It was both good and bad news.

The bad news is that it makes one wet & cold and that's not nice!

The good news is that it makes the soil softer for digging. And digging was what was in store for the 5th and 6th day of our trip on the old ash pits at the British Camps at Chieveley and Mooi River.

Chieveley has an interesting history as the grave of Lieutenant Frederick Roberts (winner of the Victoria Cross) lies at No.4 Stationary Hospital's cemetery at Chieveley.

Roberts, only son of Field Marshal Lord Roberts VC, was mortally wounded in an action during the Battle of Colenso on 15 December 1899 for which he was subsequently awarded the VC.



He died at Chieveley on 17 December 1899. His father was Commander in Chief of all the British Troops in South Africa (he succeeded General Buller who was no match for the Boers).



Another matter of interest regarding this site is that on the 15th November 1899, Winston Churchill, then a young war correspondent, was travelling on an armoured observation train when it was ambushed by the Boers at Chieveley. A number of British were killed and wounded but Churchill survived and was taken as a prisoner to Pretoria.

I found the following picture of Churchill taken at Chieveley with the following description...



The photo of Churchill was taken on January 2 1900 at Chieveley in northern KwaZulu-Natal. It was only 5km south of where he was captured aboard the train. After he was captured he was taken to Pretoria but escaped and made his way to Delagoa Bay. He was given a new set of clothes by the British consul and made his way to Durban before retracing his steps to Estcourt and the British camp at Chieveley where this picture was taken.

The Nissan x-trail that I, John, Simon and Gerry were travelling in had a puncture and we had to take a detour to Ladysmith to have it fixed.

When we eventually arrived at Chieveley, the guys were digging an old ash pit and old bottles, clay pipes, ceramic ware and other artefacts were already coming to light. It was raining but the merry mud men did not seem to care!



We thank Minelab for the Ponchos!!!



That is me in the mud



Digging for bottles



My own private hole

And the rewards are.....!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!





When the rain abated, some of us ventured out from under the tent canopy and did some detecting on the old camp site near the railway line. I spent some time without much happening when suddenly the Sovereign GT sent me a solid signal and out came this stunning 1894 Paul Kruger Shilling (finding ZAR coins on British camp sites is almost unheard of). I am still smiling when I think of the moment. It was registered as the 5th "Find of the Day".



The next day the group went to Mooi River where an old British hospital for 1500 men stood during the Anglo Boer War. I found this old picture (on the internet) taken at Mooi River during the war.





The Prize Giving Ceremony

Thursday night the 6th of September we had our prize giving ceremony at the Tugela Bush Lodge where we stayed.

The categories were as follows:

- Best find of the hunt
- Second best find of the hunt
- Third best find of the hunt
- Best coin found
- Oldest Coin found
- Most coins found
- Best metal artefact (not a coin)
- Best non-metal artefact

The winners were as follows:

Best non-metal artefact:

Clay Smoking Pipe found by Tinus. It depicts the Tower of London on the bowl and was dug at the old camp at Chievely.



Best metal artefact (not a coin) :

Metal Badge showing the coat of arms of the Zuid Afrikaanche Republiek (South African Boer Republic) found by John at Spioenkop.



Most Coins found:

Dave found 7 coins (In total about 20+ coins were found).

Oldest Coin found: 1873 British Shilling (1/-) Found by Dave.

Best Coin found

1885 British "Young Head" Gold Half Sovereign found by Mike at the old British Camp at Harrismith.



Third best find of the trip:

The amazing Cartridge Hoard found by Dave at Harrismith



Second best find of the trip:

Gold Half Sovereign found by Mike. Mike received a detector as a prize from one of the sponsors.

Best find of the trip:

Metal Badge showing the coat of arms of the Zuid Afrikaanche Republiek found by John. Here he receives his prize, a Minelab metal detector from the sponsor Wolfgang Roux (**Detectors 4 Africa**)





BRING HUNTED-OUT SITES BACK TO LIFE

Impressive recovery speed, target separation and detection depth!



Pro Mode Audio

Proportional Audio and Tone Roll feature allows user to hear subtle changes in target's response to better judge its conductivity, size, shape and depth.

High Res Iron Discrimination™

Allows user to set iron discrimination to one of 40 levels for precise ability to separate good targets from trash.

Iron Audio™

Allows the user to hear discriminated iron and to alter the detector's mid-tone signal's range.

All Terrain Versatility

Weatherproof housing designed for dusty, humid, or wet environments; unit can be submerged to a maximum 10-foot depth.

Fast Recovery Speed

Allows greater ability to pick out good targets amongst trash.

More Info: Continuous Coin

Depth Indicator to determine target depth. Battery Condition Indicator shows battery life. Graphic Target Analyzer identifies target's conductivity.

PN: 1140560



Instructional DVD Included
PN: 1679900



Land headphones included
PN: 2202400

doculam

IDENTIFICATION, SECURITY, SAFETY SOLUTIONS & EVENTS

www.metaldetectors-africa.com



A collection of European finds spanning 8000 years of history. Found by AT Pro International user Geoff M. of Austria.

Standard Searchcoil

8.5" x 11" PROformance™ DD coil

Entire detector is fully waterproof to 10 Feet

Ground Balance

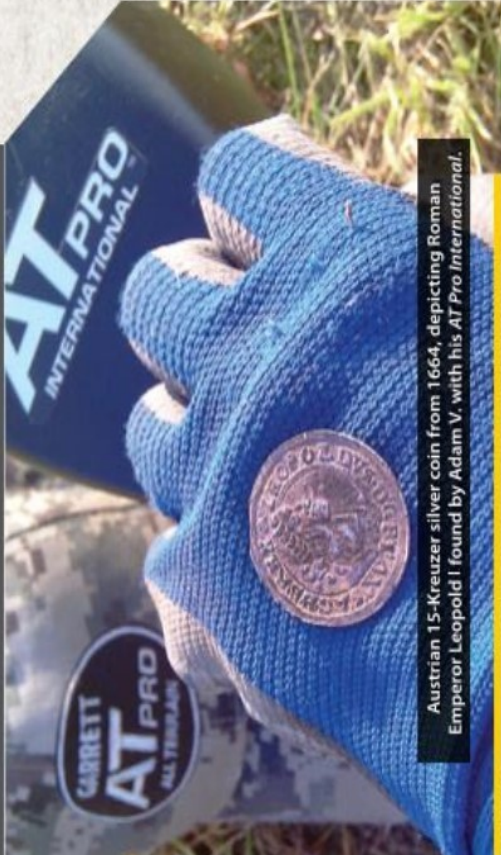
Automatic and manually adjustable for improved performance; includes saltwater.

Digital Target ID

0 to 99 Target ID scale offers increased ability to distinguish one target's conductivity from another.

Six Search Modes

Choose from Custom, Coins or Zero discrimination patterns in either the easy-to-learn Standard Mode or in the more advanced Pro Mode. Also includes electronic Pinpointing.



Austrian 15-Kreuzer silver coin from 1664, depicting Roman Emperor Leopold I found by Adam V. with his AT Pro International.

Category prizes were sponsored by Minelab International and we thank them for this. Good to have a company that cares about their product, customers and detecting in general.

After the ceremony we had a lucky prize draw and everyone received a prize thanks again to Minelab International in Ireland.

Special thanks to Wolf (Detectors 4 Africa), Lukas, Simon and all the other guys who sponsored some prizes (Bill and Leslie from Canada, Bernard, John, Pierre and Gerry).

All in all we had a superb trip and our thanks to Lukas who organized everything. Hopefully we will see many of you in the field next year at Colesburg 2013.



The 2012 Tugela group are from left to right:- John, Simon, Lukas, Gerry, Pierre, Stefan, Tinus, Wolf, Mike, Tonie, Dave and Eugene. We were later joined by Danie, Bertus and Jaco.

For the record I wish to state that NOT ONE SINGLE FIND made during the trip will be sold – as far as I know, almost all the finds were donated to Lukas's museum which have the backing and full support of SA Heritage.

We do this for the love of history and our heritage and not for commercial gain. In total our group's costs must have been near to a R100 000.00 with not one single cent gained. Our reward will be the historical items we rescued from rotting in the ground that soon will be displayed and enjoyed by future generations visiting local museums that we support.



I WILL ALWAYS CHECK LOCAL LAWS BEFORE SEARCHING. IT IS MY RESPONSIBILITY TO “KNOW THE LAW “

I WILL RESPECT PRIVATE PROPERTY AND WILL NOT ENTER PRIVATE PROPERTY WITHOUT THE OWNER’S PERMISSION. WHERE POSSIBLE, SUCH PERMISSION WILL BE IN WRITING.

I WILL TAKE CARE TO REFILL ALL HOLES AND TRY NOT TO LEAVE ANY DAMAGE.

I WILL REMOVE AND DISPOSE OF ANY AND ALL TRASH AND LITTER THAT I FIND.

I WILL APPRECIATE AND PROTECT OUR INHERITANCE OF NATURAL RESOURCES, WILDLIFE AND PRIVATE PROPERTY.

I WILL AS AN AMBASSADOR FOR THE HOBBY, USE THOUGHTFULNESS, CONSIDERATION AND COURTESY AT ALL TIMES.

I WILL WORK TO HELP BRING UNITY TO OUR HOBBY BY WORKING WITH ANY ORGANIZATION OF ANY GEOGRAPHIC AREA THAT MAY HAVE PROBLEMS THAT WILL LIMIT THEIR ABILITY TO PEACEFULLY PURSUE THE HOBBY.

I WILL LEAVE GATES AS FOUND.

I WILL BUILD FIRES IN DESIGNATED OR SAFE PLACES ONLY.

I WILL REPORT TO THE PROPER AUTHORITIES ANY INDIVIDUALS WHO ENTER AND OR REMOVE ARTIFACTS FROM GRAVES AND MONUMENTS.

Join the
Historical Metal Detectives SA
Today
hmdrsa@gmail.com

Special Find - To Attach A Name to It !

Facebook—Metal Detector SA Club— Found by [Shaun Pretorius](#)

The coil ears on my DD coil broke just before the minelab day and got around to do a DIY fix on Saturday and did a quick hunt in Heidelberg to test it out , found a nice Bed Plate (or name plate) with the inscriptions reading NM Smyth on it , was happy with this find until I did a bit of re-search today and found that it could only have belonged to Major General Sir Nevill Maskelyne Smyth from the second Queens Bay Dragoon Guards , this hobby is truly mind blowing



Micheal Andre Conradie Congrats on a fantastic piece. I am also of the opinion that this is not a bedplate but rather a name plate from a campaign chest, cigar box, writing slope or other box. Officers normally had all their campaign furniture marked and it was the Batman's task to keep it all together when moving and setting up camp. None the less, finding something like this to a high ranking officer is a once in a lifetime

Michael Bull Hi Shaun The Queens Bay Dragoon Guards Arrived In S.A. Dec. 1901 Until End Of the War. They Were Present At Boschmans Kope And Orange Free State Drives. Must Have Stayed In Heidelberg For A Break. Mike.

Darren Epstein Cousin of Baden-Powell! This is some amazing history!

Nevill Maskelyne Smyth was born on 14 Aug 1868, the son of Sir Warington Wilkinson Smyth, a noted geologist, his grandfather was Admiral William Henry Smyth. His father's sister Henrietta Grace Powell was Robert Baden-Powell's mother so that Baden-Powell was Smyth's cousin. Nevill Smyth was educated at Westminster School and graduated from the RMC Sandhurst, in 1888. He was posted to the Queen's Bays (2nd Dragoon Guards) in India as a second lieutenant on 22 August 1888. In 1890 he was attached to the Royal Engineers to assist with a railway survey during the Zhob Valley expedition. When the Bays were posted to Egypt in 1895 they were stationed in Cairo and he was promoted lieutenant on 26 April 1896. For his services in the initial stages of the Mahdist War he was Mentioned in Despatches on 3 November 1896, and awarded the Order of the Medjidie, Fourth Class in 1897. On 8 December 1897 Smyth was promoted to captain. He took part in the Battle of Omdur-

man on 2 Sep 1898. Near to the end of the battle, a dervish tried to spear two war correspondents; Smyth galloped forward and, though severely speared through the arm, shot the man dead. For action he was awarded the Victoria Cross. The citation was gazetted on 15 November 1898, and stated that an Arab had run amok amongst camp followers.

In November 1899 he was Intelligence officer and ADC to Colonel Lewis, commanding the Infantry Brigade during the operations leading to the defeat of the Khalifa in the Battle of Umm Diwaykarat. He was Mentioned in Despatches, and was awarded the Order of Osmanieh, Fourth

Class in 1900. Smyth rejoined the Queens Bays for active service in South Africa in the Anglo-Boer War and was awarded a brevet majority on 31 October 1902. The history of the Bays relates an incident in early April 1902: 'A small party of 8 NCOs and men under Capt Smyth VC had been isolated on the kopje, their horses having been shot.



The Boers repeatedly called on them to surrender, but they refused and held out for another 20 minutes, until all but Smyth were shot. He then managed to crawl away through the long grass, catch a riderless horse, and gallop back to the regiment.' He was promoted to substantive major on 27 October 1903 and transferred to the Carabiniers (6th Dragoon Guards) who were then in India, and returned to South Africa in 1908. He was promoted lieutenant-colonel on 1 May 1909, and became commanding officer of the Carabiniers. The regiment returned to England in 1912 and he was promoted to Colonel and was seconded to the Egyptian Army. In

1913-14 he was commandant of the Khartoum district where he was active in combating the slave-trade. Smyth was posted to Gallipoli by Lord Kitchener, arriving in May 1915. He commanded the 1st Australian Infantry Brigade as a temporary brigadier-general at the Battle of Lone Pine and was one of the last officers to leave the peninsula. He led the brigade in France in 1916, and on 28 December was given command of the 2nd Australian Division as a temporary major general. He was transferred back to the British Army in May 1918 and briefly commanded the 58th (2/1st London) Division and then the 59th (2nd North Midland) Division, leading the latter during the liberation of Lille in October 1918. He had learned to fly in 1913 and was known for borrowing aircraft to look at the lines for himself. On 30 July 1919 was appointed General Officer Commanding 47th (1/2nd London) Division (Territorial Force). He was appointed Colonel of the 3rd Dragoon Guards on 1 October 1920. He relinquished command of his division on 30 July 1923. Smyth retired from the British

Army on 5 July 1924, and relinquished his Colonelcy on 16 October 1925. After his retirement he emigrated to Australia and farm in Balmoral, Victoria in 1925 with his wife and three children. He took to politics in the National Party of Australia and stood unsuccessfully for a Victorian seat in the Australian Senate. He died at home on 21 July 1941 and was buried in Balmoral Cemetery. One of his sons, Dacre Smyth, followed a military career in the Royal Australian Navy rising to commodore.



Taking Geotagging to the next step



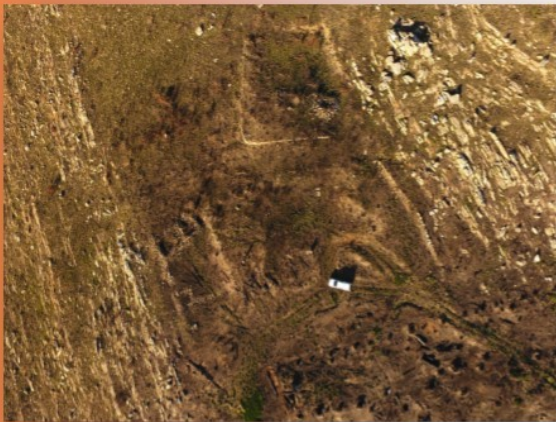
The GPS has now entered into our daily lives, sometimes overbearingly, as we have been introduced to satellite navigation in our cars. Now we also find it in mobile phones and also in many other electronic devices. Not even photograph relics escape this logic.

Initially, we asked ourselves how it could ever be useful, but by observing Google Earth or Apple Maps, it is easy to see how useful it can be. Photos of relics are catalogued by the place where they were shot and found, giving access to an array of comfortable functions.

Similarly to Google, it is interesting the idea of being able to catalog one's relics photographs based on where they were found. Now there are a variety of programs and applications that are able to read the GPS metadata of our relics. But to be able to "geotag" a relic and assigning it a place, we need a GPS system that calculates the coordinates and saves them to the file.

Picasa is another example of software that today offers geotagging. It is software used to view photos that works just like iPhoto and has been acquired by Google and made free. We can thus freely install it on Windows, Mac or Linux machines. Doing a brief search on the web will show many other available titles that are not mentioned here that offer these functions. You could also find apps within the Apple Store, too.

Swartberg Pass



I BOUGHT MYSELF A DRONE SOME TIME AGO AND USED IT TO EXPLORE THE HISTORY AND BUILDINGS IN THE SWARTBERG PASS . IT WAS BUILT USING CONVICT LABOR BY THOMAS BAIN AND OPENED ON 10 JANUARY 1888. THE DRYSTONE WORK SUPPORTING SOME OF ITS PICTURESQUE HAIR-PIN BENDS IS PARTICULARLY NOTEWORTHY.

USING THE DRONE MAKE IT EASY TO SEE THE OLD STRUCTURES FROM ABOVE AND ALSO TAKING PHOTO'S OF THE OLD TOWN. ON YOUR IPAD WHILE IT IS FLYING YOU CAN SEE OLD STRUCTURES THAT ARE NOT VISIBLE ON THE GROUND.

DOING THE ANGLO BOER WAR FOR YEARS NOW IT IS EASY TO EXPLORE MORE AND WIDER .FINDING OTHER STRUCTURES 5 KM AND MORE

TAKING PHOTOS OF THE AREA GIVES YOU MORE INFO AND ALSO A GEOTAGG POINT TO EXPLORE ON GOOGLE EARTH

AS CAN SEE ON EXPEDITION UNKNOWN WHERE WE USED THE THERMAL ON THE DRONE .

TECHNOLOGY...CHANGING THE WAY OF TREASURE HUNTING





I WANT YOUR STORY

FOR THE NEXT

"Treasure Talk"