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NOVEMBER 2016



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2,300-year-old sword

discovered

Still shiny and lethal

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You Can send your Story under these Headings





Donald EnsorMetal Detector SA Club

In the news



October 20, 2016 ·







Donald Ensor to Metal Detector SA Club

October 20, 2016

Last weeks gold from a beach that I thought I had cleaned, Two weeks ago a huge washout occurred and I hunted and recovered over 10 items of gold jewelry. The sea turned and buried the area in soft sand I checked this spot every morning for a week on Fridays low tide I noticed a depression low down close to the water, there was plenty of old Iron and brass fittings in and around it. In 15 minutes I had a bag of assorted brass fixtures and two thin bands, I shifted what iron I could and returned the following day, more brass fittings 2, 18ct rings one inscribed with names and dates. And two men's 9ct wedding bands, quickly found themselves in my bag.

Day 3 gold fever 5 gold rings 1 being 18ct and weighing in at 14, 4 grams unfortunately the huge stone is a cubic.

The 4 day was my best hunting day ever two 9ct rings a 9ct S pendant and a 1/10 Kruger coin unbelievable. My first gold coin.

Day 5 one small 9ct ring which got broken in my bag, The depression on the beach was slowly being filled with sand.

Day 6 it was completely covered over and I moved back to searching other beach's. Along with the gold I also found a few silver pieces some religious items and coins, one being the Portuguese coin dated 1928. October has been a great month for me, just shows you what is out there.



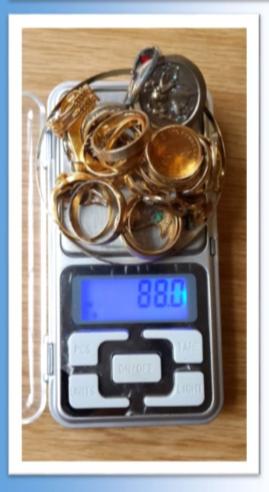
facebook.



















Mysterious ring saga comes full circle







Donald Ensor with the gold men's wedding band.

THE ring that caused a social media frenzy will be handed over to its rightful owners at the end of this month. The gold men's wedding band was lost along a Durban beach, more than 20 years ago.

La Lucia detectorist, Donald Ensor stumbled across the ring during one of his routine beach detector sessions. Noticing that the ring was engraved with two wedding dates, the enthusiastic metal detectorist took to his Facebook page, in the hopes of tracking down the owners. According to Ensor, the band was engraved with the names of two couples (Tom and Lyn and Brent and Peggy). The ring also has a 1960 wedding date on the inside.

Ensor's post was shared 4 000 times, attracting hundreds of comments. According to Ensor, he was contacted by a woman on <u>Facebook</u>, saying that the ring belonged to a relative of hers.

"She asked for my contact number and handed it to Brent, whose name appears on the ring. He phoned me and was excited that the ring was found," he said. Brent was able to correctly identify the exact dates engraved on the ring.

Brent told Ensor that the ring was lost more than 20 years ago during a fishing trip in Durban. It was given to him by his mother, when his father passed away. "Brent said when the ring fell into the water, he just figured it was gone," Ensor said.

Ensor said he was grateful to the thousands of people who shared the initial post. "It is because of them the ring will be returned to the rightful owners. I am very excited that the ring will be reunited with Brent," Ensor said.







Long-lost wedding ring finds way home after 20 years 2016-11-24 12:47

Durban – The owner of the lost wedding ring found after 20 years on a KwaZulu-Natal beach this week is ecstatic.

Brent Lucas, from Mtubatuba, had been angling and when he washed his hands, the ring slipped off.

"It's a ring that I got from my mother before I got married. It had belonged to my dad and she gave it to me after he'd died," Lucas said.

The names of his parents, Tom and Lyn, as well as their wedding date – October 1, 1960 – initially had been engraved on the ring.

The names of Lucas and his ex-wife, Peggy, as well as the date on which they got married, were later engraved on the ring.

'Special' ring

Lucas said after he'd lost the ring, he kept hoping that someone would find it someday. He said he can't remember when he and Peggy got married, but his memory will be jolted soon when he gets the ring back.

He and Peggy divorced 15 years ago."I'm glad that the ring has been found after so many years," he said.Local resident Donald Enson, who looks for metal as a hobby, found the ring on the Durban beach this week

"There are so many things that made the ring special that I had to find the owner," Enson said. He'd posted photo and description of the ring on Facebook and asked friends to share it. A relative of Lucas' saw the photo and contacted Enson. Lucas confirmed the names and dates on the ring.

He will likely fetch the ring from Enson on Monday.





Donald Ensor oorhandig die trouring wat 21 jaar gelede in die see vermis geraak het aan die oorspronklike eienaar, Lynette Lucas."Dit gaan nie goed met my ma nie en sy sê die trouring van haar oorlede man wat sy nou terug het, gee vir haar krag en herinner haar aan my pa". Só sê Jackie Lortan, Lynette Lucas se stiefdogter. Die ring, wat verlede week ná 21 jaar op 'n strand in Durban gevind is, is Woensdag aan haar teruggegee. Lucas het haar trouring 23 jaar gelede laas gesien nadat sy dit aan haar seun, Brent, gegee het voordat hy getroud is. Dit was nadat Tom, sy pa, oorlede is.Tom en Lyn se name en troudatum - 1 Oktober 1960 – was aanvanklik op die ring gegraveer.Brent is destyds met Peggy getroud en hul name en troudatum is jare later óók op die ring gegraveer.Brent en Peggy is intussen geskei.Volgens Lortan het Lucas nooit geweet dat die ring weg is nie, totdat dit na al dié jare gevind is. "Brent het dit nooit aan haar vertel nie. Ek het wel geweet dat dit weg is."Brent het in die see visgevang en toe hy sy

hande was, het sy ring van sy vinger afgegly.Lortan sê dit is maar 'n familieding omdat haar man, Adrian Ren, ook sy ring in die see verloor het toe hy visgevang het."Ek is dankbaar dat my ring ná soveel jare gevind is," sê Brent.Donald Ensor van Durban, wat as 'n stokperdjie na metaal soek, het verlede week die trouring gevind."Daar is so baie dinge wat die ring spesiaal gemaak het. Ek moes net die eienaar daarvan opspoor," sê Ensor.Hy het op Facebook 'n foto van die ring geplaas en daarby 'n inskrywing gemaak wat die ring beskryf.Ensor het dit verlede Maandag op Facebook geplaas en sy vriende gevra om dit te deel. Dit het daartoe gelei dat 'n familielid van Brent die foto gesien en Ensor gekontak het.Brent het die name en datums op die ring aan Ensor bevestig. Hy kon nie self die ring by Ensor kry nie omdat hy in Mtubatuba werk. Ensor het toe die ring by die Mary Asherouetehuis in Durban aan Lucas gaan oorhandig.



'Homicide Detective' - William Faurie

The story is that a man was robbed at gunpoint on a well used footpath in a rural area of Ladysmith. The man -whose name is withheld for privacy purposes- was forced to lay on the ground and stripped of his belongings. When asked if he was armed he said yes and was shot 3 times, once in his hip the once in his chest and the most fatal one through the head. They took his weapon and fled the scene leaving an eye witness who was a friend of the victim, lying on the ground in fear. The eyewitness fled the scene when he saw the killers coming back for him.











The only evidence that was recovered before i went to the scene was a spent casing from the murder. Upon arrival i saw that the family of the deceased had removed all the blood from the scene as a part of tradition. I was able to locate all 3 bullet heads and 1 more spent casing within 10 minutes. It was a huge success. We suspect that the third casing was mixed in with the blood the family took away.

The detectives were able to arrest the suspects and recover the weapon used to kill the man two days after i helped out. My evidence will hopefully help to put those criminals away for a long time.

This was by far my most successful hunt and a very interesting one at that.





LS November 2016



Donald Ensor with this detector and

"Those things which are precious are saved only by sacrifice"

David Kenyon Webster

Meet Durban North's treasure hunter

MEET Donald Ensor, Durban North's very own treasure hunter. Ensor made headlines last week when he found a men's 18ct gold wedding band. The band, bearing two wedding dates and four names, caused quite a stir on social media with his post having been shared more than 1000 times across community groups.

Northglen News chatted to Ensor to find out more about his passion for treasure hunting and his most interesting find to date.

Ensor said he has always had a penchant for 'searching for treasure along the beachfront' but it was only three years ago that he decided to take it up as a serious hobby.

He said his detectorist spark began to flicker during a walk to the beach in Umhlanga Rocks and seeing another detectorist, who found a Sovereign.

Since then, Ensor has been walking the Durban beaches, from Shaka's Rock to the uShaka beachfront for the last three years.

"Of all the items I've found, I would say a World War II Polish medal that was awarded in 1944 has got to be the most interesting thing," he said.

Armed with his detector machine, Ensor has stumbled across a wealth of finds. In his garage, there are large containers with thousands of coins that have spent many months, maybe even years, hidden either in rock pools along the beach or under the sand. He also has an array of fishing sinkers, diamond rings, gold jewellery, titanium rings and South African coins that date back to before he was even born.

Ensor explained that he has always lived along the coast.

"When I was a kid, I used to go diving for tackle, sinkers and I'd find the odd ring. I spoke



Se-Anne Rall seanner@dbn.caxton.co.za

www.northglennews.co.za

to guys with detector machines and after seeing a youngster with his machine walking along Umhlanga Rocks beach, pick up a Sovereign, the bug bit," he said.

"I usually spend about two hours on the beach just looking for stuff. Some days, there are lots to find and on other days, you can search and search and find nothing," he said.

Ensor keeps a close eye on the weather patterns. Usually a windy night means a shift in sand or perhaps a collapsed sandbank, which can reveal a wealth of treasure.

Once he's gathered his find for the day, Ensor salvages what he can by letting the items, stand in a mixture of water and vinegar. Once cleaned, if it's jewellery, he has it evaluated. The coins usually get handed over to a buddy of his who runs a museum or gets carefully stored away in his garage.

"Over the three years, I've found a number of fishing and camping items as well as coins and jewellery. I'd rate finding a Kruger coin as one of most treasured finds and I also found a ring that dates back to the 1900s."

When Ensor isn't out on the beach searching for treasure, he can be found managing his business.

For Ensor, being able to go out and search for 'treasure' is fun and gets him out of the house to enjoy the sunshine.

enjoy the sunshine.
"Well it's better than sitting in a pub," he said.

Mysterious ring saga comes full circle

THE ring that caused a social media frenzy will be handed over to its rightful owners in a few days time. The gold men's wedding band was lost along a Durban beach, more than 20 years ago. La Lucia detectorist, Donald Ensor stumbled across the ring during one of his routine beach detector sessions.

Noticing that the ring was engraved with two wedding dates, the enthusiastic metal detectorist took to his Facebook page, in the hopes of tracking down the owners. According to Ensor, the band was engraved with the names of two couples (Tom and Lyn and Brent and Peggy). The ring also has a 1960 wedding date on the inside. Ensor's post was shared 4 000 times, attracting hundreds of comments.

According to Ensor, he was contacted by a woman on Facebook, saying that the ring belonged to a relative of hers, who lives in uMtata.

"She asked for my contact number and handed it to Brent," whose name appears on the ring. He phoned me and was excited that the ring was found," he said. Brent



Donald Ensor with the ring that will be handed over to its rightful owner, 20 years after it was lost during a fishing trip.



Se-Anne Rall seanner@dbn. caxton.co.za

www.northglennews.co.za

was able to correctly identify the exact dates engraved on the ring. Brent told Ensor that the ring was lost more than 20 years ago during a fishing trip in Durban. It was given to him by his mother, when his father passed away.

"Brent said when the ring fell into the water, he just figured it was gone," Ensor said.

Ensor said he was grateful to the thousands of people who shared the initial post.

"It is because of them the ring will be returned to the rightful owners. I am very excited that the ring will be reunited with Brent," Ensor said.





Wednesday 7 September 2016 Community Work



This was an early day when the Crew went back to a site that we didn't hunt the day before. The owner didn't get up early so they had to come back to base. Lukas, Eugene. Tanya and Piet met at the Printers at Heilbron to put up the name tags for displaces donated back to our Farmers.

Giving Back to Heilbron's Farmers and Museums



















Wednesday 7 September 2016 First Session



















Wednesday 7 September 2016 Second Session



Nice old buildings and still a lot to explore



They're mating down there!





Wednesday 7 September 2016 Best Finds for the Day!











Day 5 - 2 nd Best Finds Winner - Fred





Day 5 - 3 rd Best Finds Winner - Greg















Thursday 8 September 2016 First Session of last day



The last day THE CREW were Hunting at the British Camp at the Heilbron Golf Coarse where some nice relics where found. They closed it for us and yes....the greens were out of bounce.....!













facebook.





THE SILVER TREEPENCE

(Fondly referred to as "TICKEY" by South Africans)

1937 to 1952 KING GEORGE VI SERIES

1951 6 325 388 were minted - Silver content 0.71 gm



David Pienaar Ticky ?



Warren Arnold Hill 3 penny .. Thrupence



David Pienaar 3 pence



Donald Ensor Nice find Zorgs



Andre Robberts 3 pence/3peny/Tickey



Shane Ebley tickey! The full coinage was: 4 farthings (quarter of a penny) to a halfpenny (ha'penny,) two ha'pennys to a penny, three pennys to a ticky (thrupenny or thrupence) two tickeys to a sixpence, two sixpence to a shilling 20 shillings to a pound. 21 shillings in a guinea, there for to a Pound you got 960 farthings, 480 halfpennys, 240 pennys, 80 tickies, 40 sixpences, 20 shillings. ALSO there was A Florin equalled two shillings (called two Bob) it does not end there!! BUT imagine doing division and multiplication with these!!! I did









Thursday 8 September 2016























Thursday 8 September 2016 Best Finds for the Day

Day 6 - Best Finds Winner - Greg









Day 6 - 3 rd Best Finds Winner - Wade









Lukas









Greg

Annual Hunt 2016 - 3 rd Best Finds Winner **Lana**

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Great Crew.....Great Finds....!

Metaalverklikkers besoek Heilbron

80 September kom kuier in Heilbron waar hulle oorblyfsels dikkers. Hulle doen dit al vir 31 aar, waar bulle elke jaar in emeenskap deur gebruik

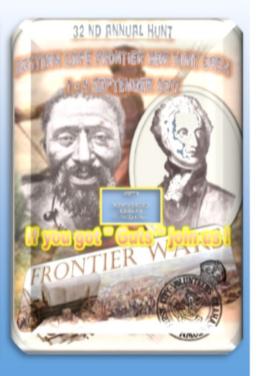
Hulle het op die gholfbaan in Heilbron 'n hele paar historiese Britse kamp in die vroeë 1900's. het ook op die Vegkop agveld gaan soek waar paar historiese opgespoor het. Die doel van hiergroep is om die geskiedenis oedere nie verkoop word nie. naar in die gemeenskap bly waar dit gevind is. Die oorblyfsels wat Mnr John Watson het namens die Gholfklub die kas met Britse oorbly(sels ontvang en me-Vegkopoorblyfsels ontvang was



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The who use our hobby to help others but guided by the the person re-

The Honourable mention will be awarded to members who use our hobby to help others but guided by the example set by David Kenyon Webster. A picture with a purple ring will be presented to the person receiving the Honourable mention. This will be based on the following example and will be used as guideline to award this.

Honourable Mention:

"Those things which are precious are saved only by sacrifice" David Kenyon Webster.

Private First Class David Kenyon Webster (June 2, 1922 - September 9, 1961) was an American soldier, journalist and author. During World War II he was a private with Easy Company, 2nd Battalion, 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment, in the 101st Airborne Division.



Author Steven Ambrose had this to say about Webster: "... Various officers wanted to make him a squad leader, but he refused. He was there to do his duty, and he did it - he never let a buddy down in combat - but he never volunteered for anything and he spurned promotion".

David Kenyon Webster was awarded the Purple Heart for his service in WWII. For me his quote above is the essence of something worthy of an Honourable Mention and his life reflective of people who deserve it. He was humble to the point of turning down promotions; he never volunteered for valour, but did his duty. For many the WWII film, "Band of Brothers" is their connection to David Kenyon Webster.

ose things which are precious are saved only by sacri

David Kenyon Webster





Found my first gold ring after 2 years of trying.

Couldn't keep it.... belonged to a lady who lost it while gardening. She's been wearing it for 48 years...

In exchange I received this beautiful aloe...



"I'm glad that the ring has been found after so many years,"



Lost ring back with his owner my first find to be returned.

Adrian Munro That's so nice of you..we all need to respect owners of items and properties of owners with our finds.



Went to help a friend who had lost her ring in her Garden a year ago. Took us about 25min to find it in a flower bed.

Great " Crew " - Red





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.

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Today

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Expedition Unknown – The African Gold Hoard – S02E11

Published January 28, 2016 | By RottenOne

For our next exciting adventure we're off to Africa in search of gold. Josh is on the trail of gold coins



that were buried at the behest of Paul Kruger when he fears the loot will fall into the hands of the invading British. To secure the wealth of his fledgling republic, Kruger stashes the coins on a train wherein the gold and all records of it are lost. But there are a few new leads and several new groups out looking for the gold which could be worth nearly a billion dollars in today's money.

Paul Kruger was the president of a small republic in the very early 1900s. His group had found a wealth of gold in Africa and had been using it to mint coins. Trouble erupted in the area which ultimately lead to the Boer's War. Sensing trouble and not

wanting to lose his newly minted wealth, the coins are loaded on a train so that Kruger and the loot can exit the country. They leave Pretoria by train and head for Machadodorp. That was the last time the gold was scene. Kruger leaves the country, but he never meets up with his gold reserves.

The first order of business is to follow the money. Josh follows the route to the last place the gold was scene. The landscape and the train station have changed to the point where Josh heads to the old track and tunnel to have a look around. Pretty much a den of junk with no significant signs the gold would be hidden inside. A vagrant, yes, gold, no.

With the end of the line being the real end of the line, Josh heads to the mint to see how the coin would have been made as well as get some insight about a recently authenticated coin. Turns out Kruger stamped his own money with his own image and it had some exacting details. The coin will have a specific weight and gold content. Any coin they find will have to match in order to be authentic.

Josh then heads out to meet another treasure who has chosen to investigate a cave system where he's found Kruger era artefacts and weapons. There is some evidence to suggest the gold was hidden within the caves, so Josh suits up to get down and dirty. Dirty indeed as he slugs his way through all sorts of much and narrow spaces. With nothing more than a face full of mud, and perhaps an old coin, Josh makes a layover in an impressive safari hotel.

After a cold beverage and a good night's sleep, Josh meets up with some hunters who found an authentic Kruger gold coin. They are searching across the

plains of the Kruger National Park, a nearly 8000 square mile reserve. But you can't just go walking in and digging holes, you need to ask permission. With that, he's off to meet the tribal chief. After a brief talk and Josh getting a tribal spear to protect himself with, he's back on the road and heading deeper into the park.

Not only does Josh meet the treasure hunters, but their armed and military trained entourage. This is no joke, these guys have a heavily armed anti-poaching force coming along for the ride and they armed with enough weapons to make you pucker. Their goal is to stop poachers who still slaughter rhinos for their horns. Not to mention protecting the team from wandering animals. Although, I'm quite convinced they won't shoot the animals.



During the evening, the hunters launch an aerial drone with sensitive cameras to locate metal objects heated by the sun. The military team is also at the ready as this is a prime time for poaching. While there are some noises to be heard under the cover of darkness, everything goes without incident, which is good, because Josh will spending the night out there.

In the morning, the team goes to each GPS marked location to see what the drone spotted. They pull



out a horseshoe, part of a bridle and even an old pistol. They collect quite a few relics from what they believe to be a British used during the Boer War. Not quite the pot of gold they're looking for, but great museum pieces and proof they're looking in the right place.

Is the gold going to be found on plains of the Kruger National Park? Or is it hidden in a cave? Did it still exist at all? It certainly did at one point, there is no doubt about that, but considering the lack of details and the area they need to look in, it seems an almost impossible task to find it. But the lure is millions, possibly billions, so you know they are going to keep at it. And perhaps, if it keeps peo-

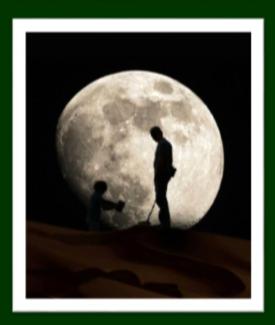
ple out in the plains and thwarts the efforts of poachers, then the hunt won't be in vain.

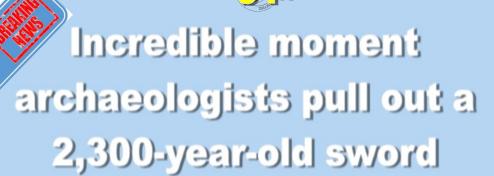






BORN TO EXECT TO TO RECED TO





and discover it's still shiny and lethal

Chinese archaeologists were surprised to discover that an ancient sword they had unearthed were in near perfect condition.

Last Friday, experts pulled out the blade from its scabbard and realised that the 2,300-year-old relic was shiny and sharp.

The traditional Chinese weapon was found inside an ancient coffin in Henan Province in central China, where the Chinese civilisation is thought to have originated.



The sword, discovered by archaeologists from Henan Provincial Institute of Cultural Relics and Archaeology, was believed to be from China's Warring States period (475 BC -221 BC).

It had been kept inside the coffin at the left-hand side of its owner.

Archaeologists found the blade in a laboratory as they opened the coffin, which had been excavated from the

No.18 ancient tomb in the ruins of Chengyang city.

After carefully removing the mud-covered sword from the coffin, archaeolo-

gists cleaned the sheath before separating the blade from its cover at around 12pm on December 30.

According to a statement from Henan Provincial Institute of Cultural Relics and Archaeology, all experts were surprised when the blade turned out to be in near mint condition.

A member of the staff filmed the moment two archaeologists pulled out the sword and uploaded the footage onto the institute's official account on Weibo the same day.





The 12-second clip has been played more than nine million times. Viewers were stunned by ancient Chinese craftsmen's sword-making skills as the weapon was still lethal after more than two millennia



The footage was also widely shared by Chinese media, including CCTV News.

Liu Yong, the deputy supervisor of the Chengyang Protected District, witnessed the sword-drawing ceremony.

He was impressed by the ancient sabre. He said through a poem that though the loyal general had died, his treasured sword was still glittering.

Wu Zhijiang, a team leader from Henan Provincial Institute of Cultural Relics and Archaeology, was one of the two

archaeologists who pulled the sword.

Mr Wu told MailOnline that it was in fact not uncommon to see well-protected ancient swords in the region.

He explained that the ancient tombs from the Chu Kingdom were usually sealed off from the outside world in a humid environment, so weapons would not oxidise easily.

Experts are yet to confirm the identity of the owner of the tomb.



WHY IS CHENGYANG CITY IMPORTANT

- Chengyang ancient city is the best preserved and largest city of the ancient kingdom of Chu (770-223 BC).
- It is located 25km (15.5 miles) north of Xinyang city in Henan Province.
- The city is believed to be first established 2.700 years ago as the barracks of the Chu Kingdom.
- The Chu emperor set up a temporary capital in Chengyang in 278BC after being defeated by the neighbouring Qin kingdom.
- Chengyang continued to be a political, economic, cultural and military centre in the following millennium.

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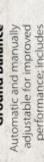
targets from trash.

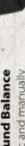
High Res Iron Discrimination"

Fast Recovery Speed

out good targets amongst

adjustable for improved performance; includes saltwater.





to 10 Feet





identifies target's conductivity

alter the detector's mid-tone

discriminated iron and to

Allows the user to hear

Depth Indicator to determine

tion Indicator shows battery

target depth. Battery Condilife. Graphic Target Analyzer 0 to 99 Target ID scale offers increased ability to distinguish one target's conductivity from another





Emperor Leopold I found by Adam V. with his AT Pro International

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



Hi Lukas found these on a Old Battlefield What relics are these?

They are all parts and shrapnel of the 15 Pounder shell

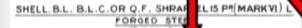




15 Pounder Timer







G.S. Fuze hole 14.083 threads per inch on axis right hand

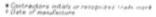
Tin cylinder perforated with 5 holes per column. .9 dia. Resin

Brown paper Mixed metal balls 41 per ib Gun-metal tube



AVERAGE WEIGHT Shell empty with band Bursting charge R.F.G. 2 Fuze T. & P. Mean total weight

13 1% 1% 13 14 0

















The 8 th Field Battery - Firing a 15 Pounder

We have here an excellent picture of the 15 – pounder as the Boers view it through their telescopes when it is about to open fire upon them, and the gun-carriage apparatus are well seen in this illustration. A gun commonly worked by 2 non-commissioned officers and 8 privates. One non-commissioned officer leads the gun, and is in command of it, while gunner No. 2 makes ready and fire. To gunner No 3 is assigned the duty of opening and closing the breech-block and loading, while No 4 has the important duty of aiming. Gunner No.5 brings in the ammunition-box, and the position of No.6 is by the limber or ammunition wagon, these two men having the duty of serving out and bringing up the ammunition for the guns, while the two other men form the reserve and remain with the line of wagons. In the picture gunners Nos, 1 to 5 are seen at their proper stations, and No. 4 from his place at the trail is lying the gun upon the object to aim at. A picture however, can give little idea of the skill and rapidity with which guns can be worked. Generally certain ammunition wagons are brought forward, and stationed 12 yards in rear of the guns, the horses being led back to the line of wagons, but sometimes the ammunition is taken straight from the limbers, these placed 10-yds. In rear of the guns, with the drivers seated on the horses. The system of supply could not be better

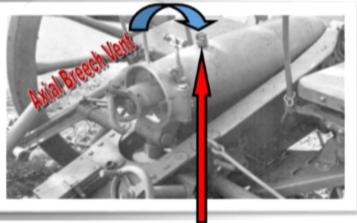




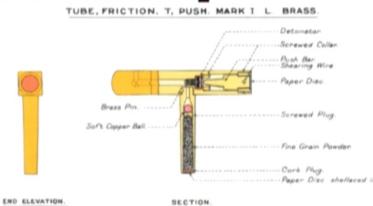
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The firing mechanism involved a "push" type T friction tube, which was inserted into the axial breech vent. The crosspiece of the T was positioned pointing upwards. A long layer's guard was added to the left side of the cradle projecting behind the breech. A spring-loaded firing handle was built into the layer's guard. When cocked by pulling back and then releasing, it sprang forward and struck a firing lever on the breech, which translated the forward motion to a downward motion and propelled a firing plunger into the T of the friction tube which in turn ignited the cordite propellant charge.

